

ing the power and matured wisdom of Associations has nothing to do with the question. Those acts of the Associations all had their origin before the Convention had an existence, which was not established till 1846. How can the Associations present matured views on subjects concerning which they have no definite information? It was not the ability but the opportunity to present matured views of which I was speaking. But I confess I am wholly unable to see why views as far reaching and matured as those which might be obtained in Associations cannot as well, yes, better, be secured in Convention, in which is assembled the best talent and most devout piety of the three Provinces and of the seven Associations, which possesses the fullest knowledge and widest scope for the accomplishment of the denominational enterprises.

5. The ground which the Dr. gives for my statement, that had he possessed the spirit of humility and confidence, brotherly love and frankness, he would not have attempted to give the Foreign Mission Board a thrust (not "fling") while replying to me, is not the true ground. The Dr. in his first letter affirms "that what is needed is a larger, much larger, measure of the spiritual element in the Churches, Associations, and Convention, and especially in the management of the important interests committed to the Boards. The spirit of humility and confidence, of brotherly love and frankness would do more to produce harmony and vigour, satisfaction and success. . . than "the plan I have suggested. Without stopping to question" what authority or right "Dr. A. has to arraign the whole Baptist Denomination—Churches, Associations, Convention, Boards, and "pronounce categorically against the course" of said bodies, I ask what is that spiritual element? From the connection of position and thought, as may be seen by the above quotation, "the spirit of humility," etc. Hence he preferred the indictment, that

1st. The Foreign Mission Board needed a much larger measure of the spiritual element; i. e. that it wanted the spirit of humility and confidence of brotherly love and frankness.

2nd. That the Board has failed to fulfil its obligations. (Where does the Dr. get his "right or authority" to make such an "allegation"). See Dr. A's first article, 11th paragraph.

3rd. That the Board's improper action would result in disunion and discord, stagnation and death. See Dr. A's first Article, paragraph 4.

He also adds with lofty Christian feeling "especially with a *paid* (italics not mine) Secretary etc. Now it will be readily observed that Dr. A. said more than "simply because I announced my conviction that the Foreign Mission Board was under obligation to give information to the Associations. He preferred those charges against a body of noble, large hearted, intelligent and conscientious christian men. He preferred them, having no sufficient or accurate knowledge of the case. Was there not ample ground, then, for my statement that, had the Dr. possessed those graces, which he has denied to others, he would not have preferred the above charges "and thus have not given the Foreign Mission Board a thrust while replying to me."

6 Nos. 4. and 5. in Dr. A's last letter contain a misrepresentation in almost every paragraph. I do not say that he has wilfully misrepresented me. It may have been a *lapsus mentis* or a *lapsus penne*. We will notice one or two. He says, "seeing the Associations were kept in the dark in regard to important missionary matters, and passed, as alleged, certain resolutions in the dark, I wanted to know how it came to pass that A. J. Denton was entitled to pronounce categorically against the course of said Association." I say he did not ask that. He in his first act wanted to know what authority or right I had to say that certain resolutions were made in the dark—which statement he himself admits above to be true. I did not say that "Associations erred or brethren were at fault in their criticisms." I simply stated a fact. I did not "pronounce categorically" either for or "against the cause of said Associations. I furthermore gave the reasons for making that statement which he has ignored completely in his next paragraph.

7. The Dr. has made some wonderful suppositions and assumptions, but the most wonderful and groundless is, that I received from the Missionary Rooms information withheld from, or denied to others, and the denomination. That which I received was that proffered to the Central W. M. A. S., Halifax by

the Missionary Board in reply to the charges of Mrs. A. Hence it was not withheld from or denied others, and therefore Dr. A's labored argument about my not being entitled to receive such information, falls to the ground.

Again the Foreign Mission Board in my estimation did right not to enter into a public and perfectly useless newspaper discussion. And again, I deny the right, gratuitously assumed by Dr. A. to speak for the whole Denomination. The Denomination never asked for information from the Boards, and once again, the right of Dr. A. to receive all information from every Board in just such a form as he chooses to demand, waits to be proved.

In Dr. A's first article he states that "perhaps it (my information) came in some unaccountable way. It is high time however that private communications ceased and similar correspondence were discontinued. They operate to weaken confidence, etc." That is, as I took it, he wanted no more communications from a private person like myself, but official ones from the Board. Now in his second he says, I "most incorrectly quoted him." Well just look again and see who quoted correctly. Perhaps the Dr. does when he inserts in the quotation only just four words—"and similar correspondence from the Missionary Rooms were discontinued." To be sure those four words do not change the meaning at all! One thing more, Dr. A. accuses me of "indulging in an unbecoming and ungenerous fling, not only at R. M. King, Rev. E. M. Saunders, but also at Rev. T. H. Porter who lies dangerously sick. Let me say that when I penned that article, I was not aware of Mr. Porter's sickness, else I had omitted his name, that I love and venerate the man most highly and agree with Dr. A. in all that he says concerning him, that if I have wounded his feelings, it has been unintentional and I most sincerely apologize to him and I did not intend any fling at any of the men mentioned. I simply said that through want of knowledge their criticisms were hasty and imperfect—a statement of facts out of which Dr. A. has manufactured a fling. The Dr. is responsible, wholly responsible, for this to me most painful incident in this discussion. On him rests the blame of seeking by means whether fair or unfair, to make capital out of the slightest material against an opponent.

But it is time, Mr. Editor, that this discussion ceased. It has already degenerated into personalities. In conclusion, in answer to the Dr's inquiry as to what right I have to address him as I have, my reply is that my first article called for no rejoinder, that Dr. A. has made a wanton and personal attack sarcastically and superciliously, that I have the right of defence and that he must not complain if I use as sharp weapons as he, that I have tried to be as gentle as I knew how, having respect for his grey hairs and venerable character, that in regard to his last charges of ignorance, unbecoming and ungenerous flings, low views and ignoble feelings, in regard to his arraignment of the spirit of the Convention and of my youth before his tribunal for condemnation, I have nothing to say. They cannot hurt me for they are not true! "The crime of being a young man I shall neither attempt to palliate or deny." I did not write my first article to cast aspersions on the character of others or defend my own. I will not demean myself by retaliation, but close with the fervent wish that the Dr. will in the future treat his younger brethren as he himself would wish to be treated. Thanking you in your kindness in affording me the use of your columns.

I remain
Yours truly,
A. J. DENTON.
Shediac, N. B., Oct. 15th, 1881.

For the Christian Messenger.

Notes from P. E. Island.

Rev. J. B. Woodland writes:—

My own interest, even in the least matter connected with our own churches in the other provinces leads me to think that a few jottings from P. E. I. might be of interest to your readers. This is the season for Exhibitions, and almost every one is taxed with the anxiety of Exhibitor or the responsibility of Judge, either official or self-constituted. Georgetown and Summerside are past, both of which presented a decided improvement on previous years. Charlottetown comes this week, and will doubtless profit by the experience and successes of the former places. Of course we are a little proud of our success at the Dominion Exhi-

bition in your city, where our 100,000 people carried off over \$1000 in prizes out of a total of \$15000. Excuse us Mr. Editor, Nova Scotia would feel so too under similar circumstances.

We are yet in mourning on account of the death of Father McLeod, loved and honored by all who knew him, the Lord called him home when many of his brethren in the ministry were absent attending the Convention at Yarmouth, and it adds to our sorrow that we were not able to follow him so far as mortal is permitted to follow mortal. Well fitting unto him are the words of the apostle, he has "fought a good fight, he has finished his course, he kept the faith," and has gone to wear the crown which the Lord the righteous Judge bestows.

As churches, our prospects of spiritual prosperity are not so full of promise as we could wish. There is a dearth of Baptist ministers on the Island just now, and to us the loss of one or two means much more than it does to our brethren in Nova Scotia.

We cannot pay large salaries, but we can give a comfortable living to at least three men, who want to do good, honest hard work for the Lord. A good field is open to the right man at Summerside and vicinity. Montague, Grand River and Dunda are vacant, and will give a hearty welcome and efficient co-operation to a good man. With some part, or perhaps the whole of the Southern district, including the churches at Alexandria, Uigg, Belfast, Little Sands and Murray Harbor, an earnest worker can make a good settlement, have ample room, and with God's blessing reap an abundant harvest.

For the Christian Messenger.

A Recognition.

This is our Thanksgiving Day, and I wish to publish an incident of the past month. By some means my friends knew that the 13th of Sept. was my birthday, and planned to surprise me by an unceremonious visit. About 30 came to our house and spent a very pleasant evening; leaving us many tokens of kind regards. It appears that the programme of the hour was only carried out in part. A few days ago I was not a little perplexed as I received by express a valuable overcoat for winter use. I thought some one had made a mistake, as I had not ordered such an article; while it was just what I needed. I was advised to try it on, when I found it a perfect fit. I expressed an unusual sensation—a very pleasant fit—as I learned that it was intended as a birthday gift, from a few of "those women who labor with me in the gospel." We thank God that He has given us these helpers to the truth in all our churches; whose works will be more conspicuous, and more highly appreciated as His light and truth go forth.

I have two reasons especially for publishing this incident. One is to encourage these friends in this and every good work—not that I believe that this is the only or best way to do this. The other is that I may add to the comfort of brother ministers—not that I think my new coat will keep them warm—but as fashion has its rule, and hints in its line are gathered from materials made up, this circumstance may be very suggestive and helpful to "those women" in other churches who are not a little perplexed as to how they can best encourage their pastors.

Yours very truly,
J. H. SAUNDERS.
Digby, Oct. 20th, 1881.

For the Christian Messenger.

More Mysteries.

Dear Brother,—

The "enigma" to which you refer in last week's paper, respecting the movements of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board, is not the only one in connection with the recent doings of some of our brethren in St John. To not a few it seems passing strange that we must go to the secular papers for the most of the meagre information furnished respecting the proposed new College (for so the latest announcement is made to dignify it) The Minutes of the Associations, containing the only record of any action of the Denomination in the matter, which ought to have been out before the Convention, and were long ago promised, are yet strangely withheld; and the Baptist public have largely to guess at what is going on. However, this may prove only another specimen of "masterly inactivity" for which some of our brethren there have been so applauded. **NEW BRUNSWICK.**

To the Editor of the "Christian Messenger" :—

DEAR BROTHER,—

The enclosed article was duly forwarded to the *Christian Visitor* for publication, and was returned a fortnight after, declined, for the alleged reason that "there is in it nothing new" and "the policy of the *Visitor* is to help the Baptist Seminary."

In the interest of free discussion, and also, as I believe, of denominational well-being, I respectfully request of you the favor of its insertion in your issue of next week.

Yours very truly,

T. H. PORTER.

Fredericton, N. B., Oct. 20, 1881.

New Brunswick Baptist Academy.

It appears that the idea of a new Baptist Academy for New Brunswick is actually entertained by some prominent brethren in this Province. To the proposition as now before us—though precisely what is being done we, who have not had the privilege of attending our annual gatherings, are for some reason not yet permitted to know.—an objection or two presents itself which I think ought to be considered. If the measure be a sound one it will bear and court-examination. If otherwise the sooner that unsoundness is known the better.

The first and chief objection, then, to this movement, is this: We already have an Academy that fairly meets the wants of the Baptists of our Convention. Before me hangs a map of the Maritime Provinces. When I look at it I am struck with this remarkable fact, which I think may have entirely overlooked. Our institutions at Wolfville are located as nearly as possible in the centre of the Baptist population of these Provinces. If to-day we had no institutions of learning, and the Convention were summoned to decide on the most central place for them, I would be glad if some one would tell me where in all our land a spot could be found which, as respects both distance and convenience of travel, would, better than Wolfville, fulfil these conditions. Whether the choice of location were an inspiration of the fathers in view of future wants which they could not foresee, or only another proof of the appropriateness of their designation—the Child of Providence—there is the bold fact, and we are now face to face with it. Make Wolfville the centre of a circle, and a line extending to Cape Causo, the extreme East of Nova Scotia proper, will reach to the extreme West of the province, cover every part of P. E. Island, and extend to Newcastle on the Miramichi, Woodstock and St. Stephens; while a line that will touch the Grand Falls will reach to Sydney, C. B. But both Newcastle and the Grand Falls are more accessible from Wolfville in Summer or Winter than are either P. E. Island, Cape Breton, Canso, Liverpool, Barrington, or the extreme west of Cumberland County.

Again, the Horton Academy buildings and staff of teachers are sufficient to meet the wants of the Maritime Provinces. We are promised thirty more students for Acadia College with an affiliated Academy in New Brunswick. Now I affirm that there is room at Horton Academy for all the pupils this will require, just as really as for the thirty students after they have entered College. Or if there be not, certainly the enlargement necessary to provide this accommodation can be made more economically than a new Academy can be established. Beside, affiliate as closely as you may, the true way to insure students at Acadia College is to send pupils to Horton Academy.

Once more, Horton Academy is now as much the property and under the control of New Brunswick as of Nova Scotia, or as Acadia College is. Why then a new Academy in New Brunswick,—unless because no other use can be found for the Seminary fund?

But there is another aspect of the case that must not be overlooked: Horton Academy needs for its maintenance the support of the Baptists of the Maritime Province. It is sometimes said that the Fredericton Seminary—intended for New Brunswick only—received no aid from the other Provinces. Will some one kindly inform me how much New Brunswick has contributed toward the male Academy at Wolfville? Is it known in New Brunswick that there is still a heavy debt on that building—our property? And is it known that just now is an emergency in the affairs of our Horton Institutions generally? Whatever the future may or may not develop, is this then the fitting moment for

launching a new institution upon the Convention—for the Academy talked of is to be not only affiliated with the College, but established at the expense of all the Provinces.

Looking at the history of the past, I find that Horton Academy has always been the institution of this Province as really as has Acadia College, and that it has done proportionally as much for our people—almost every student at Acadia from New Brunswick having first undergone a course in it. And another fact of scarcely less importance is that this was just as much the case when we had an Academy in this Province as when we had none. What has been is likely to be. Consequently then, and clearly, the duty and privilege of the Baptists of New Brunswick to-day, is to rally around the Institutions we have, thankful that we have them, and support them with all the means at our disposal.

T. H. PORTER.

Fredericton, N. B.

We have had the following letter by us for several weeks past, with a request that if our St. John contemporary—to whom a copy had also been sent—were unwilling to give it publication in a week or two it might appear in our columns. We have been indisposed to publish it, under such circumstances, and yet the fact of Bro. Boggs being in India, and his writing over his own signature, constitute a claim to be heard which we could not fairly refuse to recognize. We are glad to learn by an accompanying note that our brother and his wife are "in the best possible health, and the large institution under his care, with nearly 300 students, is in a prosperous state."

From Rev. W. B. Boggs.

Dear Editor,—

In the discussion of Foreign Mission matters from time to time in the columns of the *Christian Visitor*, I have noticed an occasional reference to myself and Mrs. Boggs. Such references have always breathed the kindest spirit towards us personally. But some statements have been made which are not quite in accordance with the facts, and which consequently convey a wrong impression. It seems to me that fairness to all parties requires that a correction should be made.

In the *Visitor* of March 16th of this year it was stated that the reason we were not sent back to India by the Provincial Board was that "every physician here consulted as to the propriety of Bro. B. being sent out, reported adversely to his going." And in the *Visitor* of July 20th, which has just come to hand, I see the same statement repeated, in almost exactly the same terms.

Now what are the facts?

1. The Board never proposed to me to be examined by any physician with a view to obtaining medical opinion on the question of my return to India. They never made the faintest suggestion of any such thing to me. They seemed to take it for granted that I was a confirmed invalid.

2. No physician ever examined or questioned me at the request of the Board. If the Board consulted physicians in regard to my health, and if those physicians gave their opinion, they did so without examining me.

3. For my own satisfaction and at the request of friends I consulted several physicians. The following are copies of the certificates which they gave me.

FREDERICTON, N. B., Aug. 26th, 1878.

I have this day examined the Rev. W. B. Boggs, and find him greatly improved in health since his return from the East.

All the principal organs of the body are now performing their functions satisfactorily. The liver is slightly larger than natural, but is causing him no inconvenience.

Not having the facilities here for making the necessary examination I cannot speak with certainty as to the condition of the kidneys, but have no reason to suppose that they are in any way diseased.

The dyspeptic symptoms from which he suffered in earlier life, and which being aggravated while in India were the cause of his leaving that country, have, with care and dietetic treatment, now entirely passed away. His only trouble since his return to Nova Scotia, and his recovery from the debility consequent on that attack, has been a very slight diarrhoea of three or four day's duration, and he tells me that he never was in a better state of health than he is at present.

D. McN. PARKER, M. D.

Dr. Parker, as intimated above, not having at hand the facilities for making an examination as to the state of the kidneys, proposed that I consult Dr. King of St. John, on that point. Dr.