

We much regret that any necessity exists for the publication of such a letter as the following, yet we could not refuse its insertion without laying ourselves open to a charge of unkindness to the writer, who assumes the entire responsibility. As to the merits of the case between the brethren Armstrong and Hopper, we, personally, know nothing, and must leave the matter for future development in the courts of law or otherwise:

For the Christian Messenger. LETTER FROM REV. GEORGE ARMSTRONG.

TO THE BAPTIST DENOMINATION IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

Respected Brethren,—I write for your information, that of the church of which I am a member, and of the Board of Governors of Acadia College, the Baptist Convention, and all friends whether in or outside the denomination; and beg to state that I have read with the greatest surprise and indignation the editorial article published in the Christian Visitor, of the 13th August, 1879, with the caption—"Subscribers! Caution!" and the Circular sent to subscribers headed "Caution" Signed "J. E. Hopper." The meaning of the documents flash out immediately on reading them, and no person can fail to see that they contain the terribly damaging charges of dishonesty, fraud, and getting money on false pretences against me. My friends who have known me for a life time will be greatly surprised and shocked by this sudden and savage assault on my reputation. But this nefarious attempt to rob me of my fair name and consign it to disgrace and execration,—to destroy my ministerial standing in the denomination, my Christian influence and usefulness in the community, to disturb all the relations of my life, and thus inflict on me irretrievable loss, to say nothing of pecuniary loss, shall be met promptly, and with determined purpose that my name and character shall be vindicated and my assailant be speedily called to account. I am confident no person has it in his power to prove me guilty of dishonesty, fraud, or getting money on false pretences. However, Mr. Hopper will have the alternative of establishing his charges against me in a Court of Law, or bear the consequences of failure. I have committed the case to a highly competent legal gentleman of St. John, Premier and Attorney General of New Brunswick, with instructions from me to institute proceedings at once in the way he deems best to serve the purpose of vindicating me from the foul, unfounded and unjust imputations cast upon me by the publications named.

At the earliest moment in my power I have written this to allay the anxieties of friends and acquaintances in the Provinces, the United States, England, India and Burmah; and indicate to you and to the public generally how I view this attack and how I intend it shall be met. Believing that Providence will maintain the right and that the more searching investigation will fail to prove true the imputations cast publicly upon me.

I remain, Respectfully yours, GEO. ARMSTRONG. St. John's Nfld., Sep. 9, 1879.

From Sunday Afternoon. The Baptist Convention and Finances.

Dear Editor,—

The Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces, on the 25th of August last, appointed John March, Esq., Rev. D. G. McDonald and myself a Committee to present a Financial Scheme for the denomination. The Committee reported the following scheme as the result of their deliberation:—

- 1. That a sum be raised for our denominational objects of benevolence equal to a dollar a head of our whole membership.
2. That this sum—equal to about \$36,000—be divided among the several departments upon the following scale:
Mome Missions including Book Room and Colportage \$14,400 or 40 p.c.
Foreign Missions..... 9,000 or 25 p.c.
Educational Institutions, 9,000 or 25 p.c.
Cost of collecting..... 1,440 or 4 p.c.
Ministerial Education..... 900 or 2 1/2 p.c.
Ministerial Relief Fund. 900 or 2 1/2 p.c.
Surplus Fund for emergencies..... 360 or 1 p.c.

Our third recommendation was that a standing Finance Committee be appointed. The Convention adopted the plan proposed and appointed the three

brethren named above as the Finance Committee.

I wish merely to say, Mr. Editor, that the work undertaken by the Committee is of gigantic proportions. They do not however, wish to shirk the responsibility that their acceptance of office entails. They intend to push forward the matter to a successful issue if possible. In order that the scheme may prove a success, the pastors and leading brethren of the various churches must lend a helping hand. It is hoped that they will begin at once to prepare the way for the Committee. Circulars will soon be addressed to the churches, but let there be no delay. Our Educational Institutions and our Home Missions require immediate aid. "He who gives quickly gives twice."

All the money contributed in Nova Scotia for any of the objects named in the scheme should be sent to the undersigned. He will pass the amount to the Treasurers of the Boards and take receipts for the same.

G. E. DAY, Chairman of Finance Com. Yarmouth, Sept. 12, 1879.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., September 17, 1879.

The three Discourses of Luthardt, of which we have the last section in our present issue, have given our readers some idea of the profound style of German thought, when employed on the highest of all subjects. It will have been observed that it differs greatly from the mode of both English and American writers. The demand it makes on the hearer or reader is much greater than in either of them. It would be a good exercise for the student now to go back and take up the first and read the three lectures carefully through. The combined thought of the whole would well repay the effort and enable him to take a grasp of the subject which would not soon be lost. The translator, Professor Welton, has doubtless received immense benefit, in the language, as well as the Theology, from the task he has so well accomplished.

MR. SPURGEON does not spare Plymouthism. He writes in the Sword & Trowel:—

"The Plymouths will spoil the business if they can with their wild gourd, and then we shall have to cry 'these are the noble spirits in the front who will, we trust, beware of the danger and prevent it. Undenominational sectarians of the bitterest type, anxious to promote their disintegrating projects, rush to any likely centre for a time, but they have no element of cohesion, and when the bond of common disorder is gone, they scatter again to do mischief elsewhere, leaving their old haunt a mere ruin. They are of no use when they are at their best, and when they show their rough side they are bad indeed."

Amongst the many benevolent organizations at the Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, is that of the Bible Flower Mission. The mode of operation is very simple, and as beautiful as simple:—

The flowers received from week to week are made into small bouquets, to which is attached some message from God's Word. To those who are shut out from all that is bright and fair, these tokens of a Father's love are very sweet, and if helpers could see for themselves the pleasure that they give they would feel indeed that "it is more blessed to give than to receive." This branch of the mission visits the Lambeth Workhouse and Infirmary, the inmates numbering some 1,300. Besides those inside the house there are between 200 and 300 people who attend the workhouse every Wednesday morning to receive their relief, and many of these poor people have sick friends, to whom the sight of a flower is as a sunbeam in their darkened homes.

All hampers with address enclosed are returned the same week. Those who cannot send flowers may render good service in supplying the texts.

DARTMOUTH.—The labors of Mr. H. A. Spencer, licentiate here, are being accompanied with the Divine blessing. On Sunday last two, who had under his ministry witnessed a good confession of faith in Jesus Christ, were baptized by Rev. J. W. Manning of the North Church. Mr. M. subsequently received them into the church by the right hand of fellowship, and administered the Lord's Supper to the Church.

An octogenarian brother writes us: "September 13th, Baptized at Shalows sixty-seven years ago this day. No other survivor but myself."

Rev. Jacob Freshman delivered an excellent lecture on The Jews, in the Masonic Hall, on Monday evening. There was a large audience, presided over by His Honor Lieut. Governor Archibald. The lecturer being the son of a Jewish Rabbi, converted to Christianity, was able to go fully into the subject, and present illustrations and symbols which brought the facts very vividly before his audience. Mr. F. is an eloquent speaker, and afforded much satisfaction to his hearers.

THE BAPTIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND are to hold their Autumnal Session in Glasgow in the first week in October. The Scottish Baptist Magazine in noticing this, remarks:—

This is an event that cannot but be regarded by our readers with the liveliest interest. It is the first occasion that our English friends have crossed the border; and we can assure them that, whilst the invitation has come from Glasgow, their arrival will be hailed with welcome by the brethren of like faith and order throughout all Scotland. We rejoice to think and believe that all evangelical Christians will join us heartily in wishing, and, as far as in their power, in helping to make the occasion pleasant and profitable to the visitors.

The meetings that will be held in the midst of this Presbyterian community, will manifest to them, by the numbers who will be gathered together, but above all by the excellent spirit that we are confident will be displayed, that, whilst the independency of our churches is constantly upheld, and the importance of personal confession maintained, unity of the spirit in the bond of peace, seen in the various organizations for Christian work existing, and coming into existence, in the Union, is as dear to the hearts of those so united as it can be to those belonging to the more elaborate organizations of the Presbyterian churches. These are all advantages worth striving for. The enlargement of heart and mind that comes from contact and intercourse with the worthy and the good may with certainty be anticipated. Then last, but most important of all, the advancement of the kingdom that is not meat and drink, but righteousness and peace in whom love will be warmed by the good words that will be uttered, and the presence of the Divine Spirit that will not fail when not two or three but hundreds are met together in the Master's name, and to do the Master's work.

"The Irish University Bill as it left the Commons" is the caption of an editorial in the London Freeman and says:

"All that the Bill at present does is to provide for the abolition of the Queen's University, and for furnishing a scheme of a university to take its place. We must wait till the scheme appears with what patience we can summon. The constitution of the Senate, the subjects in which students will be examined, the principle which will determine the position and character of the new University, the payments to be provided, and the source of these payments will afford scope for much discussion both in and out of Parliament in 1880. Meanwhile, the friends of religious equality should resolve to hold their own, and to resist any and every attempt to go back on the lines of State Churchism which were abandoned in 1869.

THE GERMAN BAPTISTS

held their Triennial Conference at Hamburg in July last, commencing on Monday the 14th at 8 a. m.:

"One of the first acts of the assembly was to telegraph a fraternal message of sympathy to Pastor Oncken, in England, and whose state of health prevented his being present. To this he replied in a cordial and affectionate letter, which was read at a subsequent stage of the proceedings, and received by the delegates, all standing. Several other churches, having applied for admission, were accepted by the vote of the delegates.

Several brethren had expressed their opinion on the subject, it was voted that the publication business formerly conducted by Mr. Oncken should (in accordance with his wishes) in future be carried on under the auspices of the Union.

Pastor Joseph Lehmann, of Berlin, introduced the subject of the College for Missionaries. The mission school at Hamburg has been closed more than four years, for want of funds. The building has accommodation (including dormitories) for eighteen students Brethren Fetzner, Köbner, and Gen. Morgan urged the importance of its re-establishment, and Mr. Peters, who described himself as a "grey-headed peasant preacher," said, "We have tilled the ground when there were no Baptists. We have done the rough work, but we now want a different race of preachers. Germans of the present day need more educated ministers. I have preached as a peasant and God has blessed me. My son preaches as a student; God will bless him, and he will take my place when I am gone higher. But education must be carried on with prayer and

humility that God Himself may teach His servants, and that they may teach the people rightly." A committee was appointed to deal with the matter.

Reports were presented of the Widows' Fund, the chapel Building Loan Fund, &c.

The fifth sitting of the conference was partly occupied with address by the English brethren present. Mr. Newton was invited by the conference to undertake a mission tour to a number of the stations, the delegates present engaging that the churches visited should defray his travelling expenses in appreciation of the interest shown by British friends. Mr. Bland consented to accompany him for a few days. In view of this visit, one of the missionary brethren called attention to the customary "kiss of charity," and suggested that it should be dispensed with in the case of English visitors as being unusual in their land.

The ninth and closing session was held on Friday morning, at which the subject of "Corporation Rights" was introduced and the importance of legally securing chapel property by trust deeds or otherwise urged upon the representatives.

The great desirability of publishing a history of the mission being felt, it was recommended that every church should furnish information of facts within its own knowledge, and a suitable editor be appointed.

The "Work of Sunday-schools" next received consideration. That was followed by a paper by Brother Moitz Geissler upon the "Mode and Spirit of Preaching," which, with sundry routine business, brought the session to a close.

A "love feast," or (as we should call it) social teaming, was arranged for the evening of Thursday, when the large chapel was crowded and an enthusiastic and prolonged meeting held.

OUR FOREIGN MISSION.

Rev. Dr. Cramp writes: "Two or three letters have come to hand since last week.

The mission family at Bimlipatam are living in an outhouse on the premises, containing three rooms, the mission house not being yet finished, the rains having prevented the roof being put over.

A death has occurred in the church at Jeypore, Mahanti died July 11, of fever. His is much lamented by the church.

The Foreign Mission Board has recently received two letters from Miss C. A. Hammond of Bimlipatam, from which we furnish extracts.

Under date of 21 June, she says, Time moves on with us much as usual. Mr. Sanford is busy from morning to night with the building; Mrs. S. with her various household cares and other duties; I, with my school-work and study.

I find it more difficult to devote three hours a day to the latter now, than I did five or six in the cool season. I had thought the heat great for some months, but the last few weeks have been almost scorching. Scarcely a breath of air for days and nights together. Nevertheless we are well.

We hope that about ten more days will complete our stay in this house. We will then go on our own compound, and try to accommodate ourselves in what one day will be our cook-house and go-down.

It is very small and we cannot hope to be comfortable there this hot weather, but, if our health is spared us, we are willing to be uncomfortable awhile for the sake of being near our work.

The roof of this house has not been in a proper condition for months, and the recent heavy rains have rendered it very unsafe. It is well our house is so near completion.

Much to our surprise, the monsoon was a month early this year, consequently we were not fully prepared for it. Just now is the usual time for the monsoon, but we had the heaviest rains about a month since.

I enjoy my school work very much. Some of the little Telugus are bright and smart. I have a christian teacher and some portion of the New Testament is taught daily. I try to talk to them but my little stock of Telugu is very imperfect.

I do not think I can learn to converse, merely from studying books. I need to be where I can hear the language and be compelled to use all I know.

The higher castes can understand the language I get from books, but to the lower castes it is scarcely more intelligible than English. I am very much interested in the Sabbath School. I do not attempt to talk Telugu there. We sing in both languages. I have a large class of Eurasians and a few native boys who can speak English. The questions and remarks of the latter interest me, and I hope they may learn something of the truth."

Under date of July 24; Miss H. writes "We are at last living on our own compound, and I think we all find it much more adapted to our purposes, although our rooms are very small, and it is hot and close. * * *

I will endeavor to introduce, into my school all the religious instruction possible. Nevertheless some secular work must be done, therefore I can not give it more than a prominent secondary place.

My strongest desire in coming to this country was to try to make known the Gospel: and I believe there are hundreds of women in this town to whom my access will be proportionate to my progress in the language. The pleasure afforded by the little visiting I have done, amply repays for the effort expended."

OUR HOME MISSIONS.

The H. M. Board recently appointed by the Convention held its 1st meeting in the vestry of the 1st Baptist Church Yarmouth on Monday the 8th inst.

Officers of the past year were re-elected viz: A. C. Robbins, Esq., Chairman, Rev. G. E. Day, M. D., vice Chairman, Rev. A. Cohoon, Cor. Secretary, W. A. C. Randall, M. D., Rec. Sec'y, J. C. Anderson, Esq., Treasurer.

SUBSIDIES GRANTED.

- 1. To the Churches at Dartmouth and Fall River, \$200.00 per year from Sept. 1st 1879.
2. To the West Sherbrooke Church \$50.00 per year.
3. To Crow Harbor Church \$50.00 per year. Both these grants are to enable the churches to secure pastoral labour one-fourth of the time.
4. To Jeddore Church \$40.00 per year till Jan. 1st, 1880, to assist them in the services of Bro. Meadows two-thirds of the time.
5. To Port Medway and Mills Village Churches \$40.00 per year from Aug. 1st, 1879.

MISSION APPOINTMENTS.

- 1. Rev. D. G. McDonald on P. E. Islands as general missionary on 3 months.
2. Rev. D. Freeman, a mission of six months to Lower Stewiacke and Musquodobit Churches and outlying regions.
3. Rev. D. McLeod a mission of six weeks to West Bay C. B.
4. Rev. M. Normandy re-appointed as French missionary.

OTHER BUSINESS.

- 1. Rev. G. E. Day and John March, were appointed a Committee to confer with the Board of the N. B. H. M. Society, on the carrying on of Mission work in New Brunswick.
2. The revised Bye-laws and forms for quarterly reports submitted by the Cor. Sec'y were adopted. Churches intending to apply for aid are requested to send for copy of Bye-laws, so that application may be made in regular form.
3. Counties, that have not already done so, are requested to organize Auxiliary Boards after the plan of the Hants County Aux. Board. (See last report of H. M. Union, N. S. and P. E. I. Minutes.)
4. Owing to the great scarcity of labourers it was voted to request churches having settled pastors to allow their pastor to spend a few weeks among the destitute, as the Board may direct. This will be regarded as a donation from the church giving their pastor's services and will be so credited. Churches willing to share their abundance with the destitute are requested to communicate at once with the Secretary.

MONEY WANTED.

We are in great need just now of Funds for the French Mission. More than \$150.00 are now due your missionary. Steps are being taken for the immediate employment of a second missionary, so that we shall need at least \$1200.00 for this branch of the work this year. Please send your donations at once to J. C. Anderson, Treasurer.

In behalf of the Board, A. COHOON, Cor. Sec'y. (Christian Visitor please copy.)

THE HALIFAX GRAND PARADE question seems at length likely to have a settlement. Last week His Worship the Mayor was served with a writ of summons, at the suit of the Governors of Dalhousie College against the city, for sundry alleged trespasses on the Grand Parade, and claiming \$10,000 damages.

MR. ALEXANDER MACKENZIE of Inverness, the Historian of the Highland Clans, is expected here in a few days: He will probably lecture on his favourite subjects in Halifax during Exhibition week.