

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N.S., June, 28, 1882.

NOVA SCOTIA CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

GOING TO CHESTER.

So accustomed are we to travelling by railway out of Halifax, that to take any other route now seems somewhat strange, and brings to mind former experiences when the stage coach was the only public conveyance from the capital, in any direction.

Not being posted in that part of ecclesiastical history which embraces the saints and the sinners canonized by the Romish Church, we were a little puzzled to know who St. Margaret was whose name is given to the magnificent Bay at the head of which we pass.

A number of ministers and brethren had already arrived, and had been doing the sight-seeing of the town, and enjoying the unrivalled opportunities of boating on the Bay.

A visit to the lobster factory, occupied part of the afternoon. Here we find a number of men, and from twelve to twenty young women, at the different departments of preparing the coveted mollusk for the United States market.

It was evidently laid out for a town of much larger dimensions than it has as yet ever attained. The business is very quietly done. The streets are not wide, but some of those a little distance back from the shore are carpeted with beautiful emerald green, and appear as if they exist only to be admired.

The Bay in front of the town is one of the most beautiful that can be conceived, having in it hundreds of islands, it is said 365, one for each day of the year. We shall not attempt to collect their names, the most remarkable of these are Oak, Snake, Frog, Quaker, and Little and Big Tanook Islands.

THE ASSOCIATION COMMENCED at 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, by the Moderator of last year, Rev. E. M. Saunders, D. D., giving out the hymn, "I love thy kingdom Lord," which was sung, and prayer was offered by Rev. J. C. Bleakney.

After a list of the delegates had been

prepared and read, the Association proceeded to the election of Rev. Dr. Armstrong, as Moderator. On taken his place, Dr. A. referred to the first Association he attended in Chester, forty-two years ago.

The Letters from the churches were read by Revs. Dr. Saunders, J. C. Bleakney, and Joseph Murray. These formed the foundation for the work of the Session. Additions by baptism were reported from quite a number of the churches—in the aggregate, about 200, but a larger number had received none, and some had by removals and other means suffered a diminution of their membership.

It was resolved that the record of the ordination of ministers given in the letters be preserved and printed with the Minutes of the Association.

The appointments for the Lord's Day were,

At Chester, morning, preaching by Rev. G. Armstrong, D. D., and Rev. S. B. Kempton in the evening; Sabbath School meeting in the afternoon. Addresses by Rev. Drs. Welton, Saunders, and Rev. J. C. Bleakney.

The Sabbath School was briefly reviewed in the lessons of the past Quarter, and showed that it is well conducted by an excellent Superintendent, Chas. Smith, Esq., and a corps of superior teachers.

At Chester Basin, Rev. F. Beattie and Rev. M. P. King.

Windsor Road, Rev. J. E. Bleakney, and Rev. Joseph Murray.

Sherwood, Bro. C. F. Locke.

Mahone Bay, Rev. A. W. Bars.

At Chester, Methodist, morning, Rev. W. J. Swaffield. Evening, Rev. George Weathers.

After the reading of the letters, Rev. A. W. Bars, (by appointment), Rev. T. A. Higgins, and Rev. S. March, gave addresses of great power and interest on the state of religion in the churches of this Association; and on the great need more devotion and conscientious and of regular attendance at the social meetings of the church, shewing that a higher standard of piety at home and in the world, is needed to secure the Divine approbation and continued revival influences.

Saturday evening was devoted to Temperance. Addresses were given by Revs. F. Beattie, D. O. Parker, W. J. Swaffield, S. Langille and others.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted,—

Resolved, That we desire to express our high appreciation of the provision in the election law which gives us Prohibition of the liquor traffic on polling day. And we trust that the good arising therefrom so apparent to all, will soon be so evident to our legislators that they will give us the same prohibition of the traffic in intoxicating drinks, and will extend the time of the same indefinitely.

The Sabbath Services were attended by crowded congregations, filling the large handsome edifice belonging to the Baptist Church here. The commodious basement affords fine accommodations for social meetings and sabbath school, with good Bible Class rooms.

In the evening the Sermon was followed by several most impressive addresses which will be long remembered, and we doubt not will result in good.

On Monday morning the Associational Sermon was preached by Rev. J. C. Bleakney, of Berwick, from 1 Corinthians ii. 11. Subject: "The ordinances of Christ's Church and our duty with regard to them."

The letter to the Churches was read by the writer Rev. W. J. Swaffield. Subject: "Holiness to the Lord."

The afternoon session was occupied with a discussion upon Education; good speeches were made by several ministers and others.

On Monday evening there was an interesting missionary meeting which was largely attended.

HON. DR. PARKER, and Miss Parker, who have been visiting Virginia, seeking health, and to escape from our chilly spring breezes as well, have lately returned home much benefited by their three months sojourn in the sunny South.

REV. G. M. GRANT, D. D., Principal of Queen's University, Kingston, Ont., is visiting in this city. He worshipped last Sabbath with the people to whom he ministered for so many years in St. Mathew's Church, and received a warm reception from a host of friends.

THE N. B. SOUTHERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

commenced its third annual session on Tuesday, the 13th inst., at St. George.

After devotional exercises the Association was organized in the afternoon by the election of its officers as follows:

Moderator—Rev. W. J. Stewart, of Portland, N. B.

Clerk—Rev. H. Foshay.

Assistant Clerk—Bro. John DeWar.

Treasurer—Brother C. F. Clinch.

Assistant Treasurer—Brother Israel Marshall.

The usual routine of appointing committees, reading of letters &c., was next attended to, filling up the first sitting. In the evening Rev. J. A. Gordon of Yarmouth preached an able sermon, which was followed by the reading of the Report of the Committee on Home Missions. Speeches were made by Brethren John March, and J. P. Curry. A collection followed amounting to upwards of Twenty Dollars.

On Wednesday morning Rev. H. Foshay preached an admirable sermon on our distinguishing views and practices.

The afternoon was taken up by a Sabbath School Convention. Letters from the Schools were read, and earnest and instructive addresses given by a number of the intelligent friends of Sabbath Schools in reference to the work, and the best way of doing it. The necessity of making what the Word of God teaches, an authority on all matters, was insisted upon, and no doubtful position taken in reference to Baptist principles.

Foreign missions occupied the evening sitting; Bro. John March spoke to good effect for more than an hour on the work of the Board, and gave illustrations by the use of a large map, shewing the location of our missionaries in India. The collection at the close was upwards of twenty-two dollars.

On Thursday morning preaching by Rev. J. W. Kierstead. At the close of the sermon, Temperance and Education were severally taken up. After the discussion of the condition and wants of Acadia College had been considered, a resolution was introduced and adopted approving of the movement to establish an Academy in St. John next year.

Rev. A. M. Hunt preached in the evening, at the close of which some time was expended in conference and devotional exercises. The session altogether was one of deep interest and may be regarded as most successful.

We should be doing violence to our feelings were we to allow the announcement of the death of our brother Melatiah Kinsman to pass without an expression of the very sincere respect in which we held him. After an acquaintance of about a quarter of a century, during which time our frequent intercourse by letter led us to an intimate knowledge of his character, our regard for him as a Christian of the highest type, remained unchanged.

JUSTIN MARTYR, who wrote about A. D. 140, thus describes the practise of the primitive church with respect to Baptism, Communion and Worship. On Baptism he says—"I will now declare to you after what manner, we being made new by Christ, have dedicated ourselves to God. They who are persuaded and do believe, that those things which are taught by us are true, and do promise to live according to them, are directed first to pray and ask of God with fasting, the forgiveness of their former sins; and we also pray and fast with them. Then we bring them to some place where there is water, they are baptized by the same way of baptism by which we were baptized; for they are washed in the water in the name of God the Father, Lord of all things; and of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit." April 11, sec. 79. On Communion, he says: "It is unlawful for man to partake of the Eucharist, (Lord's Supper) unless he believe our religion true, having been washed by the laws of regeneration, (that is, been baptized), and live so as Christ has enjoined."

April 1, p. 128, on worship, he says: "On the day, that is called Sun,

day, all the Christians meet together, because that is the day of our Saviour's resurrection, and then we have read to us the writings of the prophets and apostles. This done, the president makes a speech, exhorting the people to practice what they have heard. Then we all join in prayer; then bread, wine and water are brought forth, and the president having again poured out prayers and praises to God, there is a distribution made of the sacramental elements. Last of all, those that are willing and able contribute what they think fit for the relief of the indigent. Apol. 11. p. 98. How exactly does this account of the worship of the primitive church tally with that of Luke. Acts xi. 42.

MRS. HARRIET BEECHER STOWE attained her seventieth year on last Wednesday, and her many friends improved the occasion, by giving her a reception in the form of a garden-party on the beautiful grounds of Ex-Gov. Claflin, at Newtonville, near Boston. The gathering was a most brilliant one; most of the great lights of American literature were present or represented. The Beecher family were nearly all there. The weather was propitious and the occasion was enjoyed as a real literary holiday. Speeches and poems interspersed with music and much social intercourse formed the exercises of the day. Holmes, Whittier, and some half dozen other American poets, made short original contributions and the venerable lady closed the proceedings by a short address in response.

Mrs. Stowe has written many charming story books, but "Uncle Tom's Cabin" first made her famous, and whatever may be the fate of the rest, this will live forever. It was a living work, one of the great forces of its age. It had its terrible service in bringing about the war, that conflict which resulted in the emancipation of the African race, and the removal of the dark blot of slavery from the soil of America. This book has been translated into many languages, and has given its author a warm place in the hearts of intelligent people all over the world.

Mrs. Stowe, is a celebrated member of a most remarkable family. Her genius and talents have ever been employed on the side of religion, liberty, and the best interests of humanity, and she richly merits all the honor which has been so freely and heartily bestowed upon her.

THE matter of performing the marriage service for divorced persons is one that has concerned for all our ecclesiastical bodies. The Conference of the N. Y. M. E. Church the other day recommended its ministers to have nothing to do with marrying any person whose divorced husband or wife still lives: There is danger of such marriage leading to very serious consequences. Especially when entailed estates and the legal status of children are concerned.

A contemporary says a question has been raised "whether Roger Williams were poured, or immersed." Only think of Roger Williams being poured! How could it be? The language was not fit. He could neither be poured nor sprinkled, but he might be immersed, and it is satisfactory to Baptists to know that he was.

WHAT THE NATIVE STUDENTS IN INDIA THINK.—The Englishman says that a native student having to comment on Mrs. Heman's lines:

"May hearts of native proof be reared To guard each hallowed wall," explained 'hallowed' by boldly asserting that it is the common belief of the English people that each house has a presiding deity. The baboo may also have thought, though he did not say it, that it is a religious custom of the natives of Great Britain to 'hallow' their houses by burying people alive under the door-posts. The Fijians, another remarkable race of Islanders, observed the rite, almost until the other day, when the missionaries succeeded in stopping the practice. Even among the natives of India there is not uncommon belief that the great bridges across the Indus and other large rivers are preserved from destruction by flood, because the builders took care to propitiate the river deities by human sacrifices. Another baboo explained 'King Richard's bunch' as a 'bunch of false hair used by King Richard.' A second guess was to the effect that 'King Richard was very fond of a nosegay of flowers.' A third explanation was 'a bunch of keys.'

POLITICAL MATTERS.

The noise and strife of the election contests are over, the political atmosphere is gradually clearing up again, and it now becomes our duty to record the conclusions so far as they can be ascertained of the voice of the sovereign people at the polls on the 20th inst. The results of the election to the Dominion House of Commons has been a most emphatic endorsement of the policy of the government of Sir John A. McDonald. Of course each party as usual prophesied that a majority would be returned in its own favor and predicted what they themselves wished; but we fancy the most sanguine of the winning party, did not venture to anticipate a majority so large as appears to have been cast, especially in the larger provinces of the Dominion, in support of the National Policy and its most prominent advocates. That question may now be considered as settled.

All the members of the Cabinet who appealed to the popular vote have been elected, four by acclamation, and all the rest by large majorities. Two constituencies—Lennox and Carlton, in Ontario, claimed the honor of having the Right Hon. Premier for their representative, and in both he has been elected by large majorities. This result respecting the Cabinet Ministers is, we believe unparalleled in the history of this country.

The opposition leaders, Messrs. Blake and Mackenzie have been elected—but in men of ability among their followers, they have virtually little more than a corporal's guard. Nearly all their valiant lieutenants, Sir R. J. Cartwright, Sir. A. J. Smith, Mills, Huntingdon, Anglin, Jones, Laflamme, Laird, and many of the lesser lights have been politically extinguished for the present. This is to be very much regretted, as a strong and vigorous opposition is always desirable.

The information so far as received is as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Province, Gov't, Opp. Rows include Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, P. E. Island.

Lib. Con. majority 69.

Elections have not yet taken place in Algoma, Ontario, nor in Manitoba, nor in British Columbia. These are expected to add 12 to the above majority, making a total Government majority of 81. It is said that Sir John A. McDonald has decided to represent Lennox, and that Sir. A. T. Galt, has consented to accept nomination for Carlton, where he will probably be unopposed. This will give additional strength to a government composed of many very able men.

THE NOVA SCOTIA MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Table with 3 columns: Counties, Government, Opposition, Maj. Rows include Annapolis, Antigonish, Cape Breton, Colchester, Guysboro, Lunenburg, Pictou, Queens, Richmond, Shelburne, Victoria, Yarmouth.

Thus it will appear that the government has lost five constituencies in this Province, viz.: Annapolis, Digby, Guysboro, Lunenburg and Queens, and they have regained five, viz.: Inverness, Kings, Richmond, Victoria and Yarmouth, which has left their majority in Nova Scotia the same as in the last parliament.

In New Brunswick the government has received quite substantial gains. At the time of the dissolution they had but three supporters in that Province, they now have eight, and one more has signified his intention to give the government an independent support, which will give a majority from New Brunswick.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

has but lately undergone reconstruction. Hon. Mr. Holmes and two other members of the Cabinet, having retired from public life, while two others resigned in order to try their fortunes in the larger sphere of the Dominion Elections for the House of Commons. Notwithstanding this disintegration, the reconstructed government ably led by

Hon. Attorney General Thompson who has had an excellent parliamentary record, was supposed to have a strong hold upon the electors in this province. Their defeat therefore has been a greater surprise than the result of the Dominion elections. The following are the names of the gentlemen elected to the

Table listing members of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly by county, including Government and Opposition members.

It is claimed that there have been irregularities in the returns from some of these counties, and a recount of the ballots is being made in Halifax and some other places, which may possibly modify the above. It is also alleged that some of those persons placed in the opposition claim will support the government in view of certain contingencies, and that for the present, and possibly until the legislature meets, the government will continue to administer the affairs of the province. The opposition papers and leaders are however busy cabinet making. It has been suggested that the Hon. A. M. Cochran, M. L. C., should be called upon by the Governor to form the new administration, and that W. T. Pipes, Esq., will be the legal head of the new government. These are probably only conjectures; we will endeavour however to keep our readers fully advised of future developments.

It is somewhat remarkable that so many counties should have elected representatives upon both sides of the local parties, and also that in some counties a supporter of the Dominion Government has been elected, while both the local members have been returned to oppose the local administration. This indicates that the local elections have turned largely upon a choice of men rather than the strict claims of party, and also that there is a disposition to eliminate those matters which specially tend to define party lines in general Canadian politics from local affairs. This is to be commended. One effect has been to return a great number of able men to the House of Assembly, so that there is abundance of good material with which to constitute the new administration. We are pleased to see that our brethren of the press, Messrs. Fielding and Longley have been elected in two of the most intelligent and important constituencies. Their experience as journalists will have helped to qualify them for the larger public sphere of usefulness.

The following are the number of votes polled at the Halifax County election:—

Table with 2 columns: Candidate, Votes. Rows include M. B. Daly, M. H. Richey, W. D. Harrington, John Pugh, J. Parsons.