

presided over by Mrs. Russ, who to efficiency adds motherly kindness and dignity.

The "gem of the Gulf" never fails to be beautiful in July, but at the time of our visit its appearance was not quite up to the average of other years. The season has been backward. Wet and cold weather had prevailed, and farmers had experienced much difficulty in getting in their crops. We found the weather at Summerside and Bedeque much colder than that we had left on the other side of the Strait, and the people were complaining of the long delay of summer. Fires were still a necessity for comfort. On Sunday, however, summer set in with a southerly wind, which rapidly raised the temperature, causing the crops to grow and the hearts of the farmers to rejoice. The past week has doubtless done much for the Island, and, with favorable weather, the prospect for at least an average crop may be considered excellent.

The association at Bedeque compared favorably with those of previous years. And that is saying a good deal, for our brethren of the Island are accustomed to take a great interest in their association, and none in these provinces are more efficiently conducted. The churches are well represented, the pastors are all present, unless sickness or some other good reason prevent, committees attend to the work assigned to them, carefully prepared reports are ready when called for. These reports receive careful consideration, discussions are animated, the platform addresses are usually of a high order, and altogether there is a spirit of interest and earnestness manifested in our Island associations, which we miss in some others. The Island churches are ministered to by good and faithful men. Some of these brethren are becoming veterans in the service. Pastor Spurr of Pownal, formerly of Cavendish, has now been some twelve years on the Island. Rev. W. H. Warren is giving to the church at Bedeque the benefit of his cultured ability and many years of experience. Rev. W. H. Robinson very faithfully and successfully serves the churches at Summerside and Belmont. Rev. C. W. Corey presides with great acceptance over the Baptist interests in Charlottetown. Rev. M. C. Higgins is still the esteemed pastor of the large field embracing North River and adjacent churches. Rev. J. E. Tiner has faithfully served the cause as pastor at Montague and Murray River. Rev. D. Price, who serves the churches of Tryon and Bonshaw with great acceptance, performed in an excellent manner the duties of Moderator. A number of younger brethren have lately come into the Association. Rev. A. E. McPhee has become pastor at East Point. Bro. C. W. Jackson, lately from Newton, is engaged with the church at Cavendish. Rev. J. W. Keirstead and brethren A. C. Shaw and Stackhouse are spending their vacations with churches on the Island. Much sympathy was expressed and special prayer was offered at the Association for Pastor Carter, of Maddock, who has been laid aside by illness for several months, but is now, we are glad to learn, somewhat improved. The Baptist cause is not of course the dominant one in the province, and the churches sometimes experience discouragement because of their comparative feebleness. But if Baptist influence is not increasing at a very rapid rate, it is we think making quite substantial progress. The Baptist churches on the Island are doing good work, and perhaps are doing more than they are conscious of for the province at large by their indirect influence on others. If the churches will but respond with brave hearts and liberal hands to the faithful leadership of their pastors, they will realize a future in which there will be great cause for thankfulness and rejoicing.

Our brethren in the United States are rejoicing over the wiping out of the large debts, by which their home and foreign missionary enterprises have been embarrassed for a few years passed. On July 1st Secretaries Morehouse and Mable announced that, from the most careful estimates they were able to make, the receipts to that date—of cash and pledges—were "amply sufficient to extinguish the joint debts of the American Baptist Missionary Union and the American Baptist Home Missionary Society as estimated when the movement began, viz. \$486,000." Of this amount, it will be remembered, Mr. J. D. Rockefeller contributes \$250,000.

We have on hand a limited number of copies of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR of the issues of June 9th and June 16th which we shall be pleased to send to any who may desire them for three cents per copy. The issue of June 9th contains the report of the anniversary proceedings of Acadia and Dr. Sawyer's address to the graduating class, and the issue of June 16th contains the address of Hon. J. W. Longley, D. C. L., before the Senate, and the address of Mrs. Grace McL. Rogers to the graduating class of the Seminary.

The past week has been remarkable for heat. In many American cities cases of sunstroke have been numerous, and the death-rate has been correspondingly increased. Eastern Canada has suffered more from the heat than have the western provinces. In Quebec city and its neighborhood, and in many parts of the Maritime Provinces, especially in western and northern New Brunswick, the mercury has climbed to the nineties, and in some places, if the reports are to be credited, it has even soared above the century mark. The heat in places was so great some days that men in saw-mills and other factories were forced to abandon work. Meanwhile St. John has been sometimes under a bright sky, sometimes under a blanket of fog, but always cool. The tourist, escaped from the torrid atmosphere of southern or western cities, finds the facilities for cooling off here all that in his most perspiring moments he could have desired.

One of our highly esteemed pastors, calling our attention (in a letter not intended for publication) to a matter of interest, writes as follows:

"We sometimes lament that so many of our young men remain abroad, but I know from the sort of letters I receive from some of them, that if our Churches here, when looking for pastors, would turn their attention more than has been their wont, to the many good preachers we have furnished the United States, and make more effort to get them back, many more of them would be working here."

Of our own knowledge, as well as from the testimony here given, we believe this to be quite true. The MESSENGER AND VISITOR has from time to time called attention to the fact that our young ministers are not necessarily lost to this country, because they may have gone abroad to secure theological training. Most of them are strongly attached to their native land, and would prefer to come back and labor among their own people. Even those who have settled and are laboring successfully as pastors in the United States—as our friend quoted above has pointed out—would in many cases, when making a change, be glad if the way were open for them to return to the country and people of their birth. Let our churches who are looking for pastors make a note of this. No men are likely to do more efficient work for our churches than the men who were reared and educated amongst us.

The sudden death of Dr. F. M. Ellis, of the Washington Ave. Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., has removed one of the most widely known, and highly esteemed Baptist ministers of the United States. Dr. Ellis was seized with apoplexy, just after having delivered a charge to a candidate at an ordination service in the Tabernacle Baptist Church of Brooklyn and died in the Church. A few weeks before, Dr. Ellis had visited Toronto and preached the Baccalaureate sermon in connection with the commencement services at McMaster University. Dr. Ellis had held pastorates in Boston, Denver, Baltimore and Brooklyn and his work in all these widely separated centres of influence had been marked by ability and success. The Watchman says of Dr. Ellis: "He was a man of national breadth of view and sympathy. There has been in recent years in our denomination no more significant pastorate than that of Dr. Ellis in Baltimore. A Northern man, he became a loved and trusted leader in the Southern convention."

In Boston Dr. Ellis did a great work at Tremont Temple. He came at a time of discouragement and disorganization. The burning of the building had thrown the work into confusion. There was a difference of opinion as to whether the structure should be rebuilt, and for other causes about 200 members had withdrawn. Dr. Ellis united the Church and harmonized its counsels. There was a steady gain all along the line during his pastorate and many of those who are now foremost in its work, were baptized by him when they were young men."

### Sympathy Acknowledged.

DEAR EDITOR.—Will you kindly allow me through the columns of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR to express my appreciation of the words of sympathy and comfort received from scores of pastors, brethren and churches in this my deepest hour of bereavement and sorrow. Time nor strength would hardly permit my addressing myself to them individually. I know it has been largely the peculiarly sad circumstances connected with my bereavement that has touched so many hearts and caused such universal expressions of sympathy, but the kind words received are none the less appreciated. My sorrow is indeed a deep one, my loss irreparable, and my burden has seemed heavier than I could bear; but I am glad to assure my friends that prayer on my behalf has been answered, and underneath have been the everlasting arms. A church that has shown more of the true Christly spirit than we have seen for a long time has been around us a support and stay. I shall not soon forget all the kindly words written and spoken, and I pray that such sorrows as mine may never come to those who have sent them. I shall remain here for a short time in order to recover a little from the shock received, and then return to more faithful service for the Master. To one and all I would say, "Thank you brethren, your words have been timely and helpful, and may the Lord bless you for them."

Gratefully yours,

F. M. YOUNG.

St. George, N. B., July 10th.

### Intercollegiate Y. M. C. A. Missionary Conference.

DEAR MESSENGER AND VISITOR.—The annual gathering of the Y. M. C. A. men from the different Colleges of this and other lands met in Conference at Northfield, Mass., Friday evening, June 25th. The opening address, which was indeed a voice of inspiration was given by Rev. Dr. Schauffer, of New York city. The meetings closed Sunday evening, the 4th inst.

In a brief way it is impossible to convey an adequate idea either of the magnitude of the work attempted or of the excellent manner in which the well-laid plans for the most thorough effectiveness of each service were carried into effect. A general view of the ten days' programme is all that will be attempted in this communication.

The conference this year was in many respects, the most wonderful in the history of the movement. First, the members were the largest. There were in all, 590 delegates, a number considerably in excess of any previous year. Of this number Canada sent 14 and of these 14, seven came from the Maritime Provinces, one from the University of N. B., one from Pine Hill and five from Acadia. Secondly—the world embracing nature of the gathering was a wonderful feature. There were 60 foreign delegates. Students were there from every continent. A third most interesting feature of the convention was the varied character of the representation. China was represented, and Japan and India, Ceylon, Australia, Syria, Cape Colony, Switzerland, Norway, Germany, France, British Isles, Venezuela, Chili, Mexico, Corea, besides the various sections of United States and Canada, not to except the Negroes of the south and the Indians of the west. It may be interesting to note that there were 136 Universities represented, 36 religious denominations, and 27 nations and races. The Presbyterian delegates, numbered 109, Baptist 98, Methodist 78, Congregationalist 80, Episcopal 23.

Meetings of various character were held from 8 a. m. to 1. The afternoon was given to recreation and sports. At 7 the students gathered on Round Top to listen to words of deeply stirring nature from those well qualified to speak of the vast needs of the world and the expectant attitudes of the nations towards the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Then followed the evening platform meeting in the magnificent auditorium. At 10 a. m. two Bible classes were conducted, the devotional study department being most admirably led by Prof. E. J. Bosworth of Oreglin University. Such speakers as Dr. Schauffer, Dr. McKenzie of Cambridge, Dr. Vandyke of New York, Mr. Moody, Mr. Mott, Rev. Dr. McCoughan of Toronto and Dr. Corey, said grand things from the platform. Our Canadian speaker, gave two addresses in one of which he thrilled his hearers as he discoursed on the cherubim and in a masterful way brought forth eminently helpful and practical truths.

On Friday evening the usual demonstrations in connection with the 4th were made in the Auditorium. The Hall was decorated with college banners. College yells and songs were given vigorously even if not always clearly distinguished. Through the kindness of Mr. Moody the British contingent was able to place at its head, as they marched through the aisles, a large lion, which with the grand Union Jack appropriately draped, and the strains of Rule Britannia, sung most lustily gave an air of dignity to the company that owed allegiance to our most gracious and illustrious Sovereign, Queen Victoria. A hush of breathless stillness fell upon the entire assembly as the British lion appeared, and the quietness continued unbroken until that emblem of courage and strength was placed in a conspicuous position at the front. Then "My country 'tis of thee" was sung, after which all joined most heartily in "So say we all of us."

Many of the meetings were of a deeply spiritual nature, the blessing from which must be abundant and abiding. Much help also was to be derived from the opportunities afforded for intercourse with so many workers in College Y. M. C. A.'s, and for comparing notes and obtaining new and valuable information relative to Christian work among College men.

The delegation from our own Acadia is most unanimous and hearty in the hope that the result for our beloved institution may be increasing, yea abundant blessing and success in our work for Christ during the college year '97, '98.

DELEGATE.