

For the Christian Messenger.

Dear Brother Selden,—

Our attention has been called to several questions which appeared under the head of "Information Wanted" in your issue of the 31st of March last. Believing that said questions are a covert attack upon us and our Pastor, we ask the privilege of correcting the misrepresentations which they contain. And before pointing out the untruths we wish to say that we admire the answers which you have given to "these questions as they are put."

Question 1st is nonsensical. A Baptist minister "who is not a member of the church" is something in this connection that we do not understand. Had the question been concerning a Pastor's authority it would have been intelligible.

Question 2nd implies that the Pastor called an annual meeting at an unusual time without consulting the deacons and principal members of the church and that it was inconvenient or impossible for certain persons to attend said meeting. Whereas the meeting was called at the request of two deacons and the leading members of the church and was publicly announced in two sections of the church with a special request for all male members to attend and the business of the church was unanimously transacted, there being about fifty members present. We have yet to learn that any member of the church was absent from that meeting because of it having been held at an inconvenient time.

Question 3rd implies that the Pastor exerted an undue influence and thereby accomplished a selfish purpose or purposes. The fact is there was nothing of the kind and every thing was done in a pleasant and agreeable manner—any statement to the contrary is both unjust and untrue.

Question 4th, The fallacy of this question will appear from a statement of the facts as they occurred. At a regular church meeting a charge was brought against certain members who were persisting in open opposition to both the church and its Pastor, the two deacons referred to as being opposed to the action of the church being included among the accused, the other two deacons being in harmony with the action of the church. The church appointed a Committee including the Pastor to visit certain brethren and ask them to return and fill their places in the church, and were to report at an adjourned meeting. The Committee having endeavored to attend to their duty reported that these brethren not only shewed no signs of penitence but positively refused to comply with the request to attend the church meeting or to be subject to the control of the church. Whereupon the church unanimously withdrew fellowship from said persons. Instead of the exclusion taking place the day after the Committee visited them, it was not until Wednesday, the church meeting at which the charge was brought being on Saturday and the Committee doing their duty on Monday morning. We may add that they would not have been excluded even then had it not been for their professed determination not to submit to the control of the church. So you will understand that neither the church nor the Pastor has acted either unscripturally or hastily in this matter. Indeed it has been to each of us a source of very deep sorrow and grief to have to use discipline, and we have endeavored to act in the fear of God and with a view to the best good of both the persons excluded and the Church of Christ. We do most earnestly hope that we may be saved from any further public explanations, but if the person or persons who have carried this matter to the public press persist in their misrepresentations we shall feel obliged to give, in our next, a full account of the whole transaction from its inception. We have no desire to publish the imperfections of erring brethren but we cannot afford to wink at such wholesale misrepresentations of either the church or our highly esteemed Pastor.

"Father forgive them for they know not what they do."

Yours in justice to ourselves and defence of the truth.

In behalf of the Church,
J. GRAVES, Church Clerk.
Port Lorne, April 10th, 1880.

The Winebrennarians, a Baptist or Anabaptist sect, founded 1830, otherwise known as the Church of God, have divided on the subject of secret societies.

Spurgeon's church in London administrator's discipline. Sixty-eight were excluded from membership last year. The net increase of the church for the same time was one hundred and twenty-three.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., April 21, 1880.

REV. W. F. ARMSTRONG'S LETTER.

We were glad to receive the letter on our first page from our Missionary Brother Rev. W. F. Armstrong. Our readers have already been informed, generally, respecting the Conference held at Cocanada, and the proceedings of the brethren there, which we obtained from other sources. We are thankful to learn that our brethren and sisters have returned in safety to their homes, and are again at their own missionary work.

These occasions of fraternal intercourse with each other, and with the Western Canadian Missionary brethren must be very refreshing seasons to all concerned, and calculated to strengthen and encourage their hearts in their arduous labors in a foreign land. The appeal of our brother on behalf of the Telugu Bible and New Testament will doubtless be met with a liberal hand by the brethren. We most heartily commend the matter to those who have heretofore contributed to other Bible Societies.

Next to contributions to the General Fund for the support of our Missionary families and the erection of their dwellings, there is nothing that is more necessary than a supply of the Sacred Scriptures correctly translated into the language of the people to whom they have taken the gospel message.

"A Theological School" too is a desirable thing, when there are students for such an institution, and funds for its support. We shall doubtless learn more of this from the Board whenever it is thought wise and prudent to enter upon such further development of our Missionary enterprise in India.

As to its being necessary to form an organic Union with the Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba brethren, for such purpose, it will be well for us to "make haste slowly," or we may find ourselves involved in difficulties that may jeopardize our whole work. We do not think the difficulty would be in the direction which Bro. Armstrong indicates "that the West desires to lead," or that they "deserve to lead." We have yet to learn that such is the case,—that they either "desire" or "deserve" such pre-eminence—but it is rather as Dr. Fyfe intimated when on a visit to this province—and which was concurred in by other practical men—that such an amalgamation is at present impracticable. Perhaps we have confederation enough for a few years to come. Our Canadian brethren, who have been longer in the field than we have, will probably be, taking steps for such a Missionary Theological School, when they find it necessary, and it will be for them to take the initiative and communicate with our Mission Board. Our other Missionaries will also probably be giving their views on the subject, and the Board may then make known to the churches the requirements for this purpose.

In the meantime, let the brethren throughout the Provinces consider the great work that lies before them, and be prepared to go on with it, supplying the necessary funds first for the General Fund; secondly for faithfully translated Bibles; and then eventually for a Theological School, when men are given and means are supplied to enable the Board to make appropriations for that purpose.

THE REV. GEORGE ARMSTRONG, A. M.—We learn that the Rev. Geo. Armstrong is desirous of re-entering the pastorate, and is open to invitations from churches. His acceptableness as a minister is so well known, and he is so generally esteemed, that we may expect to hear shortly of some successful negotiations. We believe that we are correct in stating that Mr. A. would prefer a settlement in Nova Scotia.

We talk about an average of ONE DOLLAR PER MEMBER. Why the Sandwich Island Christians, who but a few years since were rescued from heathenism, contribute Four Dollars per member. Just think of it brethren, and consider whether the gospel has not done much more for us than for them. It is only the gospel that makes the difference. Just think about it, see if we are yet like the poor woman of whom Jesus said "She hath done what she could."

BOYS AND GIRLS, Look at the Youths' Department.

PARLIAMENTARY.

COUNTY COURTS.

We had not seen the official report of proceedings in the House of Assembly on Saturday the day of adjournment before going to press last week. There were two or three matters that will interest our readers. One of these was a motion of Mr. C. A. Smith, as follows:—

"Whereas, at the time when County Courts were forced upon the Province a large proportion of the people deemed them to be unnecessary;

"And whereas, after several years experience of the practical working of these Courts, the people are still opposed to them, believing that they tend to increase litigation;

Therefore resolved, that in the opinion of the members of this House it will be expedient at the next session of the Legislature to enact such legislation as may be necessary to abolish County Courts as they now exist, or change their constitution in such a way as to meet fully the requirements of the country."

He believed these Courts to be useless in the extreme, he pledged himself to do everything in his power to have them abolished. Many lawyers, standing high in the profession in this Province had not hesitated to say that the present County Courts were dangerous and unnecessary.

The motion was seconded by Mr. McKay. Several members spoke briefly on the subject.

Mr. Bartling said he was decidedly against these courts. They had been sprung upon the country, which had no choice in the matter, and in his opinion they were cumbersome and unnecessary. He had known of one case involving an amount of \$9.50, in which the costs had amounted to \$80 or \$90.

The debate was adjourned and resumed two or three times, and whilst the Attorney General was speaking the announcement was made that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor commanded the attendance of the members in the Council Chamber and the prorogation took place.

SECESSION.

Another subject was brought before the Assembly on Saturday by Dr. Campbell who had given notice of his intention several days before. The resolution was as follows:—

Whereas, After nearly thirteen years of experience it has been found that the interests of the Province of Nova Scotia have been sacrificed by a union with the other Provinces of the Dominion;

And Whereas, under Confederation the expenditure on large public works is almost exclusively confined to the Upper and Western Provinces of the Dominion from which Nova Scotia derives little or no advantage whatever;

And Whereas, the Government of Canada have lately introduced and put into operation a system of protection which is directly inimical with the commercial, shipping, fishing and agricultural and other interests of the Maritime Provinces, and in direct violation of the original and well-understood compact of Union;

And Whereas, the said Government of Canada have refused to grant to the Provinces a fair and just or any share of the proceeds of the Fishery Award to which these Provinces are equitably entitled.

Therefore Resolved, That in the opinion of this House it is desirable that Nova Scotia should be severed from political connection with the Dominion of Canada, and that such steps be taken as are constitutional and proper to secure either the total repeal of the British North America Act of 1867, or such amendment as will relieve Nova Scotia and place her in her former position as an independent province of the British Empire.

Dr. Campbell was proceeding to discuss the resolution when the Hon. Atty. General said he thought Dr. C. was not in order; he was not discussing any question.

Dr. Campbell said he was discussing one of the most important questions that had ever been before this House.

THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT.

The Supreme Court at Ottawa gave judgment on Tuesday of last week in relation to the Canada Temperance Act, Judge Henry dissenting.

The appeal against the Act went from Fredericton, and of course the decision gives great satisfaction to the Temperance people of New Brunswick. We give them our most hearty congratulations on the auspicious event. The local law was less restrictive than ours, and vigorous efforts were made to secure the Prohibition which a vote of the people of a county would command. The vote was taken and the Act adopted in seven counties, but the

judgment of the Bench of Judges was that the Canada Temperance Act was Ultra Vires, and therefore of no effect.

This decision of the Supreme Court declares that the provisions of the Dominion Law are henceforth to be carried out.

The City of Fredericton, and the Counties of York, Kings, Queens, Charlotte, Carleton, Westmorland and Albert by very large majorities adopted it; and in Fredericton and York County it was for some time in operation, and was working satisfactorily till the above decision of the New Brunswick Bench. After that and up to the time of the Supreme Court decision the rum sellers have, we understand, been bidding defiance to all law, and selling freely without restriction.

In the above counties the sale must now stop, and other Counties will, we doubt not, immediately proceed to take the vote on the adoption of the law, and there will of course be most desperate efforts made to defeat the vote; but with seven counties, and the capital in loyal acceptance of the law we may predict a new era of prosperity, and comparative happiness. Licenses are valueless when decision against the sale is given in a county or city. Although the Nova Scotia law is more restrictive than that of New Brunswick, yet it is likely that attempts will be made here to secure the greater restriction this Canada Act gives. The local licenses will then be of no value, and all the difficulties of the local law will be avoided.

Halifax City is about ripe for this law. There seems to be no effort to restrict the sale, but licenses are given to parties who procure a sufficient number of names without the Council exercising much judgement in the matter. Aldermen generally do however, take care and keep liquor shops at a distance from their own residences, but other people have to submit to such nuisances near their property without being allowed any redress.

An altercation of a most disgraceful character, took place at Ottawa, on Tuesday of last week, between two of Nova Scotia's Senators, Messrs. Miller and Kaulback; each one charging the other with drunkenness. Mr. Miller in speaking of Mr. Kaulback, said he could not put twelve sentences together, either orally or in writing, and changes in his remarks must have been made with the guilty connivance of the reporters. Mr. Kaulback said he was not surprised at this attack. He considered himself to rank with many men of high standing whom the hon. gentlemen had treated in a similar manner before. He claimed that this man (Mr. Miller) occupied a most contemptible position in Nova Scotia, and had sold all the principles, political and otherwise, that he ever had. Yet he came before this House and presumed to represent himself as of some social and domestic status. He (Mr. Kaulback) had been told not to mind what this man said, as he was subject to fits of temper, that he spoke when under the influence of liquor, and was not responsible for what he said. (Order order.) Mr. Miller said, I rise to a point of order. The hon. gentleman drinks more liquor in a day than I do in a month. (Loud cries of order.) Mr. Kaulback resumed his remarks. Senator Montgomery moved the standing orders, saying that when hon. gentlemen got into a personal altercation it was customary to clear the House of strangers. The Speaker directed that strangers withdraw.

The House was accordingly cleared of strangers, and the debate was concluded with closed doors.

The rest of the Senators from Nova Scotia must have felt themselves degraded by such an exhibition before the Senate and the public.

HOME MISSIONS.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS. The Home Missionary Board held its regular monthly session in the vestry of the 1st Baptist Church, Yarmouth, on Monday the 12th inst.

Treasurer reported receipts for the month \$174.10.

Corresponding Secretary read reports from Missionaries Kidson, Jordan, Corey, Meadows, Roscoe, Stewart, Munro, Harrington, Howe, Rossier, Normandy, Hughes, and James Spencer. Several of these reports were very encouraging, and show that God is blessing the labours of those brethren who are seeking to build up our weak churches.

GRANTS. 1. To the Tuskett field, including

Forest Glen Church, Yarmouth Co., N. S., a subsidy of \$100.00 per year to assist in securing the services of Rev. E. J. Grant.

2. To the Tracadie field, Antigonish Co., N. S., a subsidy of \$100.00 per year from April 1st, 1880, Bro. A. W. Jordan, Missionary.

3. To the Tobique field, Victoria Co., N. B., a subsidy of \$200.00 per year, from May 1st, 1880, Rev. Charles Henderson, Missionary. This field includes the following churches: Andover, Anthurette, Forest Glen, Grand Falls, and Riley Brook.

4. To Salt Springs, Hardingville, and other mission stations adjacent. St. John Co., N. B.; a subsidy of \$100.00 per year, from June 1st 1880, to enable this field to secure the services of Rev. S. W. Kierstead, in connection with the Hammondale Church.

FUNDS.

We are still in great need of funds to pay the grants promised our missionaries. These brethren are working on small pay and it is too bad that they should be obliged to wait for their money. They need not do it, if all who profess to love the Lord Jesus would do what they can for Home Missions. Remember we need \$6000.00 for Home Missions in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and P. E. Island, during the year ending July 31st, 1880. One third of that amount has not yet been received.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

Churches wishing the services of young Brethren during the summer vacation, are requested to write the Corresponding Secretary.

A. COHOON, Cor. Sec'y.
Hebron, April 15th, 1880.

HARRY HENDERSON; OR OUT OF TEMPTATION, by Mattie Dyer Britts, pp. 208. Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia, 75cts.

A capital little book, with a good story of Farm and City life.

Notices.

RECEIVED FOR HOME MISSIONS. For month of March, 1880.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Convention Fund Rev. Dr. Day, A collection from Baptist Churches, Kempf, Maitland, Queens, per Joseph Fletcher, Convention Funds Dr. Day, From B. Jost, Esq., Guysboro, John Covey, St. Margarets Bay, R. N. and J. M. G. Cunningham, Esq., Guysboro, J. C. Anderson, Treas. H. M. Board, Yarmouth, April 9, 1880.

CASH RECEIVED TOWARDS FUND FOR RE-BUILDING ACADIA COLLEGE.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Rev H N Parry, Chegoggin, Yarmouth County, Edmund Bankman Clements, L. W. Elliot, Clarence.

CASH RECEIVED TOWARDS ENDOWMENT FUND OF ACADIA COLLEGE.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Calvia Churchill, Centreville, N.B., A. D. W. BARRS, Treas. Wolfville, April 3rd, 1880. (Christian Visitor please copy.)

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Yarmouth, Temple Church, Miss A. S. Murray, Melvern Square, Miss Josephine B. W. Phinney, Sydney, Mrs. C. H. Harrington, Indian Harbour (West), Miss Maggie Covey, Mrs. Naylor, Halifax, M. R. SELDEN, Treasurer, Halifax, April 20, 1880.

CONVENTION FUNDS RECEIVED.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Forest Glen Church, Yarmouth, Mr. G. K. Trefry, Chas. Pinkney, Esq., Annapolis, Falmouth Church, Hants Co., Kempf, Newport, Rawdon, Walton, Waterville, Windsor.

Total \$130 85

The amounts from the Hants County Churches were collected by the Auxiliary Home Mission Board and forwarded by the Treasurer, A. P. Shand, Esq.

G. E. DAT.
Yarmouth, April 7, 1880.

Moneys Received.

A. Shaw, \$2; Rev L B Gates, \$1; J B McNutt, Esq, \$4; W F Cutten, Esq, \$10; A Friend \$5 for Foreign Missions; N Jollotta, \$5; J Metcalf, \$2; N B Westcott, \$4; Joseph D Masters, \$5.50; L C Layton, \$2; O H Cogswell, \$2; R Thompson, \$4.