

THE SITUATION.

It might be inferred from the statements of the Christian Visitor in the discussion of the question of the Union with the Free Christian Baptists, that the Christian Messenger had taken new ground on the ecclesiastical polity of the Baptist body of these Provinces. This is wholly incorrect. The Messenger has but stated plainly the well known principle of the body on this subject.

The denomination holds the belief that the Lord's Supper implies baptism and orderly walk; and that it is the duty of the churches directly or indirectly to maintain these conditions. The so called "invitation" to the Lord's Table confers no right, but is simply the recognition of the existing right of every member of the associated churches to a place at the Lord's Table. The "no invitation," proposed as a condition of union, if meant to withhold the right of each member to the Lord's Supper, is a narrowing of the communion to the individual church according to the Landmarkism of Dr. Graves of the Southern States, and would unsettle the polity now maintained by the body by contracting it to the bounds of each church, as the open invitation would unsettle the same polity by extending it to all denominations.

The Messenger as a recognized journal of the body has not felt at liberty to introduce or advocate any new doctrine or practice. Anything of this sort we think should emanate from the churches.

In a private note a learned Professor in a Baptist College, standing high among the Baptist churches in America, says, "I sympathize very strongly with the views you express" in the Christian Messenger.

It seems to me that the proposed union must, if productive of good, take place without changing the old and fixed landmarks of our denomination."

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

To the Stockholders of the Maritime Baptist Publishing Company.

Will all shareholders who have not paid the 40 per cent. call on their stock, please remit at once to Rev. C. Goodspeed, St. John, as we must pay the last of our first installment of the purchase money of the Messenger and Visitor by Jan. 7th. We are glad to be able to say that the response to the call has been general and cheerful.

To the Agents of the Messenger and Visitor. All the agents for the consolidated paper will please send us their lists of subscribers so far as completed by Jan. 4, so that the Messenger and Visitor may be mailed to as many as possible from its first issue.

C. GOODSPEED, Editor and Manager of "Messenger and Visitor."

MR. SELDEN wishes to say that numerous friends have written him letters full of kind expressions showing their warm attachment to the Christian Messenger and its management in the many years they have been its readers. They will, one and all, please accept his best thanks for the same. These tend greatly to mitigate the pain of separation.

A minister of one of our largest churches in the country, and a loyal One Paper man, writes:

Since I can remember the Christian Messenger you have been the editor thereof. And though I have found fault with you some times, I could have gone on with you for twenty years more without a desire for a change.

THE "HERALD AND CONSOLIDATION."—A little ago the Morning Herald stated that there was a growing feeling among Baptists for abandoning their collegiate polity and consolidating with Dalhousie College. We stated a reply that in the light of our exceptional means of knowledge we were not aware of the existence of any such desire. Now the Herald seems to say that the educational polity maintained by the Baptist denomination is that of the ministers, affirming that "the lay element in the Baptist Conventions has always been largely in the minority." The statistics for 1884 are not

yet published, but those for the three preceding years are as follows:—

Table with 3 columns: Ministers, Laymen, and values for years 1881, 1882, 1883.

These are in no respects exceptional years, but fairly represent the influence in the body of the members of the Baptist Churches in these provinces. Practically the two elements are so blended as to furnish no countenance whatever to the view suggested by the Herald.

WEEK OF PRAYER.

The Committee of the Evangelical Alliance have issued their annual invitation to the churches of all denominations to unite in prayer during the first week of the New Year commencing on Sunday Jan. 4th 1885.

In Halifax there will be morning meetings held each day in the Y. M. C. A. Hall at 9.30 a.m.

The Evening Meetings will be as follows at 7.30 o'clock p.m.

Monday, Jan. 5.—Granville Street Baptist Church, St. John's Presbyterian Church, Kaye St. Methodist Church. Subject, "Thanksgiving and Praise."

Tuesday, Jan. 6.—Fort Massey Presbyterian Church, Brunswick St. Methodist Church, Grove Presbyterian Church. Subject, "Humiliation and Confession."

Wednesday, Jan. 7.—In all the Churches. Subject, "Prayer for the Church of Christ."

Thursday, Jan. 8.—Grafton Street Methodist Church, Park St. Presbyterian Church, Kaye St. Methodist Church. Subject, Prayer for Families and Instructors of Youth.

Friday, Jan. 9.—St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Tabernacle Baptist Church, Charles Street Methodist Church, Grove Presbyterian Church. Subject, "For the Nations."

Saturday, Jan. 11.—St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church at 3.30 o'clock p.m. Subject, "For Missions, Home and Foreign."

On Sunday, Jan. 11.—Meeting in Y. M. C. A. Hall at 4.30 o'clock p.m.

M. R. & A. FUND.

One of the objects of our Convention Fund that receives but a very small percentage, (2 1/2) of the whole is that called the "Ministerial Relief and Aid Fund." The Board appointed to administer the same is located in Halifax, and uses its best endeavours to administer the same to those who have claims to such consideration.

The sick and enfeebled ministers have been aided, and the widows' hearts have been made to sing for joy over the help received, although it be so small. Our English brethren have a fund of this character. One of our exchanges informs us that Dr. Landels "has offered to 'stump the country' for the £2,000 needed to put their fund on a sound basis. Wealth is not the badge of the Baptists in Scotland; but if this money is to be got, the man to get it is Dr. Landels. There may be some extravagantly paid Baptist pastors, but we have never met them. The pastors we know can ill afford to make provision for old age, or for widows and orphans. Demands for money do not usually bring sunshine receptions; but the editor says—surely this is a scheme to which all can give heartily. Will our friends make up their minds to give; to give cheerfully; to give liberally; and to give at once?"

Let our Maritime Baptist brethren give freely to the Convention Fund, and the poor little 2 1/2 per cent. will be carefully expended until the Convention shall think proper to readjust the division, and apportion at least 5 per cent. of the Fund for this object.

THE CHAIRMAN.

THAT LOTTERY SWINDLE.—Nate S. Read, who was arrested this month in St. Stephen, N. B. on a charge of being one of the principals in the great lottery swindle which has been carried on through the St. Stephen Post Office for six years past, was admitted to bail. When the case was called he failed to appear either in person or by counsel. The bail was forfeited. The lottery office has been closed and the principal actors have left the town. These facts entirely sustain the position taken last autumn by our correspondent—that existing enactments were adequate to stop this swindle if the Government of Canada were in earnest. Let us hope the scandal has been permanently removed.

A NEW BAPTIST NEWSPAPER.—A few years ago a strong company in Toronto bought out the rights then held in Baptist newspapers and gave the denomination one paper—the Canadian Baptist. We have received the first number of a new paper called THE FREEMAN, an independent Baptist newspaper published at Toronto. It is issued by The Freeman Printing and Publishing Company: S. A. Dyke, Managing Editor. It is a twelve page paper well got up and offered at a dollar a year; and is in vigorous opposition to The Canadian Baptist. The complaint is that The Canadian Baptist does not give sufficient freedom to the denomination. We know nothing of the merits of the case.

A ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST BECOMES A BAPTIST.—Rev. A. L. Therrien, of the Grand Ligne Mission, gives a deeply interesting account in the Canadian Baptist of the conversion of Napoleon Gregoire and his baptism some three months ago at Grand Ligne. Mr. Gregoire was a Roman Catholic priest, of the order of the Oblat Fathers, and for nine years a missionary among the Indians of British Columbia. He came to his old home, near Grand Ligne, for rest and recuperation. Before returning to his field of labor he resolved to visit the Grand Ligne mission and confer with its missionaries, for his mind had long been troubled with religious doubts. Having expressed a desire to study these questions and his fears that he could not do so quietly at home, he was invited by the pastor to remain with him as long as he Mr. G., would think it necessary. He remained three weeks, and after that, three months at the Institute. No one but himself can know the struggles of his mind during that lapse of time. But gradually his heart opened to the truth until, in the month of September having yielded himself to Christ alone, and trusting in Him for his salvation he came into the full light of the Gospel. He then made baptism a special subject of study, and soon came to the conviction that it was not only his duty, but his privilege to receive the ordinance. On the first Sunday the Grand Ligne church occupied their new house of worship, the pastor had the sweet privilege of going down for the first time, in the baptistry of the new church to bury with Christ a converted priest. One thing, apart from this, made this occasion one of unusual interest; it is the fact that the candidate himself preached the sermon on the subject of Christian Baptism, and a more lucid or better exposition of the doctrine was seldom, it ever heard at Grand Ligne. Mr. Gregoire is now studying theology at Newton Centre, Mass., and expects to devote himself to the preaching of the gospel among his countrymen.

REV. D. D. CURRIE, for many years one of the most popular of the Methodist ministers in these provinces has, been appointed manager of the "Union Mutual Life Insurance Company of Portland, Maine," for the provinces of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Home News

Nova Scotia.

VESSEL WRECKED AT JEDDORE.—On Monday night 21st Inst., Sahr "Albert," Capt. Dunn, of Lockport was wrecked near "Coopers Head," West Jeddore. The vessel was driven up so far that the crew and passengers—six men went ashore on the main boom. The cargo will be saved in a damaged condition, but the vessel will probably be a total loss. She left Lockport last Thursday morning and was out in all the cold and storm.

To-day is the 500th Anniversary of the death of John Wycliffe. A commemorative service was held in St. Matthews Church last evening.

A little girl at Rye, named Irving, was frightened by a boy wearing a mask, and shortly afterwards she saw her brother, also wearing a mask, peeping through a gate at a railway crossing. The child ran indoors screaming very much. She lost her reason, and died from the shock to the nervous system.

Beware of the man or woman who assumes perfection. I certify that I obtained immediate relief during a severe case of bronchitis, when in Camp Sussex this year, by the application of Minard's Liniment.

The Baptist Book & Tract Society have a very nice line of stationery and envelopes on sale and customers can be supplied at reasonable prices.

Notices.

HALIFAX BAPTIST CHURCH DIRECTORY.

GRANVILLE STREET CHURCH.—Lord's Day Services at 11 A. M., and 7 P. M. Pastor, Rev. W. H. Cline. Sabbath School in the Spring Garden Vestry at 2.45 P. M. Prayer-meeting in the same place on Wednesday evening at 7.45.

NORTH BAPTIST CHURCH, GOTTINGEN STREET.—Lord's Day Services at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M. Pastor, Rev. J. W. Manning, No. 268 Robie St. Sabbath School at 2.30 P. M. Prayer-meetings on Wednesday and Friday evenings at 7.30.

DARTMOUTH BAPTIST CHURCH.—Lord's Day Services at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M. Sabbath School at 3 P. M. Prayer-meeting on Wednesday evening at 7.30.

TABERNACLE, NORTH BRUNSWICK ST.—Lord's Day Services at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M. Pastor, Rev. J. F. Avery. Sabbath School at 2.30 P. M. Prayer-meetings on Tuesday and Friday evenings at 7.30.

AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH, CORNWALLIS STREET.—Lord's Day Services at 11 A. M., and 7 P. M. Sabbath School in the vestry at 3 P. M. Prayer-meetings on Wednesday and Friday evenings at 8 o'clock.

Treasurers of Baptist Funds.

- 1. CONVENTION FUNDS: Nova Scotia.—Rev. G. E. Day, M. D. Yarmouth. New Brunswick. Rev. G. O. Gates, Moncton, N. B. P. E. Island.—Rev. A. H. J. Lavers, Charlottetown. 2. HOME MISSION BOARD.—Rev. C. Goodspeed, Yarmouth. 3. FOREIGN MISSIONARY BOARD.—John March, St. John, N. B., Sec'y-Treas. 4. ACADIA COLLEGE AND HORTON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY.—X. Z. Chipman, Esq., Wolfville. 5. INFIRM MINISTERS' RELIEF AND AID FUND.—Rev. Dr. Saunders, Halifax, N. S. 6. MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND.—Jno. W. Bares, Esq., Wolfville. 7. BAPTIST WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES.—Mrs. J. W. Manning, 268 Robie Street, Halifax.

CONVENTION FUNDS RECEIVED. Rev. Lantz, LaHave, for Missions, \$ 3.00 North Sydney Church..... 13.37

G. E. DAY, Treasurer, Yarmouth, Dec. 29th, 1884.

All communications to the Christian Messenger, for which we could not find room, will be sent to the editor of The Messenger and Visitor.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.



NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Post Office, &c. Baddeck, Cape Breton, N. S." will be received until Tuesday, the 20th day of January next, inclusive, for the erection of

POST OFFICE, &c., AT

Baddeck, Cape Breton, N. S.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and at the Custom House, Baddeck, on and after Tuesday, the 23rd day of December.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied and signed with their actual signatures. Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque, made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of the Public Works, equal to five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called on to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department will not be bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order, F. H. ENNIS, Secretary.

Department of Public Works, Ottawa, December 16th, 1884. Dec. 31.



Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Post Office, &c. Arichat, Cape Breton, N. S." will be received until Tuesday, the 20th day of January next, inclusive, for the erection of

POST OFFICE, &c., AT

ARICHAT, CAPE BRETON, N. S.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and at the office of Charles J. Fuller, Warden of Richmond County at Arichat on and after Tuesday, the 23rd day of December.

Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied and signed with their actual signatures. Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque, made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order, F. H. ENNIS, Secretary.

Department of Public Works, Ottawa, December 16th, 1884.

JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT

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PARSONS' PURCATIVE PILLS

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CHICKEN CHOLERA.

Nov. 28.

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We have now the most complete stock of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES and JEWELLERY to be found in the city, viz:

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10 PER CENT. DISCOUNT for cash until the end of year. All goods marked in plain figures. Call and compare prices.

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J. E. Mulloney

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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1885 Harper's Magazine.

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