

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., September 3, 1879.

BAPTIST CONVENTION AT TRURO.

SECOND ARTICLE.

Our last week's report of the proceedings of Convention was as complete as we could give by mail and the aid of the telegraph on the day of publication. It was necessarily brief. We might enlarge on the address of Rev. John McLaurin on Sunday evening. It was unquestionably the finest piece of word painting we have listened to for a long time. His pictures of the Telooogos shewed how much the gospel is needed by them, and how well it is adapted to supply just what they require, to remove the ills that so sorely afflict them, and the burdens under which they are being crushed mentally, morally and spiritually, and have been for ages past. Their gods are vile, and the worshippers of them become like them, with the filth which has accumulated around them for thousands of years. The personal uncleanness of the people is as filthy as the devices of Satan and human nature combined can make them. The Brahmin caste are however somewhat cleaner, but they are full of craft and deception. They demand and receive the adoration of the lower castes. A pariah must offer worship to a Brahmin, although he be the vilest wretch in existence. They know nothing of a God who takes a fatherly interest in them. The gospel brings to them just what they need. The sceptic sneers and thinks the work of Foreign Missions is a failure. All the history of missions however proves that it is a noble enterprise and must, and will live on and bless the nations, and save the souls of those who are now sitting in darkness and the shadow of death. All experience proves that it is as effectual now as it was in the Apostles' days. It is worth far more than it costs. It blesses both giver and receiver.

Mr. Everett in his Convention Sermon on Monday morning presented the sad destitution in many parts of the three provinces, and the need of a very large addition to the Christian ministry to supply the destitution which prevails in the Maritime provinces. In several counties of New Brunswick not a single ordained Baptist minister is to be found. Two classes are distinctly needed, 1st. A ministry of invitation to go forth into destitute districts; and 2nd a ministry of education to train and teach the churches after they have been formed and properly equipped. Mr. E. in looking forward to the future of our institutions said a distinct Scientific Department should be established at Acadia College and then a Model Farm to give agriculturists the opportunity of culture in their particular line in connection with their literary cultivation. Further, it would be desirable as soon as it could be effected to have an Academy in each of the provinces to act as feeders to Acadia College. Initiatory steps he believed might be taken forthwith with advantage.

The Rev. Isa Wallace offered a resolution expressive of regret at the return of Rev. John Brown to England and assuring him of the confidence of the members of this Convention in, and esteem for him. This was unanimously adopted.

The Rev. S. W. DeBlois was here requested to present the Report of the Governors of Acadia College. An extract will be read with interest:

"Attendance.—Seventy-two students, the largest number on our records at any one time, have enjoyed the advantages of Collegiate instruction during the year past. Thirty-one have already applied for matriculation for the year to come.

THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

Under the able superintendence of Dr. Crawley and Dr. Welton, this Department has achieved a fair degree of success. There have been twenty ministerial students. Instruction has been given in Systematic Theology, Hebrew, Exegesis, Homiletics and Church polity.

MORTON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY.

This Institution held its closing exercises in the new College Hall, on the evening of Wednesday June 4th. A number of original essays were delivered, interspersed with musical performances of a very high order. Prizes were awarded to the pupils in the various departments of study. Four young ladies, Miss Jeanie Lovett, Miss Olding, Miss Ella Carey and Miss Robbins having satisfactorily completed the full course of study, received the certificates

to that effect, to which they were entitled.

Attendance.—The number of pupils in attendance at the Academy, during the year past, was one hundred and nineteen; sixty-two in the male Department and fifty-seven in the female. The attendance is not so large as in some former years. The want of suitable accommodation for boarders, especially in the Female Department, has proved a serious obstacle which will now be removed, by the completion of the new Seminary building.

Your Board feel satisfied that the prospects for a successful year, were never more favorable in the history of these Institutions, than at the present time. J. B. Hall Esq., Ph. D., has accepted the position of vice principal. He will reside in the Boarding House, and exercise a general supervision and control over the inmates. Miss Mary E. Graves, a graduate of Colby Academy a lady of executive ability and a teacher of high reputation, has been engaged as principal of the Female Department. Miss Augusta Dodge a graduate of the Boston Conservatory of Music will give instruction in instrumental music. Miss Eliza Harding in painting and drawing. These in addition to Mdlle. Huguenin and Miss Whidden previously employed, and Mr. Albert Coldwell and Professor Tufts in the male Department, offer inducements, to those seeking education of a very high character.

ACADIA COLLEGE BUILDING FUND in account with A. D. W. BARSS, Treasurer.

Table with columns for Dr. (To paid Orders of Building Committee, Collecting, On temporary buildings, Architects) and Cr. (By Insurance, Two loans, Received on subscription). Total: \$45,199.00.

A. D. W. BARSS, Treasurer. Wolfville, August 19th, 1879.

ACADIA COLLEGE in account with A. D. W. BARSS, Treasurer.

Table with columns for Dr. (To balance from Aug. 1, '78, Paid sal. to Professors, For repairs and labour, Insurance, Incidentals, Postage, Stationery, Librarian, care of Rooms, Treasurer, Interest on borrowed money, Rent, Dr. Sawyer) and Cr. (By Rec'd. from Churches and collections, Amount of Provincial grant, Amount received for diplomas, received from rent and taxes, Interest received, Balance carried down). Total: \$8087.94.

A. D. W. BARSS, Treasurer. Wolfville, August 19th, 1879.

Table with columns for Dr. (To invested in two fresh mortgages, invested in Albert Co. debenture bonds, Loan on mortgage to Dr. Sawyer, Cash in hand carried down) and Cr. (By balance brought down). Total: \$8178.50.

ACADIA COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND in account with A. D. W. BARSS, Treasurer.

Table with columns for Dr. (To invested in two fresh mortgages, invested in Albert Co. debenture bonds, Loan on mortgage to Dr. Sawyer, Cash in hand carried down) and Cr. (By balance brought down). Total: \$8178.50.

ACADIA COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND COMPISES

Table listing various financial items: Mortgages (\$39,075.63), Toronto Debentures (4000.00), Provincial Debentures (6813.33), Yarmouth Co. Debentures (5800.00), Debenture bonds, Albert Co., N.B. (600.00), Notes and pledges (27,745.00), Cash in bank (78.50). Total: \$84112.46.

JAS. S. MORSE, G. H. WALLACE, Auditors. A. D. W. BARSS, Treasurer. Wolfville, Aug. 1st, 1879.

DEWOLF LEGACY FUND in account with A. D. W. BARSS, Treasurer.

LIBRARY FUND.

Table with columns for Cr. (By interest received). Total: \$110.00.

Table with columns for Dr. (To cash in bank subject to order, DEWOLF AID FUND) and Cr. (Aug. 1—By interest received, To Paid H. A. Spencer, Ant. placed at interest). Total: \$145.00.

The afternoon of Monday was occupied with the discussion of these matters and at the close was adjourned to Tuesday morning.

The names of delegates were read over again which shewed the number present to be 207.

The Ladies' Missionary meeting was held in the Normal School Assembly Room just opposite the church. The report of this is given on our fifth page.

MONDAY EVENING.

The Public Missionary Meeting was presided over by Rev. D. A. Steele. Prayer was offered by Rev. E. M. Saunders.

Sau Ah-Brah expressed his high appreciation of the value of the gospel. He believed that no learning or civilization would be sufficient to change the heart. The cruel tyrant now ruling over Burmah, has been well educated. He can read well, but he is still no better, nor so good as the beasts. He has not the natural affection of the brutes.

Rev. John McLaurin gave some account of himself and his reasons for coming to this Convention. He had learned much of us and our missionaries and wished to know us better. He would be glad if it were possible for many of the Nova Scotia people to come to Ontario. He had looked at the great distance and hoped that the space may soon be filled up by a large number of Baptist Churches. He thought there might be a strengthening of our bands by a union being some day formed. A combination of the province in the support of one Theological Seminary would largely effect this.

Mr. McL. gave a succinct history of the mission to the Telooogos. Missionaries had been there for 30 or 40 years, but with very limited success. For many years the American Missionary Union had but two stations now they have twelve. He gave a description of his first effort at preaching in Cocanada. His congregation consisted of six persons. He has since baptized upwards of six hundred.

The stations of our own missionaries he regarded as well chosen and most promising. Our men were of the first order, and the women even better. He believed the missionaries worthy of highest confidence. We must have faith in God, that he intends to give his enlarged blessing and accomplish his purposes in the world. A great movement is going on in every land. Africa is opening up its dark places for receiving the gospel. Southern Africa is now under the fire, but the ashes will send forth light to drive away the darkness. All through Europe there is a feeling of unrest. Let us get into sympathy with this work, and then when we have done with all earthly things we shall be prepared to join in the song of the great multitude of the redeemed from every tribe and tongue and nation.

Rev. Dr. Miller from Brooklyn, N. Y., said he thought the purchase of the compound at Cocanada by Mr. McLaurin was most cleverly done, to get a property worth 24,000 rupees for 8900 was equal to any Yankee.

He knew some of the ministers here in Nova Scotia who were doing the work of missionaries. He had been spending several days along the Bay Shore by Parrsboro, Advocate and Cape d'or, and had found the Baptist minister there worthy of all honor, accustomed to travel over a field of 60 or 70 miles in extent carrying the gospel to the destitute places. In doing this he was preparing a people to sustain the Foreign work. It is of the utmost importance to strengthen the centres. Domestic Missions are an essential part of Foreign Missions. He believed in Union. This is a most important union. Care is necessary in the incipency of all matters. He was glad to see so much care being given to these things. Even the dew drop may twist the oak in its early life, and so it may remain forever twisted. Dr. Miller has a vast fund of lively illustration which he presents in course of his remarks, awakening the risibility of his hearers and making it exceedingly pleasant to listen to him.

Rev. T. H. Porter said he felt that he would never again have the opportunity of speaking to this Convention, and addressed the large audience in a most energetic manner on the prefatory and closing sentences of our Lord's great commission: "All power is given un-

to me in heaven and in earth. . . . Lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world. Amen."

The singing on this occasion by Mrs. D. W. Crandall and the Choir was of a high order and contributed greatly to the interest of the meeting.

On Tuesday morning the Report of the Foreign Missionary Board was read by the Secretary Rev. W. P. Everett. A few extracts from this important document will interest our readers.

REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSION BOARD.

"Of some of our proceedings it is proper that we should present some notes for the information of our brethren.

MISSION SCHOOLS AND ORPHANAGES.

At the commencement of the year we were led by circumstances which had risen on the foreign field, and by the action and expressed views of some laboring there, to consider the Mission School question in its general relation to the interests and conduct of the Mission work entrusted to our Missionaries. And after due deliberation it was decided to send to our brethren in India the following Minute which was designed to embody the views of the Board and to define our future fixed policy in respect to carrying on day schools and other projects for the promulgation of the gospel among the heathens."

"The Foreign Mission Board accept as a Scriptural truth which has been verified in every age of the Christian world, and notably in the recent mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit whereby a marvellous number of Telugus have been converted in connection with the Ongole Mission Station in India, that God has ordained that man shall be saved by the preaching of the Word.

They further accept as a fact illustrated on every Mission field where it has been practiced in modern times, that the prosecution of educational work, merely as such, by missionaries sent to the heathen, tends to withdraw their time, attention, and energies from the more important work of preaching the gospel.

The Foreign Mission Board, therefore, hold it as a principle, sound in practice as in theory, that in order to make their operations successful as a Christian enterprise, the preaching of the gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is the one aim towards which all the physical, mental, and spiritual powers of our missionaries should be turned, and that their efforts should not be diverted therefrom to the organization and conduct of secular schools or the employment of other agencies, however philanthropic or laudable in themselves, except as they come in the direct line of Christian effort for the furtherance of the primary object for which the Missionaries have been sent to the foreign field.

It is therefore ordered that the Secretary communicate to the Missionaries the views of the Board as thus expressed, and solicit their active co-operation in carrying it into practical effect. This order, however, is not to be construed as interfering with such school operations as are now sustained by the Woman's Missionary Aid Societies although it is believed that great care should be constantly exercised to preserve the purely religious character of such operations, that all our efforts may be steadily directed to the wise attainment of the single aim indicated in the foregoing Minute."

FINANCES.

While our expenditures during the year have been somewhat increased over some previous years, owing principally to the building operations at our three Mission stations, and the expense incurred in reinforcing the Mission by the addition of a new laborer, we regret to say that our receipts have been diminished to some extent. This decrease of income we have every reason to believe is not attributable to any diminution of interest in the mission on the part of our patrons; but arises from the wide spread and universal depression in business, which has greatly affected the receipts of all religious and benevolent associations throughout the world. The total amount contributed by the Churches, W. M. A. Societies, Sabbath Schools, and private individuals during the year has been \$4391.40.

The whole number of churches represented on our list of contributors this year and as compared with last year has been as follows:

Nova Scotia.

Table with columns for In Central Association, In Eastern Association, In Western Association, In Eastern Association, In Western Association. Total: \$936.14.

In Western Association, of 68 churches, 54 contributed \$873.84. In 1877-'78, \$1082.82.

New Brunswick. In Eastern Association, of 72 churches, 50 contributed \$587.03. In 1877-'78, \$861.10.

In Western Association, of 76 churches, 46 contributed \$677.58. In 1877-'78, \$708.20.

Prince Edward Island. Of 18 churches, 13 contributed \$232.89. In 1877-'78, \$445.27.

[Or, we may put these figures in tabular form, as follows:—

Table with columns for In 1878-89, In 1877-78. Rows for N. S. Central, N. S. Eastern, N. S. Western, N. B. Eastern, N. B. Western, P. E. Island. Total: 4391.15, 5262.14.

We deem it advisable to present a brief glance at the stations now occupied by our Missionaries.

BIMLIPATAM.

This station is located in a sea port town having a population of about 9000. It was occupied by Rev. R. Sanford and wife, Nov. 4, 1875, and a Baptist Church was organized the March following. They were joined by Rev. G. Churchill and wife in January, 1877. In the vicinity of Bimlipatam there are many populous villages waiting for Christian cultivation.

Connected with the Bimlipatam station, and under the superintending care of Bro. Sanford, there are two sub-stations, at each of which there is a native preacher stationed and engaged in labor.

The principal station, distant 16 miles from Bimlipatam, is Vizianagram, where there is a little Church organized, having a native preacher in charge, who also itinerates in neighboring villages. He is also assisted by a faithful colporteur, who not only disposes of Christian literature, but also preaches Jesus to the best of his ability.

The other stations, under Bro. Sanford's superintendency, is nearly 200 miles distant in the Jeypore District, where K. B. Mahanty dispenses the gospel to the Oriyan people. Mahanty is still supported by Mrs. C. C. Scott, of Truro, N. S.

At Bimlipatam, besides the evangelistic work done by Bros. Sanford and Churchill since our last report, there has been considerable school and other work performed by Mrs. Churchill and Mrs. Sanford and their assistants. Mrs. Churchill opened at caste girls' School in August last, which, at the end of the year, comprised 32 scholars. A Sabbath School has also been connected with this School, and all the pupils attend.

Mrs. Churchill, assisted by Miss A. DePraze, organized and for three months sustained a Poor Woman's Meeting, at which the attendance was from 50 to 70. They also performed much zenana work during the year. We trust that the good seed thus sown by these Christian women in the hearts of their heathen sisters may be productive of salutary results.

After due consideration and careful prospecting, the Rev. G. Churchill, who, as we have said had been dwelling in Bimlipatam since Jan. 1876, deemed it to be his duty to take possession of a new and inviting field that seemed to be opened in the town of

BOBBILLY.

In September last, Mr. Churchill interviewed the Dewan, or Governor of the place, and obtained a grant of land most suitable for a Mission Compound; and in Nov. he commenced the erection of a temporary dwelling for the use of his family. After experiencing difficulties of a trying nature, he succeeded in finishing his house, and moved his family thither in March last, and he and wife have already commenced such mission work as it was possible for them to perform. This field is peculiar in this respect, that it is a place in which heathenism exists as the absolute religion.

There is no part of the population Christian or European, so that Bro. Churchill and family can enjoy no cultivated society, nor have intercourse with people whose vernacular is the sweet language of our missionary's nation. But on the other hand, our brother will not be pained by the sight of European moral obliquities of life which often tend to discourage the pious missionary, and to prejudice the heathen against Christianity.

We hope that in this field our brother and sister may reap the rich imperishable sheaves which they so ardently desire.