

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., July 2, 1884.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,

TO THE

1st of JANUARY, 1885,

for 50 cents, TWO FOR ONE DOLLAR.

Every family should have its weekly Christian newspaper, giving information of what is passing in their own country and in other lands...

We respectfully ask our patrons, who desire to do good and spread the truth, to kindly aid us in this endeavour...

Do not forget that for the names of every TEN NEW SUBSCRIBERS, with FIVE DOLLARS,

A Handsome Pocket Bible will be sent, with the fact stated in it in LETTERS OF GOLD.

OUR ANNIVERSARIES.

N. S. CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

This body assembled on Saturday last at North Kingston—one of the four meeting houses of the Lower Aylesford Church...

This western part of Kings County is wholly a farming district, and, of course, the people are pretty much scattered, and but few live in the immediate vicinity of the place of worship.

Through all the centuries of the past there has been both human and divine legislation for the suppression of intemperance, but like all other great crimes, notwithstanding the majesty of law, the evil still exists.

The pioneer fathers of our Baptist churches, more than half a century ago were also the ardent pioneers in the temperance reform then inaugurated.

We hail with satisfaction Temperance as a prescribed study with suitable text-books in our common schools.

Addresses were given on the subject by Rev. J. A. Gordon and several other brethren, making it an interesting evening.

The Lord's Day services were a prayer meeting at 9.30 o'clock, A. M. The preaching services commenced at 10.30.

Moderator—Rev. W. B. Bradshaw. Clerks—Rev. M. W. Brown, and Rev. D. O. Parker.

Treasurer—Bro. Joseph Eaton. Assistant Treasurer—Rev. J. F. Avery.

Committees were appointed, after which letters were read by Rev. Sydney Welton, Rev. E. J. Grant, and Bro. Walter Bars.

On Saturday afternoon the remainder of the Letters were read. From these it appears that the additions of the year by Baptisms were 681.

Bro. Selden referred to the action of the N. S. Western Association in the endeavour to group the smaller churches and those too weak to sustain the preaching of the Gospel themselves...

Rev. J. A. Gordon presented the greetings of the Western Association, from which he was a delegate.

Among those invited to seats with the Association were: Rev. George Churchill and Mrs. Churchill, of Bobbili, India; Rev. George J. Currie, of Tunj, India; Mrs. R. Sanford, of Bimlipatam; Miss Wright, Missionary elect; Professors Tufts, Keirstead, Dr.

Welton, E. W. Sawyer; Austin DeBlois, Revs. D. O. Parker, Sydney Welton, W. L. Parker, P. R. Foster, and others.

A letter was read from the Building Committee of the Lunenburg Church, asking for aid in finishing their church edifice.

A letter was also read from the Baptist Book and Tract Society, and the Secretary, Mr. Geo. Macdonald was invited to address the Association in reference to the operations of the Society.

The report of the Committee on Benevolent Funds was read and spoken to by a number of brethren, and laid on the table for future action.

On Saturday evening after the opening of the Association in due form, the Committee on Temperance reported through the chairman, Rev. D. O. Parker.

This document has some amusing calculations, shewing the extent of the evil, and the need of effort to remove it, as a legitimate traffic. We make a few extracts:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

The last yearly liquor bill of Canada is \$27,628,000 while the contributions to Christian Missions are only \$400,000. Thus for every dollar here devoted to missions not less than sixty-nine are worse than wasted for liquors.

The dollar bills representing the yearly expenditure for intoxicating drinks in the three most Christian countries of the globe—Great Britain, the United States and this Dominion, laid in a line would mark the drunkard's road 107,723 miles long, or nearly half the distance to the moon, and more than four times around the earth.

Intemperance is prehistoric. Its history is that of poverty, disease, crime, disgrace and death.

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The weather being most propitious, the Houses of Worship were filled by attentive and devout congregations. We could but notice one inconvenience, arising probably from the varied distances the worshippers were living from the place of meeting...

On Monday morning, after a prayer meeting of an hour, the Associational Sermon was preached by Rev. W. B. Bradshaw, from Jeremiah 17.

The Report of the Committee on Education was read by Dr. Armstrong, so that the discussion might be begun in the morning session, and that the ladies might bear the report and speeches, rather than during their absence in the afternoon.

Dr. Welton spoke very effectively on the improved facilities possessed by the Baptists of the Dominion.

J. W. Bars, Esq., made some enquiries as to the relation of McMaster Hall to the Baptists of Ontario and the other provinces. Dr. W. replied, showing that every effort had been made to call in the popular element in its government.

Rev. S. B. Kempton also made an excellent speech on the necessity of having the support of Acadia resting on the people. He regarded the support of a large number as preferable to that of one, although it was very convenient to have larger sums when so much is required.

The time having arrived for adjournment, the further discussion of this subject was deferred to the afternoon.

OUR ANNIVERSARIES.

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION AT HILLSBURG.

(Continued.)

The Associational Sermon, which may be found on another page, was preached on Monday morning, and was listened to by a very large congregation, and was evidently very highly appreciated.

Next in order came the Circular Letter, prepared by the Rev. J. I. DeWolfe, by appointment. This was subsequently adopted, and ordered to be printed in the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER, that so it might reach the churches to whom it is addressed.

The Report on Denominational Literature was next submitted by Rev. John Clark. It noticed that the Bible is the foundation of all religious literature.

On Monday afternoon Rev. S. McC. Black and Rev. J. T. Eaton read several Letters since received from churches. THE EDUCATION REPORT, as follows, was read by Rev. C. Goodspeed:

REPORT ON EDUCATION. Our institutions at Wolfville have completed another year of successful work. There have been in attendance at the Academy, 53; at the Ladies' Seminary, 76, of whom 49 have been pursuing the regular course, and at the College 63, of whom 9 were general students.

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Of the 53 in the Academy, 19 have already matriculated into the College, and 16 of those who remain propose to enter next year. While the attendance at the Academy and Seminary is not quite

as good as last year, owing to the pressure of the hard times in the agricultural districts, it is encouraging to note the much larger proportion of students who propose to take a full course in College. The prospect is that next year the attendance at the College will be the highest in its history.

We cannot but express our gratification that the valuable services of Dr. Rand have been secured for the College, and that his work is already highly appreciated by the students.

In the need of ministers which is more and more felt, it is a ground for thanksgiving that 13 of the students of the College are preparing to preach the Gospel.

Again, through a work of grace of much power during the winter, we are assured that the Christian influence which has been blessed to so many in the past, still pervades the atmosphere at Acadia, and that God is setting His seal anew on our efforts as a denomination to provide mental training where the higher demands of the religious nature are not left unheeded.

We can but re-affirm our most solemn conviction that our institutions, providing for the culture of heart as well as mind, at the most formative period of both, embody the only idea of education which can be termed Christian, and we would commend them to the patronage and support of all who hold the soul at its true worth.

Since the last meeting of our Association, the Theological Department at Acadia College, which had been having a struggle for existence for several years with little prospect of development into anything fitted to meet the growing demands of the times, has been transferred to Toronto, and united with McMaster Hall.

Thus we have an interest and a share in that well equipped institution, and our students have opened to them advantages of the highest order. During the year forty students have attended lectures at McMaster Hall, seven of whom are from the Maritime Provinces. We are glad to notice that arrangements have been made by which as many students as are sent up from our provinces come back to spend their holidays in labor with our churches.

Thus the danger of our young men being drawn away from us is largely removed. We are pleased also to note that provision has been made for all students who gain admission to McMaster Hall, to secure them sufficient income to meet their expenses. While we hail this new departure with pleasure, we hope our people will bear their part of the burden.

In conclusion, we would recognize our obligation cheerfully to do our best to supply the funds needed, to enable those to whom we have committed the management of our institutions at Acadia to increase their efficiency, and keep pace with the general advance in educational ideas. We would impress on all the need of effort to induce our promising young men and women to attend them. We would declare our growing sense of the greatness of their past and present work, and future possibilities, and we would ask all to pray that the pervasive religious influence may be maintained which is fitted to build up the highest character which alone will enable them to fulfill their mission as institutions of a Christian denomination, and which constitutes their chief claim upon our sympathy and support.

C. GOODSPEED, Chairman.

Discussion and addresses followed. Rev. J. Rowe spoke briefly on the great advantages of higher education to persons in every walk of life, and said that he had been greatly pleased by the recent Anniversary exercises, as well as with the Institutions at Wolfville.

Professor Jones said he always felt a kind of awe when coming before a class of students, seeing the vast possibilities surrounding each member, and how much was depending on the training their minds received.

We often hear it said that education is the life-blood of the people. If that be true how necessary that it be pure and abundant. The conviction of this being true should induce Christian men to use their utmost endeavours to make provision for supplying it, and working in the great cause of education. This is what would perpetuate itself long after we have passed away to another world.

Every man's good should be felt to be each man's duty. It is satisfactory to think that we have facts in connection with work already done, that should be ground of encouragement to further labor. The former students of Acadia College to be found in the various walks of life, shew that the course pursued there has been of unspeakable benefit to them,

and to the people generally. Professor Jones noticed the late action of the Governors of Acadia College in appointing Dr. Rand to the chair of Education. He believed that great advantages had been derived from this addition to the Faculty. Not only had it been a benefit to the classes more immediately under his direction, but the beneficial influence had been felt by all the classes.

Dr. Rand said he had been so bent to the work of Education that it would be a most difficult task to unbend him. The great question to an educationist is: How can I touch a life so as to develop the power within it, and bring out the vast energies it contains within itself? The process of education he regarded as comprehended in bringing out the expression from the individual: I can, I ought, I will.

The fathers of the Baptist body, and those who have succeeded them, have held that what is so much needed is Christian schools. It is the Christian element in them that so bound them to this denomination, and we trust it may ever be the same. There never was a day when there were so many dangers for the young to meet and escape, or overcome.

Young men have come to Acadia not only without having much respect for Religious truth or for Christianity, but who were actually opposed to it. They have had nothing there so powerful in its tendency to convince them of their error, and in many cases of bringing them to become humble followers of Christ, as their Christian teachers. He (Dr. R.) noticed the strong position taken by the Faculty of Acadia College in placing philosophy on a Christian basis, and making all the studies of such a character, as that, whilst they combined to give the fullest and broadest development of the mental powers, made them all to bear on the building up the character on the foundation of Divine truth.

Dr. Welton was then invited to speak, and said he brought the greetings of the Faculty of McMaster Hall to this Association, and spoke of the desire on the part of those interested in the work there to see Acadia flourish. The students who came from the Maritime Provinces have shown their willingness to return and labor here. He referred to the effort recently made to disparage the work of the Baptist Book and Tract Society in Halifax.

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new ideas entered his mind, he felt the effect of mental expansion and power, and wished for more, but he had soon come to think that there should be a higher and further development of our being into a closer relationship to Christ and his kingdom. Christian power and influence was far more to be desired than the lower mental or physical.

We need strong bodies, enlarged minds, and more earnest enthusiasm to attain the highest results of life. A merely mental cultivation does not meet the need of the religious element in a fully developed man or woman.

Dr. Day, Rev. J. H. Saunders, and Rev. J. A. Gordon also spoke words of high appreciation of Acadia College, Horton Academy, and Acadia Seminary.

Regret was expressed that the arrangements had not been made to allow the sisters to be present during this discussion, by having the W. M. Aid Societies' meeting at another part of the Session.

On Monday evening the Association was, shortly after the opening, formed into a public MISSIONARY MEETING.

After the reading of the Scriptures by Rev. P. R. Foster, and prayer by Rev. R. H. Bishop, the Report on Missions was read by Rev. H. N. Parry as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS. Your Committee on Missions beg leave to report that our responsibilities are yearly becoming greater as the work undertaken by us is blessed.

Increased consecration and liberality will therefore be necessary on the part of God's people that these growing wants of our Missions may be met. Your Committee are pleased to report that in the Home field much good work has been done. From a note sent to the papers for this purpose by Rev. A. Cohoon, we secure the following facts:

Aid has been promised to 38 fields, 19 in Nova Scotia, 13 in New Brunswick, 4 in P. E. Island and 2 in Manitoba. The amount of these grants reaches \$4,000. There was a deficit last year of \$618.08, so that \$4,000 are necessary to meet the entire expenditure.

Up to the last of May only \$2,240 had been received, leaving at least \$2,000 to be collected before the end of July, if we are to come out clear of debt. Besides the above grants fourteen young men have been appointed to Missions for their vacations.

Rev. Isa. Wallace has been in the employ of the Board for part of the year as general Missionary. His labors have been much blessed: Revival influences have been enjoyed on several of the fields assisted, and 230 have united with our churches by baptism.

Many fields are making progress in the direction of self-support, and some hitherto aided are self-sustaining. A letter from the Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board gives the following information connected with our work on the foreign field which we cannot do better than give verbatim:

"The special work of the year on all the fields has been touring. Every month the several missionaries and staff of workers have been out visiting the towns and villages, preaching, teaching, distributing the Scriptures, and in other ways sowing the good seed of the kingdom. On almost every tour, places have been reached where the gospel was proclaimed for the first time. At the sub station the work of consolidating and establishing the native Christians has been prosecuted with vigor, and the first effort put forth toward rendering them self-supporting."

Chapels and schools are being built, to the funds of which the natives are liberally contributing. At the home stations the steady work of the missionaries, and their helpers has done much to develop the idea of a city set upon a hill, with the result of attracting and attacking many who were strangers and aliens. On every field but Bobbili there have been the clearest evidences of the Spirit's convicting and purifying power."

I have no record of the baptisms, but they have been quite numerous. We have since learned them to be 5 from Bimlipatam, and 13 from Chicacole. Christian school work has been prosecuted with greater vigor than ever, and the best results are anticipated. New sub-stations have been established at