

faith in its purity and approved practices without change. In other words, they should hold the same creed they held, wear the same names they wore, believe the same proposition and doctrine they believed, make the same good confession they made, practice the same baptism they practised, and, in short, do as they did in order to become Christians, and then follow them as closely as possible in all forms of Christian duty and forms of church polity. This union should consist in matters of faith, while the greatest possible liberty should be allowed on questions of opinion only. Nothing should be made a test of Christian fellowship and a bar to Christian union which Christ has not made a condition of salvation.

A committee was appointed to communicate with or receive communications from the various denominations with a view to such union.

The next Annual Meeting will be held in Halifax in August, 1905.

### THE BAPTISTS.

The Convention of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, held in Truro, August 19-24, was a meeting of much interest. The first sermon of the session, Friday night, was by Rev. W. C. Kierstead, of the Free Baptist Conference of New Brunswick; it made a deep impression. We heard it spoken of on every hand as a clear and strong presentation of truth. The Convention sermon, Sunday morning, by Rev. G. A. White, was worthy the occasion, cheering the hearts and strengthening the faith of the Lord's people. All the preaching was helpful, as were the platform addresses, and the prayer meetings were seasons of spiritual refreshing. The attendance was large, the registered delegates numbering three hundred and twenty-one. The reports presented showed the several branches of work in an encouraging condition.

The foreign mission receipts for the year were \$20,148.83, and the expenditures \$20,208.11. Each of the eight churches in the foreign field had additions during the year. There are twenty-one missionaries; and the native helpers are 42 preachers and evangelists, 7 colporteurs, 22 Bible women, and 32 teachers. There are seven principal stations and twenty out-stations.

In home mission work, \$2,074.87 was expended in New Brunswick, and in Nova Scotia and P. E. Island \$5,758.61. By this expenditure a large number of churches were helped to have regular preaching and pastoral care, and some new fields were entered. Considerable contributions were, also, made to the Grand Ligne mission, in the Province of Quebec, and to the Northwest mission work.

The Board of Governors of Acadia College presented an encouraging report. Dr. Trotter is having success in the movement to raise \$100,000 for educational purposes. And Rev. H. F. Adams is succeeding in the 20th Century Fund work, having secured money and pledges amounting to \$43,000, of the \$50,000 aimed at.

The Northwest mission was ably represented by Rev. A. J. Vining, and the Grand Ligne mission by Rev. E. Bosworth.

We have only indicated some of the things that engaged the attention of the Convention. Our brethren are evidently

having a good measure of prosperity, and are planning for still more and better work.

The Convention of 1905 is to be in Charlottetown.

### PLAN OF ORGANIZATION.

The following is the plan of organization for New Brunswick drawn up by the joint committee of the Baptist Convention and the Free Baptist Conference. It was presented to the Baptist Convention last week and approved. It will be presented to the Free Baptist Conference at its session next month:

1. The formation of ten District Meetings of the United Baptist churches to be formed of, (a) ministers laboring in the district; (b) two delegates from each church for first 100 resident members, and one for each additional 100 or fraction thereof; (c) the presiding officers *ex officio* of Convention and the New Brunswick Association, the secretaries of the missionary and educational boards, and retired ministers resident in the district.

*Objects.*—The District Meetings shall receive reports of statistics, spiritual condition and benevolences of the churches, and of the Sunday-schools. The clerk of the District Meeting shall annually make a summary of reports of the churches and Sunday-schools for the Provincial Association.

2. There shall be a New Brunswick Association of the United Baptists, the membership of which is to be as follows: (a) All ordained ministers members of the churches in the province; (b) delegates from District Meetings, one for each 500 resident members or fraction thereof; (c) one delegate from each church in the Association; (d) the presiding officer of the Convention and the secretaries of the missionary and educational boards, *ex officio*.

*Objects.*—The objects of the Association shall be: (a) The reception and consideration of reports of District Meetings; (b) the supervision of the Home Mission work of the province, and the appointment of the members of the board; (c) charge of the Annuity and Relief Funds for superannuated and infirm ministers, and widows and children of deceased ministers; (d) the consideration of the Sunday-school, foreign missions and educational interests, with other general matters pertaining to the welfare of the body.

3. There shall be in connection with the N. B. Association a Ministers' Conference, to be composed of the ordained ministers who are members of the Association. The purpose of the Conference shall be to promote fellowship and to remove any matters of trial between its members, to investigate the moral character of its members when necessary, and to aid in the removal of difficulties between pastors and people.

*General.*—It is understood that the ministers and licentiates of the bodies uniting shall have the standing held by them in their respective bodies at the time of union.

2. It is proposed to so amalgamate the Ministerial Relief Funds of the uniting bodies that all ministers shall participate on equal terms.

3. The church covenants hitherto in use in both bodies are to remain unchanged, except by the action of the individual churches.

4. In case of the existence in the same community of a church of each of the uniting bodies, a union of the churches, if so desired by them, may be effected by voluntary action.

5. Re-arrangement of pastorates are to be subject to the control of the churches concerned.

6. The Association shall appoint from year to year an advisory committee, which may be consulted by churches desiring to unite, and also by the churches desiring the re-arrangement of pas-

torates, such committees having authority to decide unsettled questions.

7. Titles of churches and other property of the uniting bodies to remain as now, except such changes in name and form as may be necessary, provision for which may be made by act of Legislature.

8. The several funds of the bodies to become common funds of the united body, for the several purposes for which these funds have been contributed.

9. Neither of the uniting bodies will be required by the union to withdraw support from any mission work hitherto carried on by them.

10. It is desired and hoped that as speedily as possible the Woman's Missionary Societies of the respective bodies will unite and carry on jointly the work they now have in hand.

11. It is recommended that the Young People's Societies of the uniting bodies organize a Provincial League or Union for the better prosecution of their work.

12. The presiding officer of the District Meeting shall be known as Chairman, and that of the Association, Moderator.

*Territorial Divisions.*—The committee suggest the division of the province into the following districts: First, Madawaska, Victoria, and upper part of Carleton Co.; Second, lower part of Carleton Co.; Third, York Co.; Fourth, Sunbury Co., and Gagetown, in Queens; Fifth, remainder of Queens Co.; Sixth, Charlotte Co. and western part of St. John Co.; Seventh, Kings Co. and St. Martins; Eighth, Albert Co.; Ninth, Westmorland Co.; Tenth, Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche counties.

### TO THE MINISTERS.

We will be greatly obliged to the ministers if they will make a special effort to secure renewals from subscribers in their fields prior to Conference.

In nearly every congregation there are over-due subscriptions, which we ought to have now. If our brethren will speak to their people about it, and say they will take the subscriptions to us at Conference, many will probably avail themselves of the opportunity.

To new subscribers we will send the paper from Conference to January 1st, 1906, for one year's subscription—\$1.50. Pastors may announce this to their people. And we hope they may secure a good number of new subscribers.

### News of the Churches.

DEER ISLAND, N. B.—Perhaps our friends are looking for a few lines from us now that the District Meeting is over. I believe the meeting has left us better than it found us. We wished that the session could have lasted longer. Concerning our church work, everything is going on very smoothly at present; attendance at services is good, considering that many of our people are in Eastport engaged in the sardine business; but those left are loyal and earnest in the work.

At Fair Haven we have put about \$100 worth of repairs on the church building, and new furniture has been placed in the pulpit, costing \$47, which adds to the appearance of the interior of our church very much. The Young

People's Society is an important factor in the spiritual life of the church and people here, and we believe that everywhere they exist, if properly conducted, they will be a source of great help both to church and community. We are enjoying the work very much, and pray God's blessing upon His people in this island.

J. J. BONNELL.

FREDERICTON.—As already stated in these columns I have resigned the pastorate of the Fredericton church. The church very kindly asked me to stay with them, but I have been led to see that it would be best now that a change should be made, so my decision is final and will not be reconsidered. We had an officers' meeting last week and a committee was appointed to make the necessary arrangements for securing a new pastor; we are all praying for wisdom in this important decision.

I have been in Fredericton fourteen years, having come to the church here on the Sunday immediately following my ordination at Millstream. These years have been filled with the usual experiences incident to a city pastorate. What good has come to the church during these years has been due to God's rich and unmerited blessing and to the loving and loyal support of the people. I never expect to minister to a people who will be more thoughtful and considerate of the pastor's welfare than these people have been. I have been happy in my relations to this city and to the church.

One feature of the work here, I have been especially interested in; that is, the work among the young people and students who yearly gather at this seat of learning. As I look back and think of those who have come and gone and remember that not a single year has passed without some of these young people being led, during their stay in the city, to decide that their life force should be on the side of God and right I am rejoiced and very thankful to God for this good and great privilege. For my own sake and for Bro. Prosser's, I wish to say that I did not, as stated in one of the daily papers, refuse a call to a St. John church; that call went and rightly so to Bro. Prosser; I am sure he was the first choice of that church. For my wife's sake I wish to say that I have not married a thousand couples during my stay here. I have had many weddings, but not a thousand; why, that would make a minister's wife rich.

At this writing my future is not determined. I believe in divine guidance. As I am sure since God has closed the door behind me here, so I am sure He has or will open one before me. I desire many things, but I desire above all else that I may be led to the place where I can do the best work for the cause of Jesus Christ, to which I have given my life.

J. CLARKE HARTLEY.

Fredericton, Aug. 23, 1904.

QUARTERLY MEETING.—The Quarterly Meeting of Shelburne Co., N. S., met August 5-7, at Doctor's Cove. The attendance was not large, but every church was represented, except one. The

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