

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., May 14, 1884.

BAPTIST CHURCHES make no pretensions to uniformity, each church being independent of every other, and yet that independency does not prevent a large amount of inter-dependence and unity.

OUR readers will be much interested in the correspondence contained in our present issue. The letters from the mission fields are especially interesting.

CHURCHMEN are beginning to see that their Bishops ought not to be occupying seats in the Legislative Halls and that their presence in the House of Lords is damaging to the best interests of the church.

THE Church Times says:—"As Churchmen we do not care twopenny for the seats which the Bishops have in the House of Lords, especially as the Church has to pay a heavy rent for them, in the exclusion of the Clergy from the House of Commons, where all kinds of Dissenting ministers may disport themselves; in the suspension of the Church's inherent and indefeasible right to elect her prelates; and in many other ways."

THE Church Guardian was issued last week for the last time in Halifax, and will in future have its head quarters at Montreal. If the last utterances are any indication of what are to be the teachings of the paper in the future, there is much in common with Rome with which many of the Montreal Church people will have but little communion.

There is, happily, in these days, a very great reverence for the Bible among Christians; but it is hardly too much to say that this reverence degenerates into idolatry in some quarters.

The New Testament is treated almost as though it had been given openly by a Divine hand to men, much as the Ten Commandments were given on Mount Sinai. The fact that for nineteen years the Church had no New Testament is forgotten or ignored.

The Church on claiming to be older than the New Testament does not in any way detract from it. Why should she do so? She honours it as her own work under the influence and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

THE newspapers have all more or less discussed the movement made by Sir Charles Tupper in retiring from the Cabinet as Minister of Railways and Canals. Some of these have indulged freely in expressing opinions respecting his intentions while in England, and affirm that his aim is to enter the House of Commons for some English constituency.

WANTED—A COLLEGE QUESTION.

It would seem, from a debate, recently published, which engaged the attention of the House of Assembly during a portion of the last week of the late session, that some of our legislators have a burning desire for a real live "College question."

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chairman of Committee, in answer to enquiries of members said: "The grant would be permanent; the moment it was withdrawn the condition of the settlement would fail."

The report, moreover, was adopted with great unanimity only seven members voting against it. It was indeed a miserable compromise, but was accepted by the friends of Acadia and the various other Colleges as the best settlement possible, under the circumstances.

The North Baptist Church on Sunday last presented their pastor, Rev. J. W. Manning, with a most affectionate address and a purse of over \$75.00, on his leaving for a vacation of a month.

MANY ministering and other brethren will soon be looking forward to the meeting of the several Associations, and will be asking themselves, and perhaps each other, the question put by the Jews near two thousand years ago, but with a very different object in view, when they sought for Jesus and spake among themselves, saying, "What think ye, that He will not come to the feast?"

MR. CALSB SPIDLE made a visit to Halifax, the beginning of the week, soliciting aid for the Lunenburg Baptist Church. Mr. S. purposes also visiting Colchester and Kings Counties, for the same object.

RETURNING MISSIONARIES.—Letters from Rev. George Churchill and Mrs. Churchill in London, state that they were expecting to leave on the 6th inst., for Halifax. They may therefore be expected in the mail steamer due here on Saturday.

THE Morning Herald at the close of its report of proceedings at the late closing exercises of Dalhousie College, expressed some surprise at the disorderly noises indulged in by the students. The last issue of the Dalhousie Gazette makes the following response: "The Herald reporter has evidently never attended a Convocation at the Universities of the old country, the proceedings at which we humbly endeavor to imitate, or he would not have criticized the 'bad taste' of the students in interrupting the 'ceremonies' with whistlings, etc.

We thought it was the Faculty of the College who gave the invitation to the public, and that it was to hear; but it seems we were mistaken.

THE proposal to reconstruct the United States Tariff has been defeated in the House of Representatives by a vote of 156 against 151. This was occasioned by the fact that the Presidential election will soon take place.

News from the Churches.

HALIFAX.—Three persons were baptized on Sunday evening in the Granville Street Church, the pastor, Rev. Alex. MacArthur.

The North Baptist Church on Sunday last presented their pastor, Rev. J. W. Manning, with a most affectionate address and a purse of over \$75.00, on his leaving for a vacation of a month.

Detroit is about 800 miles west of Boston, a magnificent city of about 100,000 inhabitants.

MR. Manning left yesterday, and expects to return to Brantford, Ontario, to meet with the Canada Baptist Union Anniversaries, to be held there on the 28th inst. We wish our brother and Mrs. M., a pleasant trip and hope he may return with renewed physical vigor, as well as fresh life from mingling with so many choice spirits—American and Canadian.

SCOTT'S BAY, CORNWALLIS.—Rev. David Freeman writes, May 17th:—"The friends of Zion will be pleased to hear that for the last five Sabbaths additions have been made to that branch of the Pereaux church which is situated on Scots Bay Road. Thirteen have been added by baptism, two by letter, and two by profession, in all seventeen. Others are seeking the Lord. There are now upwards of forty members in the Scots Bay branch. And still they they come. To God be all the glory. Pray for us."

CHESTER NEWS.—On the 24th of April a Mission Band was organized at Chester Town, numbering over twenty members.

On Sabbath 4th of May, three more were baptized.

On the evening of the 6th, the Chester Basin Mission Band furnished a rare treat by a concert. A large motto "The whole world for Jesus," on a pole entwined with evergreen and Mayflowers filled the recess behind the desk. A little girl dressed like a doll and wreathed with flowers was the queen, she stood on a chair in front and recited an appropriate piece.

The dialogue "A Telugu girl's story"—was very well recited, also "A Karen girl's plea." Mrs. Sanford kindly furnished a Telugu dress and a photograph of a Karen girl, so that her dress as nearly as possible was imitated. The whole arrangement was perfect and reflected great credit both on the ladies who had it in charge, and the young people who took part in the exercise. The Band now numbers about 130 and will soon forward their second donation of \$20.

A PRESIDENT.

REV. DR. SAUNDERS returned to the city on Monday, and informs us he baptized two persons at Cambridge, and four at Black Rock on Sunday last. He has been laboring with the Cambridge Church from the 1st day of March to the 11th of May, with an interim of ten days, and during the time has baptized 76 persons on a profession of faith in the Lord Jesus.

BERWICK, May 12th.—Dear Editor, I had the privilege yesterday of receiving six persons into the fellowship of the 2nd Cornwallis Church, five by baptism and one by letter. These with others received during the winter add very much to the strength of the Church.

Yours, &c., E. O. READ.

WOLFVILLE, May 12th.—The Rev. T. A. Higgins baptized eight persons on Sunday last.

The Rev. H. H. Johnson is prosecuting his agency here on behalf of Missions to Africa. He preached in the Baptist Church on Sunday evening.

NICTAUX.—Eighteen rejoicing converts were baptized in this place by the Rev. J. Clark, on Sabbath morning last. This makes eighty-five since the beginning of the year. The good work is still going on, and yet "the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy that it cannot hear."

MILTON, YARMOUTH CO., May 7th, 1884.—Dear Bro. Selden,—Last Lord's day we had the pleasure of receiving four more into our church, three by baptism and one by statement (being formerly a member of another body). Two of those are heads of families and were not at all of our way of thinking formerly. The good work is moving quietly but effectually on. We have many more reasons for thankfulness than for complaint, for joy than sorrow.

Yours, J. A. GORDON.

ISAAC'S HARBOR, GUYSBORO CO.—Rev. Isaiah Wallace, General Missionary of the Home Missionary Board, called at our office on Monday afternoon, en route to the Eastern part of the Province. He reports a gracious revival of religion at Isaac's Harbor. Thirty-five persons have recently been added to the church there. Thirty-four were baptized in the month of April. He informs us that many others are seeking the Lord, and the fields all along the Atlantic coast in Guysboro County are white unto the harvest. He is planning to visit River John, Pictou County, at an early date. Our brother seems greatly encouraged in this work to which he so heartily gives himself. We shall hope to hear again shortly of his work in that promising field.

SACKVILLE, N. B.—On Tuesday last I had the pleasure of baptizing four happy converts on the West Brook section of Mr. Miller's field. Others are inquiring the way, and the church there is encouraged.

The blessed Spirit still lingers with us here. Four more were baptized yesterday—two men, in middle life, and their wives. Others are trusting in Jesus, and will soon unite with His people.

Bro. S. T. Rand spent the day with us, preaching in the afternoon with much energy, acceptance, and, we hope, profit.

Yours in the work, D. G. MACDONALD. May 12, 1884.

THE CHOIR.—The first and most important, and in fact the only essential, part of the music in our Evangelical churches is the hymn-tune. It would be quite practicable to dispense with the organ voluntary and with the choir anthem, but worship would not be complete if hymns were not sung; and a large share of the benefit and value of public worship depends upon how they are sung. Too many organists dislike this part of the worship, and discourage the efforts of the congregation to join in the singing; and too many organists, whose intentions are good, fail through lack of the knowledge of the proper way to play and to accompany a hymn-tune.

Home News

Nova Scotia.

APPOINTMENTS.—Hants Co: To be a Justice of the Peace,—Henry Ward, of Douglass.

Digby Co: To be a Justice of the Peace,—Francis J. Comeau, of Saulnierville.

Kings Co: To be a Notary and Tabellion Public,—Frederick C. Rand, Esquire, Barrister, of Canning.

Yarmouth Co: To be a Justice of the Peace,—Adolphus S. Lent, of Tusket.

Halifax Co: To be a member of the Court of Appeal, under the provisions of Section 44 of the Halifax City Assessment Act of 1883,—John H. Barnstead, Esquire.

In the City of Halifax: To be Commissioners for giving relief to Insolvent Debtors &c.—John McDougall, Esquire, Barrister, and John Ross, both of the City of Halifax.

Antigonish Co: To be Justices of the Peace,—Edward R. Cunningham, and Fitz Hugh MacPhee, of Antigonish, and Peter McKinnon, of St. Andrews.

Colchester Co: To be a Commissioner of Sewers for the Township of Londonderry,—Leander Corbett, of Londonderry.

At the City Council meeting on Friday last, after the appointment of the standing committees, the matter of the Grand Parade, so called, was under consideration, and the following resolution adopted 10 to 4:

Resolved, That the City Board of Works be instructed to submit a plan to the Council at an early day for the beautifying and improving of the Grand Parade with a statement of the probable cost;

Further Resolved, That no money be expended on the Parade until it is definitely settled as to whether or not Dr. Cogswell will renew his offer of a donation for the purpose;

Further Resolved, That His Worship the Mayor be respectfully requested to ascertain the intentions of Dr. Cogswell in respect to the matter;

Further Resolved, That the City Council borrow under the Act of last session the sum of \$5,000 for the purpose of carrying on the proposed improvement, the amount to be borrowed after advertisement in the usual way, and that His Worship the Mayor and the City Treasurer be authorized to issue such advertisements for said money.

GRAND DIVISION SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—The Quarterly Session of the Order in this Province was held at Grand Pre on Tuesday of last week. After the organization of the Grand Division there were ten new representatives initiated.

The Grand Scribe's Quarterly Report showed that 226 returns had been received from Subordinate Divisions from which the following facts are obtained:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Number. Includes: Number of Divisions quarter ending March 31st (271), Added during the quarter (29), Suspended (3), Net increase of Divisions (23), Number of members Dec 31st, 1883 (12,387), Number admitted (3,418), Total number (15,418), Withdrawn (415), Expelled for violation of the pledge (101), do. for other causes (436), Number of members March 31st (15,876), Net increase of members during the quarter (2,039), Violations of the pledge (288).

Two Divisions have been organized since the close of the quarter, making the present number of Divisions 273, and the aggregate membership 15,450.

The returns show an increase of members in all of the counties but Colchester and Cumberland, in which there has been a small decrease.

At Wednesday morning session five more new members were received.

The editor of the Watchman made an encouraging statement respecting that paper, and the successful operation since the transfer.

The Grand Division adjourned to meet August 5th, at Baddeck, C. B.

From Pictou it was reported last week that there was a large quantity of floating ice in the Gulf. The Northern Light arrived there from Charlottetown on Tuesday and left for Georgetown the same afternoon.

On Thursday there was large quantities of scattering ice in the Strait and Bay. Several schooners bound northward were detained by ice.

The civic elections at Pictou resulted in the return of M. C. Dwyer for Mayor, and for Councillors, I. D. Sutherland, 2. Jas. T. Paulin, 3. John Bayliss.

The steamship Faraday arrived at Tor Bay from London on Tuesday of last week and commenced laying the shore end of the Mackey-Bennett Atlantic Cable on Wednesday. She steamed out of Dover Bay paying out the cable towards Ireland. After laying some seventy miles the end was buoyed and the ship returned, entering the bay early next morning. In less than six hours the shore end of the Cape Ann cable had been landed, and the ship sailed for Cape Ann. They expected to complete the laying of the cable from Dover Bay to Rockport, Mass., in less than a week, and return to Halifax for coal.

Quite a number of cattle have died at Middle River, C. B. Mr. Jakeman the Provincial Veterinary Surgeon attributes it to the poor condition of the cattle when turned out in the spring to feed on the rich fresh grasses, thereby suddenly changing the character of the blood and inducing blood poisoning. He reports that in nearly every case the animals have been left unburied upon the common and attributes the spread of the disease to this fact. He says that animals dying of the disease should be buried at once and as near as possible to the place where they die.

The Caledonia Coal Co. have taken up the rails on their road to Big Glace Bay.