

Though it was believed that the Conference by a considerable majority favored the Basis, there were reasons why it was deemed inexpedient to take a vote on it then. The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That while we regard a union, which will involve no sacrifice of principle, and which would increase the strength and efficiency of the great Baptist brotherhood, as most desirable, we think it better to defer further action, and commend the subject to all our people as one that should have their earnest thought and prayers.

There were reasons for this delay which seemed weighty to those who most strongly favored union, the chief of which grew out of the trouble with which Conference was then wrestling, which trouble culminated in the dis-fellowship proceedings of the following year.

At the Conference of 1891 it was decided to ask the District Meetings to vote on the question. The committee having the matter in charge reported to the Conference of 1892, thus:

"The reports received from the clerks of districts do not enable us to say, with exactness, how many churches voted on the question; but probably not more than one-third of the churches voted.

"The total number of votes cast is 1,309, or about one-eighth of our church membership. Of those who voted, 447 were in favor of the basis, and 862 against it.

"It is quite evident that the votes cast are not a sufficiently full and satisfactory expression on so important a question. What are the reasons which induced so large a number to refrain from voting, your committee cannot undertake to say. Possibly the method suggested was not the best, or the time may have been inopportune, or there may be a lack of understanding of the basis and all that may be involved in its adoption or rejection. But, whatever the reason or reasons, the result of the attempt to get an expression of the will of our people can scarcely be considered decisive."

During the years since, definite negotiations for organic union were discontinued; there have been frequent fraternal communications between the two bodies, by delegations and otherwise.

The foregoing outline of the history of the union movement will refresh the memory of those who participated in it, or mere interested onlookers, and will help those who have come into the churches since to understand what has been done, and the present situation. The Basis of Union is printed on page four of this issue.

## A BUSINESS WORD.

Many subscriptions are past due.

Our friends have simply delayed sending them.

The money is needed—is needed now.

Will everyone who owes the INTELLIGENCER anything kindly send it as soon as he reads this?

By doing so you will greatly oblige us. DO NOT FORGET!

## General Religious News.

—A section of the Salvation Army has decided to make a campaign in Kentucky where feuds and murders have been rife, in the hope of inducing a better moral sentiment, and the Christian principle that will do away with these lamentable tragedies.

—Accurate statistics could not be presented to the recent meeting of the General Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church, on account of confusion in some of the reports from the parishes. An increase had taken place in the membership of the churches and the Sunday schools.

—A cathedral of the Russo-Greek Church is to be built in Cleveland, O. It is stated that it will cost about one million dollars, the money to be furnished by the Holy Synod, technically by the Czar of Russia, who is the head of the national church. We do not guarantee the correctness of the amount of money to be spent upon the church.

The forthcoming Year-Book of the Young Men's Christian Associations, covering the working year ending May 1st, will show that the Associations have increased the past year from 1,575 to 1,736. The reports of 1,500 of this number show a membership of 350,455, an increase of 27,231. Of the total, 45,635 are boys under sixteen. The active membership is 144,279, an increase of 13,000.

—The annual report of the Evangelization Society of London, England, is published, and shows good work during the past year. The evangelists number 264. They preach the Gospel simply, heartily, and, as results show, effectively. A total of 1,212 places have been supplied with preaching during the year, including fifty summer tents; the money received from all sources, £12,011; total meetings, 21,000; estimated attendances, about 2,000,000.

—The Baptist churches of London, England, head the list of Non-conformist churches in their success in reaching the people. The *Daily News* has completed a very thorough church census, and according to its investigations the attendance at Baptist churches in the metropolis every Sabbath is greater, by several thousands, than at either the Congregational, Methodist, or Presbyterian churches.

—The Babists, or "Truth Knowers," of Persia, hold that theirs is the only true religion, and that Moses and Jesus were its prophets. They are also agrarian and socialistic in political proclivities, and have recently become the nucleus of a growing popular disaffection on account of heavy taxes. It was probably this, rather than their religious belief, that led to the recent massacre of their adherents in the province of Yezd, in Southern Persia.

—The Czar has conferred upon James Stokes, in recognition of the success attained by the St. Petersburg Young Men's Christian Association, known there as the "Society for the Moral Improvement of Young Meh," the order of St. Stanislaus of the first class. The Association in St. Petersburg was

founded by Mr. Stokes three years ago. Count Cassini, acting under the special order of the Czar, has conferred the insignia of the order upon Mr. Stokes.

—The Rev. Dr. W. H. Roberts, clerk of the United States General Assembly, has issued the figures of the Presbyterian Church for 1903. The most striking feature is the falling off in the number is 184 this year, 52 less than the ordinations for 1902. The total membership was 975,877 in 1892 and at present is 1,067,477. In finances for home missions the amount given last year was \$1,293,321. The amount for foreign missions was \$905,880. There was given to colleges \$405,000.

—The German Baptists have had one of their best years. Upon the field covered by the German Baptist Union there were 3,715 baptisms, making a net gain of 2,113. The Baptist churches of Europe live largely by emigration, but notwithstanding this, the churches are steadily growing, and new interests are being planted. The most rapid growth is taking place where it might be least expected, in Austria and Hungary, where there was a gain of 1,0419, making the membership of the churches in these countries 9,611, and for the whole Union 43,795. In Austria and Hungary the work is limited for want of pastors. In Germany, the churches are well supplied with pastors, through the work of their theological school at Hamburg, which, this year sends out eleven graduates.

## OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS

—The Sunday School Association of New Brunswick will hold its annual session in Chatham, Oct. 13-15.

—The Gospel wagon mission in Nova Scotia is reported as doing good work. From Margaree, where it was lately, ten conversions are reported.

—A new Baptist church was dedicated at Sydney, C. B., Sunday. Dr. Kierstead preached the dedication sermon.

PERSONAL.—The INTELLIGENCER office had a pleasant call a few days ago from Mr. James S. Heustis, of Chicago, who has been visiting relatives and old friends in New Brunswick, and in Aroostook Co., Me. A York Co. man, he has been living in the West for thirty-five years, and, of course, feels quite at home there. Yet he has not lost love for the old home, and thinks of it with pleasure. He notices many changes since he was last here—many improvements in the farms, etc., but he misses many people whom he knew in his youth. "But the river," he says, "how good it looks; it is beautiful." Mr. H. is one of the INTELLIGENCER's friends who remembered it in a practical way during his absence from the old home; for many years he has paid for several copies of the paper. We enjoyed his looking in at the "work-shop," and wished he could have remained longer.

RUM DOES IT.—The late Mr. Arthur, so long the influential chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, said: "If it were not for the saloons I think that seven-tenths of the working-men would have their own homes instead of paying rent. Rum is at the bottom of the whole trouble."

REV. GIDEON SWIM went to Nova Scotia last week to attend the funeral of his mother.

A MAMMOTH WATCH.—One can appreciate a big clock on a tower or a railway station; but a mammoth watch, such as that destined for the St. Louis World's Fair, will doubtless create a great sensation. This watch will have a polished metal case, and will lie on its back and be so large and roomy that people will be able to walk inside it among the moving wheels. It will be seventy-five feet in diameter and forty feet high, with neat little stairways running all about. The balance wheel will weigh a ton, and the hair spring will be 300 feet in length and made of ten spring steel bands, two inches thick, bound together. Guides will point out and name every part. The watch will be wound by steam regularly at a certain hour during the day.

PROTESTANT.—An English paper points out that the term "Protestant" is of great antiquity. It has been in use for nearly two thousand years, the first extant occurrence being in the Latin Vulgate version of the Old Testament, in 2 Chron. xxiv:19. In the ninth century before Christ, there was an outbreak of Ritualism in the Jewish church. The High Church party sought to undo the good which had been done in the reign of King Joash by his faithful counsellor Jehoiada. God "sent prophets to them to bring them again unto the Lord; and they testified against them; but they would not give ear."

ABOUT FUNERALS.—*The Messenger* says: "We recently met one of our pastors on his way home from a funeral. He had to travel about 125 miles, there and back, by rail. After the funeral he was given three dollars; and the relatives of the people are wealthy people, too! The three dollars did not pay his expenses, and he lost three days in making the trip. People are too thoughtless, many times, on occasions like this."

Mrs. SWIM, widow of the late Rev. Albert Swim, of the Nova Scotia Conference, and mother of Rev. Gideon Swim, of Moncton, died last week at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Geo. Phillips, Clark's Harbor, N. S. She had reached the age of 82, and her death was simply "going home."

Bro. Swim and the other members of the bereaved family have the sympathy of many friends.

## Marriages.

LOFTUS-SMITH.—At the Free Baptist parsonage, Moncton, N. B., August 11th, by Rev. Gideon Swim, Leonard Loftus and Ida May Smith, both of Moncton.

## Deaths.

DURGIN.—On August 3 1903, Frances E., aged 75 years, 3 months and 24 days, beloved wife of Thomas G. Durgin. Mrs. Durgin was the daughter of the late Isaac Vanwart, of Woodstock, N. B., and was born in St. John, N. B. Many years ago she gave herself to Christ, being converted and baptized under the labor of the late Rev. William Penington, and united with the Free Baptist church at Hampstead, Q. Co. She was united in marriage to Thomas G. Durgin Sept. 12, 1846, who survives her. She also leaves to mourn the loss of an affectionate mother seven children: Mrs. W. L. Kaulbeck, Norristown, Pa.; P. V. Durgin, Bridgewater, Me.; Mrs. J. R. Slipp, Houlton, Me.; T. H. and N. J. Durgin, Budgar, Minn.; Mrs. E. A. Hartley, and Mrs. G. W. Hartley, Bridgewater; and eight grandchildren. She is also survived by one sister, Mrs. S. L. Churchill. Butte City, Mont.; and one brother, Mr. G. W. Vanwart, Woodstock, N. B. She moved to Bridgewater 49 years ago with her husband. At that time there was not a meeting house revival under the labors of Presque Isle. There was revival under the labors of Rev. A. Taylor in her home, and a church was organized, the first Free Baptist church of Bridgewater. Her heart was in full sympathy with everything that pertained to the welfare of Zion, and during her last illness it was her delight to converse of the Kingdom. For her to live was Christ and to die is gain. She has gone on leaving a record of a life well spent for God. Her funeral was conducted at the house and grave by Rev. G. H. Salley, pastor of the Free Baptist church, Bridgewater, Wednesday afternoon, August 5, text, Psalm xc, 12. The funeral was largely attended by relatives and friends who came to pay their last tribute of respect for one whom they had known so long and loved so much.