

employed in Montreal in addition to the English colporteurs. The Bible Society also make special provision for distributing the Scriptures among women. In connection with the Montreal Auxiliary eight Biblewomen were at work last year, including two of French nationality and one Italian.

The Bible Society has thirteen Auxiliaries and 1203 Branch Societies in British North America. The Canadian Auxiliaries have always most loyally and generously supported the Parent Society and aided in the work of translating the Scriptures into the tongues of mankind and circulating them out the world. During his tour through this country the Rev. J. H. Ritson will confer with the Auxiliaries regarding the work in the Dominion, and it is hoped the work may be pushed further afield, more especially in the Northwest Territory.

SCIENTIFIC MEN AND RELIGION.

As regards the attitude of scientific men towards the Christian religion, the following striking fact is worthy of note: Dr. Wennart, of Berlin, has views of three hundred of the most distinguished men of science, living or dead. He finds that of the 300, 242 confessed themselves believers in God. Of the remaining fifty-eight, thirty-eight gave no information, or none could be obtained. There was left twenty, of whom fifteen avowed that they were unbelievers or agnostics, and five—only five out of 300!—professed to be anti-Christian Materialists. A further reduction may be made. For of those who seemed opposed to religion, especially on the Continent, some are not rejectors of real Christianity; it is Roman superstition that disgusts and repels them.

NOVA SCOTIA F. B. CONFERENCE.

The Yearly Meeting held at Kemptville, Yarmouth Co., N. S., August 24-29.

At the Elders' Conference held on Wednesday afternoon, the routine business was followed by a paper by Rev. J. E. Gosline on the Inspiration of the Bible. As this will be published it will suffice to say just now that it was an exceedingly thoughtful and clear discussion of the various theories held on that subject. It was evident in the debate that followed that members of the Conference were in agreement with Elder Gosline and each other, and the subject had occupied their attention both in and out of school.

The welcome meeting in the evening was large and lively, and set the pitch for the good fellowship which reigned throughout the session.

The business began at 10 a. m., on Thursday, the Moderator, Rev. G. M. Wilson, presiding. After appropriate opening exercises, the roll of members present was called, and the following visitors were invited to sit with the Conference: Rev. A. W. Currie, delegate N. B. F. B. Conference; Rev. A. J. Prosser, of N. B. F. B. Conference; Rev. Z. M. Miller, delegate Maine F. B. Association; Rev. G. E. Manter, of Maine F. B. Association; Rev. A. E. Kenyon, delegate Massachusetts F. B.

Association; Rev. Wm. Hoppaugh, of Springfield, N. J. (Presbyterian).

The following report was presented by the Conference Executive:

At a meeting held at the time of the Quarterly meeting at Tusket, Rev. J. K. West was appointed auditor in place of Elder Weston, deceased, and Rev. G. M. Wilson was appointed treasurer of the Ministerial Aid Society.

During the year, in union with the special committee and the H. M. Board, Elders Cooper and Knollin have given pastoral care to the Beaver River pastorate, and Elders Knollin and Manter have given similar service to the Argyle and Kemptville pastorates. Over thirteen months' labor has thus been supplied.

We have appointed the following standing committees:

Nominating—J. K. West, G. E. Sturgis, Geo. B. Ring, Norman Jeffrey, J. E. Gosline.

Public Questions—A. H. McLeod, C. F. Cooper, F. G. Francis, Mrs. J. E. Gosline, M. J. Hopkins.

State of the Denomination—J. E. Gosline, E. Crowell, J. E. Wilson, Mrs. J. E. Cushing, Emma Coffin.

Prudential—G. M. Wilson, W. M. Knollin, A. R. Durkee, J. W. Smith, Jonathan Randall.

The report was adopted.

The election of officers resulted in the choice of Rev. J. E. Wilson, Moderator; Rev. J. K. West, Assistant Moderator; Rev. Edwin Crowell, Clerk and Treasurer; Rev. G. M. Wilson, Corresponding Secretary; Rev. J. E. Gosline, Auditor. The new officers were then installed, and entered at once upon their duties.

The Treasurer's report, showing an expenditure for the year of \$227.65, and balance on hand of \$48.26, was then read and received.

The afternoon was given to reports of Quarterly Meetings, of delegates to and from other bodies, and the Home Mission Society.

The plan of 1899 was revived and adopted for presenting any claims and collecting for our denominational schemes (see Minutes 1899. Bros. G. M. Wilson, Gosline, E. Crowell, T. D. Crowell, and J. E. Wilson, were appointed a committee to recommend a line of action in Home Mission work for the coming year. This was the outcome of a spirited discussion on the H. M. report, which was adopted.

At the evening meeting of the Young People's Society, pledges and a collection were taken for the Home Mission work.

On Friday the officers of societies were nominated by committee and chosen by the Conference. Rev. J. B. Merrill was selected as the delegate to the N. B. F. B. Conference, and Rev. G. E. Sturgis to be his substitute. Owing to expense of the Triennial delegation, it was determined to correspond with the Massachusetts F. B. Association next year by letter.

A communication from Elder Knollin respecting the Beaver River pastorate was referred to the special H. M. committee for consideration. The report of the Banner committee was read and received. Rev. J. E. Wilson was appointed in place of Rev. T. H. Siddall on that committee.

The Ministerial Aid Society's report showed receipts \$14.48, appropriations \$50.00, on hand \$97.70.

The committee on Interdenomination-

al comity was continued, with instructions to take any favorable opportunity to promote that cause.

In the evening the Foreign Mission Society held its annual meeting. Encouraging reports were presented and stirring addresses were given by Rev. Messrs. Francis, Manter and others.

Saturday morning was devoted to reading and discussing the reports of the Corresponding Secretary and that of the committee on the state of the denomination and public questions. The afternoon was one of great blessing when the people crowded the house at the social conference. A S. S. Convention was held in the evening. Cheering accounts were made of this department of service, and the audience was enthusiastic over the addresses made by Miss Marion Hopkins, Mrs. J. E. Wilson and Rev. J. S. Durkee.

The Sunday services followed the report of the Prudential committee.

Prayer service at 9 a. m., led by Bro. Jacob Ellis. Annual sermon at 10.30 a. m., by Rev. Edwin Crowell. Sermon at 2.30 p. m., by Rev. A. W. Currie, delegate from N. B. F. B. Conference. The Lord's Supper after the sermon. Sermon at 7.30 by Rev. A. E. Kenyon, delegate from Massachusetts Association. Sermon at 10 a. m., at Rockingham, by Rev. A. H. McLeod. Overflow meetings were held in the Kemptville Hall, and Rev. Messrs. Gosline, Manter and West were the preachers there.

The beautiful weather allowed all who wished to attend, and the presence of the Divine Spirit was graciously manifested. At close of afternoon meeting the announcement that Rev. Joseph E. Wilson and his wife had decided to give themselves to the work with Rev. Lewis Clinton on the new F. B. field in Africa, stirred the feelings of the people to the depths, and those who were present at the communion following can surely never forget it. At the close of the evening meeting a few showed their purpose to follow the Lord.

On Monday the Conference went into committee, and, on rising, reported the following resolutions, which were adopted by the Conference:

(a) That this Conference looks with favor and deep interest on the discussion of Baptist union now going on in the sister province, and that we hope and pray that the day may not be far distant when, in this rising country of ours, the Baptists may be one from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

(b) That it is advisable for the F. B. H. M. Board to approach the Baptist H. M. Board regarding common action in H. M. work as far as possible.

(c) That we do exceedingly deplore that so few of our young men are entering the ministry, and that this Conference requests its ministers to observe the second Sunday in January, 1905, with special sermons, with a view to arousing conviction regarding the matter, and thus supplying our field with a reinforcement of workers.

(d) That whereas the trend of Christian churches world-wide is to show forth the spirit and teaching of the blessed Master in relation to Christian unity, and whereas much better work could be done by closer union of bodies holding substantially the same views;

Therefore resolved, That this Conference ask our brethren of the primitive Baptist body to appoint a committee to confer with a committee of this Conference in relation to organic union, com-

mittees to meet somewhere in Yarmouth county.

The report of the Obituary Committee was read and adopted.

Whereas It has pleased our Father to remove from our midst our much beloved brother, Rev. W. C. Weston, and senior elder of Conference;

Therefore resolved, That we deeply mourn the removal of our brother from our denominational gatherings, and his ever pleasant visits to our homes, his kindly and fatherly words of encouragement to the young, his soul-inspiring prayers in both home and church, the warm shake of the hand, words of heartfelt sympathy to the mourning ones in deep bereavement, yet we can rejoice in the thought that our loss is his eternal gain.

Resolved, That we express our sincere sympathy to Sister Weston in this, her darkest day of sorrow, and trust that great peace may be her's while life shall last.

Moreover, the elders of Conference concur in these resolutions:

G. M. WILSON,
E. CROWELL,
W. M. M. KNOLLIN.

The following note was received from the Elders' Conference:

Letters of dismission have been granted to the following brethren: (1) To Revs. R. Heine and D. Patterson to unite with the N. B. F. B. Conference. (2) To Rev. Mrs. Thurlow.

Respectfully submitted,
A. H. McLEOD.

Other reports, etc., will appear in the next issue.—E. C., Clerk.

News of the Churches.

MONCTON, N. B.—At a largely attended business meeting of the Moncton church on September 26, a resolution was unanimously passed endorsing the Basis of union as amended by the Baptist Convention—the whole meeting rising and singing, "Blest be the Tie that Binds."

MINISTERS.—Rev. A. A. Rideout has been called to the Fredericton church. It is understood he will accept.

Among the appointments made by the Provincial government last week is that of Rev. C. T. Phillips to be an official visitor to the Provincial Hospital, St. John.

Rev. John Perry is on a visit to the Washademoak Lake, his old home.

A letter from the Rev. G. Swim, after the account of the union service was in the printer's hands, speaks of it and of his deep thankfulness for the generous gift. He is going soon to Montreal for special treatment, and all his brethren will pray that he may be fully restored.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

—Rev. W. S. Prichard, of Granby, P. Q., has accepted a call to the Congregational church, St. John.

—Rev. W. C. Forster has been appointed a curate of St. Ann's church, Fredericton. He is to be ordained on the 18th inst.

FOR DEAF MUTES.—The minister in charge of the St. Andrew's Mission for Deaf Mutes, in Boston, Rev. S. Stanley Searing, is coming to St. John next week to hold a series of meetings for the deaf and dumb. The mission will begin on the 22nd inst., and continue till the 27th.