

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., July 16, 1884.

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OUR ANNIVERSARIES.

THE N. S. EASTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION although the last in the order of time, is not by any means the least, in extent of the territory over which it extends, or in its importance to the best interests of the denomination in these Maritime Provinces. It comprises a large number of small churches, where staunch Baptists stand as witnesses for the truth of Christ's appointment—that his churches shall be composed of believers and professing Christians only—and a much smaller number of large wealthy churches of great influence in the communities where they are located. The fraternal relation existing between these two classes of churches renders it most important that they shall meet together in Association once a year, and the stronger by that means afford encouragement to the weaker, and so strengthen the hands and cheer the hearts of all by their letters missive, and their interchange of fraternal greetings. Of the stronger churches of the body, Amherst may perhaps claim to be one of the strongest, and has a number of influential men which gives it a power for good beyond many of the churches of the Province.

ON THE WAY.

The journey from Halifax being "all rail," affords but little chance for incidents by the way. The assurance of meeting many warm-hearted friends cheers one as he approaches the end of a journey. All nature being at its brightest after the heavy rains that had fallen, and passing from a foggy morning in Halifax harbor, we came into clear bright warm weather up beyond Bedford. We were led to ask why the capital had not been built higher up, so as to be more free from the sea fogs that prevail down by the sea, but then we remembered the ice of the Basin in Winter, whilst Halifax harbor is almost altogether free from the icy obstructions to commerce, making it willy nilly the Winter Port of the Dominion. In all our journeys to the Associations, as we approach the centre of attraction, we find the ministers and delegates falling in more and more at each station, until we reach the journey's end.

At Amherst, the lively pastor is at hand, with some of his active helpers taking possession of the newly arrived ones, so that in five minutes all are welcomed to comfortable homes for the time the Association lasts.

The morning session was occupied in giving the Association its official organization as follows:—

Moderator—Rev. J. E. Goucher. Secretary—Rev. T. B. Layton. Assistant Secretary—Rev. E. T. Miller. Treasurer—Bro. Thompson Keilor. Assistant Treasurer—Bro. William Faulkner.

The reading of the Letters devolved on Rev. Dr. Welton, Rev. D. G. Mac-

Donald, Rev. W. T. Corey, and Rev. G. F. Miles.

Committees on the various subjects of consideration were appointed.

Arrangements are made for the times of meeting. The reading of the letters fills up the morning and a large portion of the afternoon sessions. It was agreed that at 4 o'clock the Circular Letter should be read. Several of the letters sent in requests for prayer on their behalf—the Moderator therefore suspended the reading—and after singing, requested Rev. D. G. MacDonald to offer prayer. The failure of health of Rev. Isa. Wallace was reported and this too was made the subject of special prayer, that he might be restored to health and his valuable life spared to carry on the work in which he has been so greatly blessed.

Rev. C. H. Martell read the Letter to be sent to the churches, which was subsequently adopted and a request made that it appear in the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER.

The accessions to the churches in the East have not been as numerous as in the Central and Western parts of the Province. The additions reported in the Letters from the Churches of this Association amounted to 217 on Saturday. Some churches had not then reported themselves, so that there may be some further increase.

Saturday evening was occupied by a GENERAL MISSIONARY MEETING.

After the usual routine, the Rev. D. A. Steele read the Report of the Committee.

Rev. Geo. Churchill was called for, and gave a highly interesting speech on the past history and present aspect of our mission in India. He believed the Board had been guided by Divine Providence to take the various steps which had resulted in giving a good foundation for future operations there, so that it now needed but the work of teaching and preaching, with the blessing of God, to see a large gathering in of the people to the Church of Christ.

The request was made for a specimen of Telugu singing, which was readily given by Mr. and Mrs. Churchill.

The Report spoke of the claims of the Baptists in the western parts of the Dominion, and in accordance therewith Rev. Walter Barss was invited to address the meeting on British Columbia. He gave a lucid account of what may be found there, and the inviting field for the employment of present effort in giving them the Gospel. The fact of some persons from almost every county of this province having gone to Vancouver's Island, was noticed as constituting a strong claim to consideration and help, in providing a house of worship for the small Baptist Church in Victoria.

A collection was taken up for this special object.

Rev. P. S. McGregor was called for and shewed that the work at home needed self-denying labor as well as in the East and West. Some stations at home required more continued aid than others. It has been the policy of the Board to take a stand at certain important points, and hold them at all hazards. This had demanded some firmness, but it was believed that it would in the end be more effective, and the small churches would soon become self-sustaining, and perhaps helpful to others. This might be the case with British Columbia and possibly with the churches among the Telugus.

Rev. C. H. Martell spoke of the work done at New Glasgow, where there were stronger opposing influences than in many other places, yet the church is growing in numbers and influence, and it was hoped would soon be a strong flourishing centre of a good work in Pictou County.

THE LORD'S DAY SERVICES commenced by a morning prayer-meeting for an hour, conducted by Rev. M. P. Freeman.

Rev. Dr. Welton preached in the morning, and Rev. J. E. Goucher in the evening to crowded congregations in the Amherst Baptist Church, notwithstanding the heavy rain that was falling. In the afternoon the Sabbath School assembled in the church and addresses were given by Dr. Rand, Bro. W. Cummings, Rev. George Churchill and Mrs. Churchill.

The latter address was of the deepest

interest, descriptive of the Sabbath School efforts in India amongst the Telugus, and the great difficulties which stand in the way of converts there making a profession of faith in Christ.

In the Amherst Methodist Church Rev. Walter Barss preached in the morning and Rev. C. H. Martell in the evening.

In the Presbyterian Church Prof. Kierstead preached in the morning, and Rev. J. A. McLean in the evening. The Baptist Churches around also were supplied by ministers from the Association:—Rev. W. T. Corey, Rev. S. E. Miller, Rev. John Gammon, Rev. H. Bool, Rev. P. S. McGregor, Rev. J. B. Woodland, Rev. E. C. Corey, and Brethren I. W. Porter and Thompson Howard.

On Monday morning the Association Sermon was preached by Rev. P. S. McGregor, of New Glasgow, from John xv. 5. "He that abideth in me and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, for without me ye can do nothing."

From this was deduced the conditions of usefulness in the Lord's work. It was a very able and energetic development of a most important principle in relation to the work of the Gospel ministry.

We shall have much pleasure in putting the sermon before our readers in our next.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND ASSOCIATION.

The Prince Edward Island Association met in its 17th session with East Point Baptist Church, on Saturday, July 5th, at 10 a. m. Delegates from 22 of the 24 Baptist churches on the Island were present.

The following brethren were chosen officers of the Association:

Rev. E. Whitman, Moderator. Rev. J. O. Redden, Bro. J. K. Ross, Rev. A. H. Lavers, Treasurer. Bro. Joseph McVane, Asst. Treas.

The following committees were appointed:

(1) Committee of arrangements—Rev. R. B. Kinlay, and Brethren Joseph McVane, Alex. McKinlay, Alex. Scott, Arthur Simpson, J. B. Lord, Geo. H. Warren, Robt Fraser.

(2) To read Letters—Rev. A. E. Ingram, and brethren H. G. Mellick and W. B. Howatt.

(3) Committee on Obituaries—Rev. A. H. Lavers, and brethren J. B. Lord and W. B. Howatt.

The following visiting brethren were invited to a seat: Dr. Day, Dr. Welton, Prof. Jones, Dr. Rand.

The morning session was principally occupied in devotional exercises, and in reading letters from the churches. Letters were read from 23 of the 24 churches. These letters reported 72 baptisms during the year.

On Saturday afternoon the Report on Denominational Literature was presented by Rev. J. O. Redden, and stirring addresses followed by Dr. Day, Dr. Welton, Rev. D. G. McDonald, and brethren A. Simpson, John Nichol and others.

The following resolution, moved by Rev. A. E. Ingram, was then passed:

Whereas, A Baptist Book and Tract Society has been established at Halifax under the auspices of the Baptist Convention, and

Whereas, It is of great importance to the welfare of our churches that our Sunday Schools and members of our churches be supplied with a pure Baptist literature;

Therefore resolved, That this Association hereby very earnestly recommend our Sunday Schools and churches to obtain all their literature from our own Society;

And further resolved, That we render this Society all the assistance in our power in the way of voluntary contributions;

And further resolved, That we commend Bro. J. B. Laird, the Colporteur of the B. B. and T. S., to the confidence and sympathy of our churches.

The remainder of the afternoon was given to the discussion of the Report on Systematic Benevolence, which was read by Rev. A. H. Lavers. Speeches were made by Dr. Day, Rev. R. B. Kinlay, Rev. D. G. McDonald, and brethren A. Simpson, John Nichol, H. G. Mellick. Adjourned with prayer by Dr. Welton.

The evening session was prefaced by a resolution on Temperance, which was passed unanimously by a standing vote, and ordered to be printed

in the Charlottetown and Summerside papers. Then followed an hour of devotional exercises. Short prayers were offered by a number of the brethren, followed by brief addresses, in which testimony was variously borne to the advantages which had been received from believing in the Lord Jesus Christ. The place seemed to be the gate of heaven, or only one remove from it. The meeting closed with the Doxology and prayer by Rev. J. O. Redden.

The Association sermon was preached on Lord's day morning, by Rev. J. O. Redden, B. A., from Psalm cxxxvii. 5, 7. Subject: Loyalty to the Church. This theme was ably presented by the preacher, as will be evident to those who shall read the sermon in the denominational papers.

Dr. Day preached in the afternoon from Num. xiii. 27. Subject: The favorable report of the good land.

Rev. D. G. McDonald preached in the evening, from John xvi. 7, in which he set forth in a very able and impressive manner the expediency of the Saviour's return to heaven.

The attendance on each occasion was large, and a collection was taken up at each for the Convention fund.

On Monday morning the Circular Letter was read by the writer, Rev. Edward Whitman, and ordered to be published in the MESSENGER and Visitor and in the secular papers of Charlottetown and Summerside. The subject of the letter was the Scripture doctrine of eternal punishment, which called out an animated discussion, but the views set forth in the letter received the hearty endorsement of the Association.

This Report was followed by that on Missions, read by Rev. Edw. Whitman, and discussed and adopted clause by clause. Speeches were made by Dr. Day, who gave an encouraging statement of the labors being performed by the missionaries sent out by the Home Mission Board, and of the number baptized—amounting probably in the year to 500; by Dr. Welton, who dwelt on the claims of the great North-West on these Provinces, to assist the Baptists of Ontario in planting Christian churches in the North-West and British Columbia; by Dr. Rand, who showed that the highest welfare of the North-West depended more on the Church of Christ than on all the political institutions of the country; by Rev. A. H. Lavers, who spoke of the prospects of the French mission; by John Nichol, A. Simpson and others, who pledged themselves to do all in their power to increase the benevolent contributions of the churches.

Rev. E. Archibald and others dealt with the Foreign aspect of the Report. In the afternoon, a meeting from 2 to 3 was held by the ladies in the interest of the Women's Mission Aid Societies. Immediately following this was the Report on Education, read by Rev. D. G. McDonald. Addresses followed by Dr. Welton, who presented the educational question under the threefold aspect of Academic, Collegiate, and Theological, dwelling at length on the facilities for Theological training offered at McMaster Hall, and commending this institution to the hearty sympathy and patronage of Maritime Baptists; by Prof. Jones, who offered an eloquent plea for the education of the young, and urged upon parents the duty of sending their sons and daughters to Wolfville; by Dr. Rand, who ably expounded the tendency and aim of correct educational processes in the production of perfect manhood and womanhood. He specially emphasized the importance of Christian teaching—the teaching that makes the head wiser and the heart better, and best fits the individual for life's great work. He alluded to the divine seal which had been given to the Institutions at Wolfville the last year in the numerous conversions which had taken place there.

The proceedings of the Association were brought to a close with a grand missionary meeting on Monday evening. The Report on missions was read by Rev. E. Whitman. Dr. Day then spoke on behalf of Foreign Missions, expounded the import of the great commission showed how great are the obligations of Christians to send the Gospel to the heathen, and how greatly Christians at home are benefited by the reflex influence of such effort.

Dr. Rand set forth the claims of missions on the women of the church, described the degradation of women in heathen lands, and the peculiar adaptability of missionary effort by women to reach their case.

Rev. E. N. Archibald followed with a forcible plea for Home Missions, and gave some account of his own labors in the destitute parts of P. E. Island.

The closing address was made by Rev. W. B. Hinson, who gave five reasons—the antagonistic, the political, the denominational, the human, and the religious—for devotion to missionary work.

After a vote of thanks to the church at East Point for their splendid hospitality, and to the Moderator for the able manner in which he had presided over the meetings of the body, the Association adjourned with prayer by Bro. Alex. Scott. All felt that it was one of the best Associations they had ever attended.

Woman's Missionary Aid Society Meeting at East Point, P. E. I.

The Central Board of the Woman's Missionary Aid Societies of P. E. Island, met with the P. E. Island Association at East Point, on Monday, July 7th, at 2 P. M.

In the absence of the President, Mrs. A. H. Lavers was called to the chair. After singing the 881st Hymn, and prayer by Arthur Simpson, Esq., the presiding officer made a brief address, after which the business of the meeting was taken up and disposed of.

Reports were presented from the Societies of East Point, Tryon, Bedeque, Knutsford and North River. These reports showed that the members of these societies were earnestly engaged in the work they had undertaken. The society at Cavendish was also shown to be in good working condition.

The absence of all of our returned missionaries from this meeting, was deeply regretted, and the hope expressed that some of those who had been laboring abroad, would visit this Province before the close of the present season.

A letter was read from Mrs. E. N. Archibald, President of the Central Board, regretting her inability to be present at this meeting, and urging the appointment of a new Board, this appearing to be the unanimous wish of the other members of the said Board.

It was resolved that a new Board be appointed and located at North River.

On motion the following were appointed the Central Board of P. E. Island:

President,—Mrs. A. H. Lavers, North River. Vice President,—Miss E. J. Simpson, Cavendish.

Treasurer,—Mrs. Jacob Bain, North River.

Secretary,—Lalia A. King, North River.

Mrs. Francis Corey and Miss Eliza Newson, Tryon; Miss Ada J. Hooper and Miss Mary Schurman, Bedeque; Mrs. E. N. Archibald, Knutsford; Mrs. Allan McPhee and Miss J. Moreside, North River; Miss C. Scott, East Point.

It was further Resolved that a meeting under the auspices of the Central Board be held at North River on Wednesday, July 16th at 3 P. M.

The Memorial addressed to Her Majesty the Queen from sister societies in reference to the evils of child marriage in India, was read and action taken thereon.

The organization of Mission Bands at South Wiltshire and Clyde River, was referred to, and steps were taken to have similar Societies organized in different parts of the Province.

It was also recommended that the meeting at North River appoint an agent to visit the Island churches for the purpose of organizing New Aid Societies and Mission Bands, and reviving existing Societies which do not appear to be in a working condition.

After an address by Rev. E. N. Archibald, and the transaction of routine business, the meeting closed with prayer by Rev. E. Whitman.

LALIA A. KING, Sec'y of Central Board P. E. Island.

On dit that Mr. Macdonald, postmaster of Charlottetown, succeeds Mr. Haviland as Lieut.-Governor of Prince Edward Island and Mr. Brecken, M. P. for Queens, succeeds Mr. Macdonald as postmaster.

EASTERN N. B. ASSOCIATION.

The Eastern New Brunswick Association held its annual meeting at Dorchester, 8th to 11th inst. The delegates were gladly welcomed and well entertained by the people of this beautiful village.

The Baptist Church is in a prosperous state and highly esteem their pastor, Rev. A. T. Dykeman. During the year 38 have been baptized, and a neat and commodious meeting house finished, at a cost of \$2,800, all paid. The cause has flourished very well in Dorchester, and a number of the oldest members who for many years labored heartily in the interest of the church are very happy. Among these we name Mrs. R. H. Emerson, widow of the late well-remembered Rev. R. H. Emerson, C. E. Knapp, Esq., Barrister, Dea. Alpheus Palmer. The denomination is much indebted to H. R. Emerson, Esq., a prominent Barrister, for material assistance and counsel to the church in Dorchester. Blessings be on him and his happy home.

Rev. C. C. Burgess, of Hopewell, was Moderator, Rev. I. J. Skinner, re-elected Clerk, Rev. E. C. Corey, Asst. Clerk. The attendance of delegates was not very large owing in part to the incessant rain.

Among those invited were: Rev. George Churchill and Mrs. Churchill, Miss Wright and Miss Hamilton, missionaries elect, Mrs. John March, Professors Welton, Keirstead and Wortman, Rev. Dr. Day, Rev. W. Barss, Dimock Archibald.

Rev. W. J. Swaffield, of Harvey, preached an eloquent sermon on Tuesday evening. Several earnest addresses were given. On Wednesday the letters were read, reporting 202 baptisms. A considerable number of churches did not report. Of those who sent letters a number gave cheerful accounts of their state, and others were not inspiring. Several have no pastors. Rev. Mr. Burgess preached a thoughtful and appropriate Association Sermon, and the Circular Letter by Rev. Mr. Dykeman, on "Non-Conformity to the World," was justly commended for its matter and spirit. Oh, if only our churches could realize these ideals, how blessed it would be.

The Report on Education commended the Institutions and urged support, prayer, and the endeavour to secure students for them all. The recent appointments at Acadia, and the new departure in Theology, as well as the union with the Free Baptists of New Brunswick were spoken of with favor.

Speeches followed by Prof. Keirstead, of Acadia, who spoke of the different departments of the work and their prospects, and in general of the relation of our educational work to the religious life of the denomination, and the fulfillment of its mission; by Prof. Wortman, of the New Brunswick Seminary, who gave a fine address on the necessity and office of the religious school; and by Rev. G. O. Gates, who endorsed the union with the Free Baptists, and expressed the hope that the two bodies might be brought into complete union.

The Report on Temperance endorsed the Scott Act, though Mr. Knapp expressed dissatisfaction with the legislation of Parliament on the liquor traffic.

The Report on Denominational Literature recommended the churches to purchase books wherever they chose till after Convention, when it is expected some deliverance on the subject will be given. An earnest discussion followed, in which Mr. Dimock Archibald stated the case for the Baptist Book and Tract Society, and was well supported by Rev. J. C. Blakeney. Some of the brethren urged that the Standard Publication Co., Toronto, should open a branch of their business in the Maritime Provinces. Mr. Archibald has collected considerable for the Book and Tract Society, and some have felt that the general missionary and educational work of Convention should be pushed with equal vigor.

Wednesday evening was given to Missions. Rev. M. Normandy spoke of his work in Kent County. Rev. Walter Barss gave a good address on British Columbia, and received subscriptions to the amount of \$71.50, which was increased by a collection on Thursday evening. Rev. George Churchill made a deep impression by