

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., July 23, 1884.

TO JANUARY 1st, 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, in the Churches and in the State. We are doing our utmost by the above offer to induce families to receive its visits, feeling satisfied that to many, an introduction is all that is needed to accomplish this object.

We respectfully ask our patrons, who desire to do good and spread the truth, to kindly aid us in this endeavour. The 50 cents does not pay for the paper and labor, but we venture on the offer with the hope that a large addition may be made to our list of Subscribers, so as to, eventually, repay the loss.

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OUR ANNIVERSARIES.

At the Nova Scotia Eastern Association it has often been the case, in former years, when held in more remote places, that but few ministering brethren have been in attendance, compared with the Central and Western. At Amherst, however, last week there were about 90 delegates and visiting brethren, about 20 of whom were ordained ministers. This number would doubtless have been considerably increased if the weather had been more propitious.

One new church was received into the Association—recently organized at Spring Hill—and the right hand of fellowship given by the Moderator to Bro. S. E. Miller, (Licentiate), their acting minister, on behalf of the church. His labors have been greatly blessed.

The church at Seal Harbor, organized many years ago, but dropped from the list some years since, in consequence of their failing to report themselves, having been resuscitated, and having applied for restoration, was again welcomed into the Association by a unanimous vote.

The Report on Denominational Literature was read by Bro. Dimock Archibald. It was discussed at length up to the close of the morning and resumed in the afternoon sitting.

The work and claims of the Baptist Book and Tract Society were the principal item in the Report, and also in the discussion. Late attempts to depreciate the Society and its management were noticed, and drew forth the warm sympathy of the body on its behalf.

Many kind words were offered on behalf of the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER, as the faithful and long-established exponent of Baptist principles, worthy of the cordial sympathy and support of the churches. Some said that they did not know how they could keep house without its weekly visits. But we must not repeat all that was so kindly said, or our readers and perhaps some of our contemporaries, will think we have ceased to be governed by our usual amount of modesty. Mr. A. J. Denton appeared as the advocate of the one paper movement and sought to get shares taken in it.

The Report, with slight amendment, was adopted.

The Report of the Committee on Education was read by Rev. J. A. McLean. A number of enquiries were made and satisfactory answers given by members of the Faculty of Acadia College who were present. Congratulations were expressed on the improved prospects of the institutions.

Rev. D. A. Steele noticed that the body had arrived at an important point in the history of its educational institutions. He said, we have the place above all others desirable, the buildings we need for the work, and the men and women we wish for professors and teachers. On each of these points Mr. S. enlarged, and showed that the great

thing to attend to now was to keep up the interest by giving information as to these matters. He specially referred to the danger that exists in many educational institutions, where religious truth is regarded as of secondary importance; a spirit of scepticism is often allowed to take possession of the mind and heart, and give the student great trouble in succeeding years.

Rev. M. P. Freeman related his experience while at college, and was thankful for the good influences which had been thrown around him there.

The evening session was

A PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL MEETING.

It was suggested by Rev. D. A. Steele that great inconvenience had been experienced from not having the Minutes printed separately as in former years, and it was

Resolved, That the Minutes be printed as heretofore; and a committee appointed to superintend the same:—Rev. T. B. Layton, Rev. Edwin J. Miller and Rev. J. E. Goucher. The said committee was instructed to draw on the Treasurer of the Association for the necessary funds, for this object, to be taken from the collections at this session.

Bro. S. E. Miller presented the case of the Spring Hill Church, and appealed for aid to assist them in paying for their church building. A handsome collection was subsequently taken up for this object.

It was agreed to accept the invitation of the church at Onslow to meet with them next year.

Arrangements were made for the Associational Sermon to be preached by Rev. J. A. McKeen, Rev. F. M. Young to be his alternate. That Rev. C. H. Haverstock write the Circular Letter.

The following resolution was moved by Rev. J. E. Goucher, seconded by Rev. D. McKeen in an able speech, and unanimously adopted:

Whereas, A permanent settlement of a vexed question was made by the Legislature in 1865, by which Acadia and other colleges were to receive in perpetuity the sum of \$400 annually, in consideration of the provincial loan of \$20,000 being retained by Dalhousie College without interest;

And whereas, Since 1881 the annual grant of \$400 has been withheld, although Dalhousie has been allowed to retain possession of the Provincial loan of \$20,000.

Therefore resolved, That, while expressing our surprise at the breach of the terms of settlement on the part of the Government of the Province, we hereby affirm the undoubted right of Acadia and the other Colleges to the sum of \$400 each, annually, so long as the loan of \$20,000 is retained by Dalhousie College without interest; and we trust that the Board of Governors of Acadia College will take such steps as may be practicable for the recovery of their just dues in this behalf.

The Moderator then called on Dr. Rand, who came forward and spoke on the vast importance of the teacher, whether in the common school, the academy or the college. The far-reaching results of his work surrounded the office with an importance, second only to that of the Gospel ministry. He noticed that this Association had gone on in the course commenced by the Baptist fathers in laying the foundation for their work. They had carefully stated their intention of providing higher education for teachers for public schools, as well as for ministers of the Gospel. Great service had been rendered the cause of education in this way in its earlier as well as its later years. He said he stood in defense of the College, the Academy and the Seminary, and asked not so much for money, but for what was of infinitely more value than money. The most costly treasures were not to be compared in value with their sons and daughters. He asked for them that they might have imparted to them the training and development which would be of more value than all the riches they might have to leave them. He believed in giving the largest amount of education, but he believed more than anything else in the Christian College.

Professor Kierstead said he would like to speak in the line laid down in the Sermon listened to in the morning. The conditions of fruitfulness are the same for the teacher as the minister. His highest success was dependent on his abiding in Christ. Here is the conserving principle of the highest mental and moral development. Chris-

tian education is the true preparation for life and all its duties and responsibilities.

Dr. Welton presented the Association the hearty congratulations of the Trustees and Faculty of McMaster Hall. The subject was an exceedingly broad one. It might be entered by a thousand paths without the danger of crossing in any direction. He had to do mostly with that of theology, and had looked over the necessities that existed in this respect. He found there were in these Maritime Provinces 352 Baptist churches, with but 192 Ministers in active service. He knew that in some cases a minister preaches to 2 or 3 churches, but making all allowances there was a great and crying need of more ministers, which is not being met by the present efforts to supply the deficiency. Ministers of the right stamp were sorely needed. He here mentioned several of the prime elements which go to make up a good minister of Jesus Christ—strong common sense and good natural ability, with Christian sympathy, and a readiness to engage in every good work, were some of the characteristics—men trained to think correctly and act vigorously. For such men to be secured, we must "Pray the Lord of the Harvest that he will send forth laborers." By this means only may we expect to see the work of Christ's Kingdom done.

Dr. Day spoke to good effect on the training of men and women for Christian work. They need the spiritual, the mental and the moral powers cultivated and brought into a condition of being able to make the most of their faculties.

Rev. D. A. Steele and Rev. J. E. Goucher also spoke, briefly, making the meeting a most memorable one.

Some choice pieces of music were well rendered by Mr. J. A. Black, the organist, and the choir. Mr. B. has labored long and faithfully in this department of service at Amherst, and whilst, like most choirs, his is continually changing its complexion and the personnel, yet he always keeps up an efficient body of young ladies and gentlemen with well trained voices to conduct the music of the church.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the organist and choir for the excellent music given during the Association, and to the people of Amherst for the kind and generous entertainment given the delegates.

THE SERVICE OF SONG.

Whatever affects the service in the House of God is of importance, and demands the attention of the worshippers. What we sing and how the hymnology of the church is conducted is not to be trifled with. The part of public worship in which emphatically the people offer their adoration to Almighty God should be free from all defects or indifference. Those who come before the Lord in the spirit of the Psalmist will do so with profound reverence, and with gladness of heart. The object with such persons will not be to spend an hour in listening to a well prepared essay, and take little or no account of the opening and closing prayers and hymns. It smacks too much of a ritualistic performance for Baptists to make the preliminaries a something to go through in as little time as possible so as to get at the sermon, and when that is over to retire.

We have been led to these thoughts by the following editorial in the N. Y. Examiner of last week:

The opening and closing exercises of a Sunday public service are attracting much more attention on the part of pastors and hearers than some years ago. We know of many pastors who have made it and are making it a matter of study as to the best way of giving these opening exercises the highest degree of attractiveness and utility. This is one of the good signs of the times. A friend suggests that he sees no reason why the hymns to be sung should not be read from the pulpit, and thinks that it would be better to make the custom general, which prevails in some churches at home and in more abroad, of having the numbers of the hymns to be sung, during a given service, put in a conspicuous place where all can see them, leaving the organist at a suitable time to play the tune to which a hymn is to be sung. We have only heard of the substitution for the ordinary way of giving out and reading the hymns, but whether this new invention is adopted or not, it is not easy to see any good

reason why four or five verses of two or three hymns should be read from the pulpit, when the hymns themselves are in the books to be found in every pew. The reading of the hymns helps to make the service longer, and as a rule there is absolutely no compensation for the additional length. We are sorry to say that not one pastor in fifty has trained himself to the reading of a hymn effectively. The result is, hymns are read and not listened to, and we do not see that anything more is needed than distinctly to announce the number of the hymn to be sung, and to invite all to join in the singing of it.

It is not often we call in question the utterances of our contemporary on church polity and practice, but cannot refrain from entering our protest against this decision. We must say that we were a little surprised to read this expression of opinion with regard to the reading of the hymns in public worship. There are several reasons why we entertain quite a different opinion. We believe that unless the minister is sick or feeble the hymns should be read through, previously to their being sung. The reasons given by our N. Y. contemporary in the above for not doing this, are 1st. The hymns are in the books in the pews; 2nd. The reading occupies time; 3rd. "Not one pastor in fifty has trained himself to the reading of a hymn effectively."

We are greatly mistaken if it will not appear to readers in general that each of these reasons and all of them together are wholly insufficient and unsatisfactory. In reply to the 1st, we would say that if it were only for the sake of the aged who cannot see the hymns "in the books," the blind who may be present, the children, and strangers, and others who cannot read, or may have no hymn book, THE HYMN SHOULD BE READ, so that the singing may become an intelligent exercise to all, although these persons may not be able to add much to the vocal power of the song of praise. 2nd. The time occupied in the reading of all the hymns would perhaps be four or five minutes. This is not much surely. The preparation of mind and heart even of those who have the hymn book for the succeeding lifting up of the voice, we should think would be the most profitable minutes of the whole hour of worship. For the benefit of the whole congregation, then, we say again let the hymns be read out, and read well. We think a much larger proportion of our ministers might with a little attention read the hymns effectively than the Examiner estimates. We remember one minister in particular whose reading of the hymns was as good as a sermon, and his doing so is remembered now years after whilst he is gone to his everlasting rest. 3rd. It may be true that "not one pastor in fifty has trained himself to the reading of a hymn effectively." If it be, so much the worse for the forty-nine pastors out the fifty with their defective training; and the greater the shame for their omitting this part of their duty for such cause. Let them not ignore this duty any longer but let them give special attention to preparation for this part of their ministerial work, so as to make it in future an important item in the impressiveness of the service.

THE ANTHEM.

Whilst on this subject we would say further that it having become so general in Baptist churches, as well as others, to have an anthem performed by the choir—generally whilst the collection is being taken up—there should be more attention given to letting the congregation know what are the words of the anthem that is being sung. It may do very well for a Roman Catholic or an Anglican Catholic congregation to hear a Latin, or French, or German composition sung as a part of public worship, where the people are satisfied with the musical portion of the exercise without knowing a word of that which is said or sung; but Baptists ought not to be satisfied without an intelligent apprehension of all that makes up the service. We would therefore suggest that the minister be supplied with the words of the Anthem, or Sentence, or Hymn that may be sung as a voluntary piece, and that he, or some one on his behalf, read the words out distinctly to the congregation, not of course giving the repetitions, but so that the people may know and properly appreciate the efforts of the choir, and enter into the spirit of that part of the

service. We have frequently heard Anthems sung when not one in ten could tell whether the words were in English or in some foreign tongue. This among Baptists should not be.

Let us have a little common sense and take the lesson our Lord would teach when he said 'the children of this world are wiser than the children of light.' They provide their votaries with the libretto when they offer them a concert or an opera, and it becomes one of the attractions. Let us supply our congregations with all the facilities to enable them to get good from all the parts of Divine service so that whether they are invited to hear the gospel, or to sing the gospel, it may be for edification, and spiritual profit.

THE PROVINCIAL EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

held its fifth annual meeting at Truro on Wednesday last and two following days. Important papers were read and addresses given by the leading educationists of the province. Dr. Allison, Superintendent of Education, was the President, and Supervisor McKay, Secretary. Professors Dr. Rand and Keirstead, of Acadia College, and Professor Dr. McGregor, of Dalhousie College, were present, and took prominent part in the exercises. 351 members were enrolled, a noble band of gentlemen and ladies actively engaged in training young Nova Scotia to become intelligent citizens. We doubt not a fine stimulus is given this large body of teachers by this re-union. It must have been a great treat to Dr. Rand, who was so long the Chief Superintendent of Education in this province.

The late abundant rains have changed the aspect of the country. Whilst in the middle of June the farmers were longing for rain, and fearing that the grass, and fruit and root crops would be dried up and fail, the late rains have saturated everything and covered up vast tracks of intervals, leading them to fear whether they would not lose the little in many places by beating it down, making it difficult to cut and get in. The last few fine days have been encouraging, and lead us to hope that there will be fair crops after all.

Literary.

The story of the romantic life of General Sam Houston, who was in turn United States senator, Cherokee chief, general in the army, and first president of the Texan republic, will be told in the August CENTURY by Alexander Hynds, who has been assisted in the preparation of his paper by the family of the "hero of San Jacinto." Two portraits of Houston, one from a miniature showing him as a Cherokee chief, will accompany the article.

Prof. Isaac L. Rice, of Columbia College, under the title of "Work for a Constitutional Convention," in the August CENTURY, gives reasons why a weak Government must become oppressive, and suggests the particular measures to be taken to make the U. States Government responsible to the people.

ACHOL. A sequel to THE TRIPLE E. By Mrs. S. R. Graham Clark. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co. Price \$1.50.

This is the last of the Yensie Walton Series and uniform with the preceding volumes. It will be read with deep interest by all who have had 'The Triple E.' It clears up the mysteries of that volume and makes clear what was left unfinished. The design of the author is to shew the value of Christianity to an individual and to the world.

KITT KENT'S TROUBLES. By Julia A. Eastman. Illustrated. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co. Price 25 cents.

Here is more 'reading for the million.' The cheap rate of the Young Folks Library will secure for it a large demand. The fair author Miss Eastman, it will be remembered, took the prize of one thousand dollars offered several years ago by this house, for the best Sunday-school story, and the present book is in every particular its equal. The heroine is the daughter of a clergyman, "a girl who was neither all good nor all bad, but partly one and partly the other," and the narrative of her trials and experiences is intended as a guide and a help to other girls who have those of the same kind to contend with, and to impress upon them the lesson that "the only road to happiness lies through the land of goodness."

If you would not fall into sin, do not sit by the door of temptation.

Home News

Nova Scotia.

Colchester Co.:—To be Justice of the Peace—Richard Craig, of Truro. To be Commissioners for arranging, preparing for the press and indexing the 5th Series of the Revised Statutes—James G. Foster and John T. Ross, Esquires, Barristers. To be a member of the Board of Commissioners of Public Charities—William McKerron, Esquire, vice John Somers, Esquire, M. D., whose term of service has expired. To be Commissioner for giving relief to Insolvent Debtors, &c.,—Thomas M. Dunphy, Esquire, of Acadia Mines.

Halifax Co.:—To be a Commissioner of Schools in the Western District—Reverend J. T. Bresnan, in the place of Reverend Edward Kennedy, removed from the County.

Victoria Co.:—To constitute a Board of Health at Baddeck—S. G. A. McKeen, M. D., John L. Bethune, M. D., Albert Hart, Alexander Taylor, Arthur W. McCurdy, Philip McDonald, L. G. Campbell and Lever Sparling, Esquires.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The following is from the Morning Chronicle of the 16th Inst. Hon. W. T. Pipes waited on His Honor the Lieutenant Governor yesterday and stated that, residing as he did in a distant part of the Province, he found himself unable to give to the affairs of Government that constant attention that was necessary on the part of the Premier, and that he had determined to place his resignation in the hands of His Honor. The resignation of the Premier according to constitutional practice dissolves the Government. His Honor, while regretting that Mr. Pipes felt it necessary to take such a step, accepted the resignation, and invited the retiring Premier to recommend a gentleman who, in his judgment, would be likely to perform the task of reconstructing the Government in such a manner as to retain the confidence of the Assembly. Mr. W. S. Fielding, M. P., was suggested, and later in the day was summoned to Government House to consult with His Honor on the subject.

TRURO.—Rev. J. E. Goucher preached two excellent discourses on Sunday last on Christian Benevolence from 2 Cor. ix. 6-8. He shewed how those who "scattered" "increased" in so doing, and that Christianity is founded in benevolence. He is not backward in laying the wants of our Denominational Enterprises before the people and they come forward nobly and systematically and give largely and cheerfully. The Convention scheme is evidently gaining in favor. Giving should be such a joy that no committee should be required, but all should take their offerings to the treasurer.

The receipts of the Canada Pacific railway for the week ending July 14th, was \$153,000 against \$118,000 for the corresponding period last year. The number of miles of track in operation in excess of the same period last year is 704.

The Manitoba wheat is reported in excellent condition throughout every district of the province, the estimate is of 9,500,000 bushels being available for export this year.

The present low prices of sugar is occasioned by the unprecedented yield of beet sugar in Europe.

The new Refinery at Dartmouth will be able to turn out one thousand barrels of sugar a day.

The Dartmouth Branch Railway was commenced on Thursday last, near the Rope Works wharf.

The Exhibition Building at Dartmouth is progressing.

The Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, of Mhow, Central India, is at present in Halifax, giving account of his work in India. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell, daughter of the late Dr. Forrester, are to return to India after spending a short time here.

The North Sydney Herald says Col. Snow is arranging for the railway surveys on Cape Breton; and the proposed line from Oxford to Sydney is to commence forthwith.

Wm. Cummings, Sons & Co., of Truro, have provided for their establishment a gas-making arrangement, and have fitted their stores with six light chandeliers. The gas works produce, with the aid of steam, about 1000 feet of gas from 9 to 12 gallons of crude petroleum.

The Hudsons Straits Expedition, on board the steamer Neptune, is preparing for an early departure from Halifax harbor.

HOW GREAT THE CHANGE.—It is comparatively a short time since the introduction to the profession and the public of that valuable preparation known as BUDD'S CREAM EMULSION, and which to day, stands higher than any other known compound in British North America. It has been universally adopted by the profession who pronounce it excellent, and another, and the highest, recommendation it could obtain that it is the ONLY ONE USED IN THE HOSPITAL.

Send to Baptist Book Room for Tract, Sprinkled vs. Immersed. 15 cts. per dozen.

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.

C. CREW-LEAD, Lieut.-Col.

Dominion of Canada.

The Globe's London cable says: Pursuant to orders of Her Majesty-in-Council made on June 25th last referring to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council the Ontario boundary question, the whole question came before their Lordships on Tuesday morning, and was argued during the whole day.