

grass thatched shed used for the school in the day time and for the cattle at night.

Among the crowd was the village Saldoo, an intelligent man. He seemed to feel the force of what I said very much and promised to have the building devoted to a school instead of to an idol.

For more than two hours we had a large crowd listening, some of whom appeared much interested and impressed.

The two who went to the other village in the morning report a very good hearing from a number of Brahmans. And so the day has been spent. What has been accomplished is known only to the Lord of the vineyard.

Is it reasonable to expect that young men who are subjected to such indignities will be much attracted to the churches offering them?

GRAEME GREY.

Some Reasons Why.

How shall our young ministers be retained in their own province? is a question of growing importance. Thoughtful men are looking with concern upon the present tendency of young men to settle in the United States.

My "head-note" has been borrowed from the Christian Visitor of the 21st ult. It is there stated that "the last Census give Baptists several thousands more than any other protestant denomination" in the Province of New Brunswick.

Without at present entering into the merits of this accusation, either to defend or censure it, I wish to draw the attention of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces to some facts, which, if rightly interpreted, may throw some light on this matter.

1. The fields of labor, in many instances, are too large for one man. There are men of great physical endurance, to whom labor appears pastime and who are of such a peculiarly happy mental constitution, that all their cares sit lightly upon them.

2. In most cases the salaries paid by the churches are nothing like an adequate remuneration for the labor performed, and are shamefully small when compared with the ability of the churches to pay.

3. The spirit manifested by many churches is such that no man of self respect can comfortably serve them. He is treated as a hired servant, or a cart-horse.

It is a fact that horse dealers are buying horses with ringbones and spavins because they can make money by using Kendall's Spavin Cure.

heard in some quarters, I will quote a part of it. The writer, who is the clerk of the church, says: "Your chance here is small, as we have had young men coming out here for the last few years to practice. The people are tired of it, and say they want an ordained minister for a spell."

Is it reasonable to expect that young men who are subjected to such indignities will be much attracted to the churches offering them?

GRAEME GREY.

Our "Banner Baptist Province."

Dear Editor,— My "head-note" has been borrowed from the Christian Visitor of the 21st ult. It is there stated that "the last Census give Baptists several thousands more than any other protestant denomination" in the Province of New Brunswick.

"Banner Baptist Province" sounds exceedingly well, and perhaps our New Brunswick brethren are entitled to the distinction on other grounds, so far, at least as relates to the Maritime Provinces.

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For the Christian Messenger. From Rev. J. R. Hutchinson.

The Bobbili Conference has passed, leaving the pleasantest of pleasant memories. Although some were absent whom we had hoped to see, the five days spent with our brethren were days of pleasure and profit so closely united that no one stopped for a moment to inquire "which was which."

Some matters elicited considerable discussion; others not so much as many would have liked. Among these was the Seminary—not the Union Seminary, for that came in for a full share of time and talk, but the Seminary as it is at present.

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GRAEME GREY.

For the Christian Messenger.

But, you may ask, what work have you for these young men? Are you not getting too many on your hands? Let me ask a question or two in return—do you get too many young men "on your hands" at home by giving them an education?

Two boys (one married), from this station—four from the mission—are now attending the school. David is supported by the North Church, S. S., Halifax. The expenses of Nursimhulu and wife are at present paid from the general fund of the station; but he was formerly supported by the Wolfville S. S.

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bandy hire to and from Samulcotta once a year, for Samulcotta has the disadvantage of being at a long distance from our mission, and from the Chicacole field, especially. This may be put down at about Rs. 24 per year of 9 months, which gives about 18 annas per month to be added to the students expense.

giving us a total of..... Rs. 7. 7 per month for each student at the Seminary. Now Rs. 7. 7 is equal to about \$3.75; and since the students attend school for nine months of the year the expenses of each for that length of time is about \$33.75, counting the cost of their maintenance during the remaining three months of the year when they are at the station engaged in work, the annual expense of each student may safely be placed at \$40.

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namely the two young men, James and Venkia. This need not, however, prevent Sunday schools from taking immediate action. The Lord will give us more young men for this work. The Chicacole station is but one of three in your mission.

J. R. H.

For the Christian Messenger.

It is now almost a year since a discussion was commenced in reference to some departments of our denominational work. It was felt at the time by some of those who participated that the discussion was a little out of season, and by others that such a discussion would be out of place at any season, as in their opinion it could result only in disturbing the very foundation of things.

But however, having at that time promised to keep the subject before the churches, and feeling satisfied that the short discussion of last June has already borne good fruit, and above all, feeling as I do more deeply than ever, the importance of the subject, I venture once more to mention "Associations."

It is not necessary to say that in my opinion the Associations have accomplished their work, and that now, instead of promoting, they are in some respects at least hindering our progress. I need not enlarge here, but I have in mind especially, our finances.

Since my last communication, I have had opportunities of conversing with brethren in different parts of this Province, and find that a number of our foremost laymen, and a few of the ministers agree with me that the Associations should now receive a vote of thanks from the denomination with permission to retire from the field.

I shall not at present attempt to do more than simply introduce the subject, hoping that we may have a pretty general expression of opinion through the denominational papers between this and the coming Association gatherings.

I do think, that those who will give a little earnest thought to this subject, will be convinced that our denominational machinery to say the very least, is greatly lacking in unity. Each Association is an entirely independent body preparing and printing its own Minutes, disclaiming accountability to any other body, and its deliberations ignored by each and all of the sister Associations.

The only fact that gives them any claim to unity of action is, that each one in turn takes up, and goes through with pretty much the same programme, but the work performed by each remains an isolated cipher, as there is no medium through which the discussions of the several smaller bodies can reach or influence the deliberations of the Convention, and hence it is clear I think, that with our present organizations there can be no unanimity of effort tending to one point.

I do not say that the several Associations can have no organized relation to each other, and to the Convention, for I think that if our fiscal year were made to close before any of the annual gatherings take place the several bodies might be brought into closer and more harmonious relations than they now are.

I think that such a change would be a vast improvement on our present system, as it could not fail to give more unity to our work.

But even such a change is not in my opinion the best thing possible, for I am more than ever convinced that the Associations have not only ceased to be a necessity, but that they have really come to be a hindrance.

If—as some hold—it is necessary for the brethren to meet together more than once a year, for the purpose of mutual edification, and spiritual quickening, by all means let them meet, but I should say, let the character of the meetings be adapted to promote the ends for which they meet.

I think that most of those who have attended our Associations in the past will agree with me, that their tendency to increase the spiritual life and power of the churches is not very great.

come more efficient and successful leaders of the churches. These and a hundred kindred subjects might be discussed with great profit not only to those who might come together on such occasions, but to our church memberships generally.

Now what I contend for is, that the purely business matters connected with our denomination should be attended to only at the Convention. If we have other gatherings let them be purely religious and spiritual in their nature, and given wholly to the discussion of such subjects as those above named.

E. J. GRANT, Dartmouth, April 3rd, 1883.



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Oct. 4. 1 year.

EDITORIAL NOTICE FROM THE N. Y. WATCH TOWER.

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