

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., June 26, 1878.

NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY UNION.

This body assembled in its sixth Annual Session, at Canard, Cornwallis, on Friday morning last. The annual meeting of the Union is held alternately with the three Associations in the Province.

Rev. W. G. Parker, Vice-President, called upon Rev. Frank Beattie to offer prayer.

Bro. Albert Caldwell was requested to fill the office of Secretary pro-tem. The list of Delegates was taken: Rev. A. Cohoon and W. Durkee, Hebron; Rev. P. R. Foster, Tusket; Deacons H. K. Eaton and Joshua Ellis, 1st Cornwallis; Rev. J. W. Manning, North, Halifax; Rev. E. M. Keirstead and A. P. Shand, Windsor.

Prof. D. F. Higgins, J. W. Barss and A. Caldwell, Wolfville; Rev. S. March and Deacon E. Rand, Canning. Bro. C. L. Power, Yarmouth; Dea. J. C. Anderson and James Cann, Yarmouth.

Revs. Isa. Wallace and J. Stevens, and Bro. John Graham, Gaspareaux. Deacon S. Selden, Granville Street, Halifax.

Bro. W. Porter, Hantsport.

Members in their own right,—Revs. S. B. Kempton, I. J. Skinner, M. P. Freeman, D. Freeman, M. Normonday, H. Bool, W. G. Parker, J. A. McLean, S. W. DeBlois, W. H. Warren, G. N. Ballentyne, John Brown, Jos. Murray, John Chase, S. McC. Black, A. Cogswell, John Clark and Maynard Brown.

Brethren invited.—Rev. F. Beattie, Brethren H. Newcomb, W. H. Lyons, Geo. Pineo, W. Eaton, W. Thomas, D. McPherson, Thomas Kinsman, E. Griffen, Charles F. Eaton, Ebenezer Rand, Ebenezer Hubley.

The Report of the Board and of the Treasurer were read by the Secretary.

The Report stated that the past year had been one of more than ordinary success, that nearly double the number of the preceding year of gospel laborers had been employed. The labors of the General Agent had been very successful until Rev. J. H. Robbins had been obliged from impaired health to relinquish the labor at least for a time. Monthly reports had been published in the Christian Messenger, showing the appointments and proceedings of the Board. Every available means had been employed for giving information to the churches, and inviting their liberal support and co-operation.

Prince Edward Island had participated largely in the blessings which had attended the labors of the missionaries. The liberality which had characterized the churches and people of the island had been expended there, and had nearly met the entire cost of their support. Cape Breton had received some considerable share of the attention of the Board, but the stations there required much more of labor bestowed upon them than the Board had been able to secure. The appointments in Cumberland and Pictou counties had given promise of good fruits, and at Dartmouth, there were hopeful signs of satisfactory results.

The French Mission had not been sustained at it required, and the Board were much concerned as to the future in respect to Brother Normonday's work.

The Book Department had been carried on to some extent in supplying Sabbath Schools with good reliable books.

The financial exhibit was more satisfactory than last year whilst a debt of \$1375.15 was then reported, there was now but the sum of \$936.08 of liabilities remaining to remove by the income of the year.

The following is a synopsis of the Treasurer's account.

Amounts paid for the different departments of the work were:

N. S. Home Mission work.....	\$3013.04
P. E. I. Do .....	842.73
French Mission Department.....	797.43
Book Do .....	445.42
	\$5008.62
Balance.....	\$44.24
	\$5052.86

By amounts received.....	
N. S. Home Missions.....	\$3141.30
P. E. I. Do .....	866.69
French Mission Department.....	601.84
Book Do .....	443.02
	\$5052.86

Missionaries employed during the year.....	14
Week's labor.....	283 1/2
Baptisms.....	85

Twenty churches had been aided to the extent of \$1516.71 in which there had been 576 weeks of labor expended, and 101 baptisms reported.

The Report was subsequently taken up, clause by clause. On the adoption of the first clause referring to the success of the past year, thanksgiving and prayer was offered by Rev. S. W. DeBlois.

In the afternoon the Report was further considered and discussed with much earnestness. The clause having reference to the French mission received special attention.

Bro. J. W. Barss gave notice of a motion which was in substance adopted in the evening sitting as follows:

"Trusting in the providence of God that He will furnish the necessary funds to enable us to carry on the French mission, Resolved, that we advise the Board to continue its operations, and that the Rev. M. Normonday, the missionary, be requested to withdraw his resignation, and that the Board continue the services of Bro. Normonday for the present, and that the Board be instructed to take measures with reference to the enlargement of the operation of the Board in seeking out new fields and new measures for the furtherance of the interests of the Mission."

The Treasurer's Report was adopted. The evening meeting continued in session till 1/2 past 10, and then adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning.

At the Saturday morning meeting, a resolution was adopted appointing the resident pastors and such other brethren as they may secure in each county, Advisory Boards to whom the General Board of the Home Missionary Union might refer for advice and information in making appointments and in collecting funds.

A resolution was also adopted commending the action of the Board in reference to the difficulties they have had in carrying on the French Mission.

It was resolved that the Board of the Union for the ensuing year be located at Yarmouth, and the following brethren compose that Board:

Revs. G. E. Day, A. Cohoon, J. A. Stubbert, J. Rowe, A. H. Lavers, H. N. Parry, P. R. Foster, and Geo. B. Titus, and brethren A. C. Robbins, W. R. Doty, J. C. Anderson, W. A. C. Randall and Jas. Crosby.

The following officers were elected: A. P. Shand, President. Rev. S. B. Kempton, Vice-President, Central Association. Rev. J. H. Saunders, Vice-President, Western Association. Rev. M. P. Freeman, Vice-President, Eastern Association. Rev. J. A. Gordon, Vice-President, P. E. Island Association. Also a Board of Directors. Auditor—D. Rupert Eaton.

A resolution was adopted expressing the readiness of this body to hand over its work to the Baptist Convention when that body is prepared to receive it.

The Union adjourned to meet with the Church at Hebron, on the Friday before the third Saturday in June, 1878.

NOVA SCOTIA CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

There is no spot in the Central Counties of the Province so surrounded with Baptist reminiscences as the church at Canard, although the old church is replaced by the handsome structure which now adorns the elevated situation, originally chosen and used as the place of meeting for Baptists for past—near three quarters of a century. Here Father Manning labored for many years with large success and extended his labors all around. A blessing attended, and hundreds were converted. Churches are now established on every hand, more or less the result of his work.

Cornwallis, the garden of Nova Scotia, is now in its most gorgeous attire. The natural scenery and beauty is perhaps unsurpassed. Its fertility is a sort of perennial spring, coming forth every summer with fresh supplies requiring but little renewal of the elements of fertility, its soil reaching down to depths which seem inexhaustible. Here labor secures its most abundant reward and, except by misfortune or improvidence, poverty is unknown.

THE ASSOCIATION

commenced at 10 o'clock, Rev. J. W. Manning, the Moderator of the past year, calling for the letters and conducting devotional exercises. These continued as usual till the list of Delegates had been obtained from the letters. Brethren Tufts and Caldwell acting as Secretaries pro tem.

The election of officers resulted in

choosing Rev. S. W. DeBlois for Moderator.

Rev. E. M. Kierstead and Rev. Joseph Murray, Clerks.

Charles F. Eaton and Edwin Rand, Treasurers.

Rev. Dr. Tupper, Rev. W. G. Parker, and Rev. J. L. Read were appointed the Committee for examining Letters, and Rev. J. W. Manning, Rev. Isaiah Wallace, and Rev. S. March to read them.

The Churches all around had ministers of the Association preaching.

At Canard, Rev. J. W. Manning preached in the morning.

Rev. J. A. McLean in the afternoon, and Rev. W. G. Parker in the evening.

The letters from the churches shewed that 322 members had been added by baptism, and nearly \$1200 sent for benevolent objects. The introductory sermon, by Dr. Sawyer, from Rom. i. 16, was an able exposition of the characteristics of that epistle and of the evangelical truths it contains.

The associational letter, on family religion, was read by J. W. Barss, Esq.

Education was fully discussed on Monday afternoon.

N. S. WESTERN ASSOCIATION.

SECOND ARTICLE.

One of the Letters read from the Churches—that from 1st Hillsburg—gave an account of the retirement of the pastor Rev. G. D. Cox on account of failure of health. Special prayer was offered on his behalf.

The sermon on Monday morning by Rev. Dr. Tupper was an exhibition of God's faithfulness to his people, and was closed by a most affectionate appeal to sinners who had not pledged themselves to follow the Saviour. The Circular Letter was—as may be judged from its title—a clear financial exhibit of what the world and the church expend on things hurtful, and a comparison between the cost of virtue and vice. It will appear in our next.

A Letter was read from the Foreign Mission Board in relation to sending Rev. W. B. Boggs back to India. The Board wished for an expression from the six Associations, if they were willing to pledge themselves, in the event of his re-appointment, to contribute to the general fund, the further amount required to support another mission family.

This matter occupied the very earnest and careful consideration of the body. Many of the delegates held that they had no authority to give such a pledge. They agreed in a resolution leaving the matter entirely with the Board, and promising hearty support to them whatever course they determined upon. On Monday afternoon the Missionary Report was read by Rev. W. H. Warren affirming that the great commission is still in full force, and requires the church to awaken in all its energy and power, and go forth in the name of Jesus to invite sinners to the Saviour and to obedience to his commands.

Rev. Dr. Tupper, being called upon, shewed the great need of laborers which still existed at home and abroad. The blessing which had followed efforts already put forth afforded proof of God's willingness to bless all such labor. He noticed that \$100 had been recently left by a friend to aid the Foreign Mission, and seeing that in many cases property, left to descendants, becomes a source of dispute and alienation, it would be well for those who are disposing of their property by will, to think of the claims of these benevolent objects, and aid them as much as possible.

Rev. J. H. Saunders pleaded for the French Mission. He believed the deficiency of support it had received arose from the want of information as to the real merits of the mission and the good work done among the French people by the Missionary. He had visited the people, and was well acquainted with some of those who had embraced the gospel in connection with the Mission, and were earnest faithful Christians. He believed it was the intention of God to bless this people more largely through this organization.

The Church at Freeport sent an invitation to hold the next session of the Association with them. Subsequently Rev. A. Cohoon gave an invitation to the Association to meet with the church of which he was pastor at Hebron, Yarmouth. Thanks were voted to the former, and it was decided to accept the latter.

The following brethren were chosen delegates to the Convention:—Brethren H. H. Chute, Avard Longley, W. R. Doty, A. C. Robbins, and Austin Locke.

Delegates to the Central Association were Revs. W. H. Warren, A. Cohoon, W. L. Parker, P. R. Foster and Bro. J. C. Anderson.

Delegates to the Eastern Association, Rev. Dr. Tupper and other ministers who may be able to attend.

Delegates to Prince Edward Island, Rev. W. H. Warren and other ministers who may be there from this Association.

On Monday evening a Public Missionary meeting was held, opened with prayer by Rev. J. W. Manning.

Rev. W. B. Boggs said he thought that if Christians realized fully, that the last words of Christ, were to go forth into all the world, they would have a higher appreciation of the honor of engaging in this work. The results of the labor in the past were developing into vast proportions, and shewing that it is a vast field having special claims which are being more and more appreciated.

Rev. Geo. Armstrong noticed that 40 years ago this work had made a commencement, and it had gathered strength year by year until now the churches could hardly exist without this work. They find this the best investment.

Rev. Dr. Day said he had always been deeply interested in missionary work. Of late years he had been more closely identified with Home Missions, but he regarded the Foreign work as no less important. We could not be followers of Christ, who was the great Home Missionary, without taking a deep interest in both. The large blessings the gospel gives should be a stimulus to take it everywhere. The hundreds of persons brought to Christ by our Home Missionaries shew plainly that if larger sums were so employed we might expect thousands where we now have hundreds.

Rev. W. H. Warren shewed, that by Mission work we help all our institutions. The first contribution from a church for re-building Acadia College was from New Glasgow—a mission Church. There had been 14 missionaries employed during the year under the Union, and about twenty pastors have had subsidies. He referred to the inadequate support given many of our ministers in these provinces. Dissatisfaction had been expressed with some of the proceedings of the Board. The diminution of funds compelled the Board to decline many appointments which would most gladly have been made.

Rev. A. Cohoon said he wished the brethren present could be at some of the meetings of the Board when appeals were read from every part of the Province. The appeals, too, by the missionaries for the payment of the amounts due them, made it at times most painful for the Board. If the churches had all carried out the recommendation of the Association given last year, there would be a larger fund to supply means for this work. He had tried to do so and had found they were able to raise a much larger sum. He did not believe in keeping this matter always before the Church, but it it were presented at proper times they would contribute.

Rev. M. Normonday said he believed that there were many of the people to whom he endeavoured to carry the gospel who were worshippers of images, as much so, as the people in heathen lands. Their gods were believed to have the power of diminishing the time they were to remain in purgatory. A certain number of prayers to Mary secured them from the consequences of their sins. If this mission should fail he prayed that he might be taken away first.

Rev. J. Rowe shewed that difficulties are to be expected in carrying on the work of God. We ought to expect opposition and be prepared to see God remove them, and so shew his wisdom and power. We have but to sow the seed. He will make it productive.

On Tuesday morning after some minor matters had been disposed of the Education Report was read by Prof. Tufts.

Prof. Tufts afterwards gave a detailed account of the College operations after the fire, and the steps taken in reference to the new building. He spoke of the expected return of Prof. Welton, and the resuscitation of the Theological Department and giving it thoroughness and efficiency.

Rev. Geo. Armstrong said he felt deeply for Acadia. He held that the Governors now needed the money for building. The present arrangement of the buildings, he believed, would be the most economical possible in both Academy and Seminary, and in the College, also, he believed that Annapolis and

Kings should supply a large part of the means for this, as well as, for our Home and Foreign Missions.

Dr. Day said Yarmouth was feeling the pressure of the "hard times" but they would not allow our Educational or Missionary work to suffer or be neglected. He knew one lady who was intending to give another \$1000 before very long.

Rev. W. H. Warren said he felt now since the old building had been burnt down that he loved the College better than ever. It was expected that the College Classes would in consequence be closed, but the pluck of the Faculty in proposing the temporary rooms, and going to work in them so readily shewed that they knew what they were about and that they had the best interest of the students and of the institutions at heart.

Rev. J. H. Saunders said he did not know how much he loved Acadia till he heard of its destruction. This he believed, as all other matters, was most providential thing, and permitted to take place for the benefit of the body. He believed the Churches were benefitted by it. The same work which would be secured for \$34,500 would, a year or two ago, have cost a very much larger sum.

Rev. John Brown said he was pleased to hear what the report said about the Theological Department.

The Association was occupied with the matters of business on Tuesday, evening and afternoon, when it closed to meet next year with the Hebron Church, Yarmouth.

The Session was most harmonious. The morning Prayer meetings instead of being at 6 o'clock were at 9 o'clock, seeing that the people being so much scattered, they could not so conveniently come together at that hour. An excellent spirit prevailed in these meetings. During the session the excellent choir were always ready with fresh pieces of good music which they sang with much animation and liveliness.

THE BAPTIST HOME MISSION MONTHLY is a new publication intended to be the organ of the American Baptist Home Missionary Society. It is a magazine of 16 pages, with a neat cover. Price 5 cents, or 50 cents a year. The editor says:

"Of all the large societies, whether of our own or of other denominations, known to us, this Society is the only one which has no organ of communication with its patrons and friends. For a long series of years this Society had its own publication; but this was abandoned in the hope of greater efficiency and economy by the use of the newspaper press. The obligations of the Society to the newspapers of the denomination during the period of the trial of that experiment are most warmly acknowledged. It was, however, found, in the course of time, that some of the purposes necessary could not be accomplished in that way; and it became a question whether that method could not be partially adhered to, an occasional publication by the Society itself being used for such purposes as the newspaper arrangement proved itself inadequate to accomplish. The Society cannot dispense with the friendly co-operation of the newspapers of the denomination. Those newspapers represent the sentiment on which the denomination itself rests; and, under any circumstances, their friendly regard and co-operation will be relied upon. But the committee to whom the whole subject was referred, after long consideration came to the conclusion that this Society would be obliged, like other societies, to have its own independent mode of communication."

It is proposed by the Presbyterians to build a Martyr's Memorial Church on the island of Eromanga, where Williams, the missionary, and the brothers Gordon were killed. It is estimated to cost £200. The sad experience of the pioneers in that mission should not be forgotten and may be appropriately kept in mind by such a building.

The Wesleyan of the 15th has two letters—occupying near six columns—from Rev. D. D. Currie, and a letter of more than a column from the editor himself, all on the baptismal question, and we are not surprised to see him in another short article, saying: "It is lamentable that so much space must be given up to this water question." He finds that Mr. C. having opened the question is not to be easily stopped. The editor tries to tell his readers that it is "our Baptist brethren" who have done this. The same old style and trick adopted by Nero when he wanted to get rid of the Christians, but it will not do at this day. It is almost laughable to hear him saying:

"But some of our Baptist brethren have periodical turns of invective, and