

opinion of your Board this event should be celebrated by a forward movement in the interest of our mission. This convention should not adjourn without committing itself to the work of raising within the next two years at least \$25,000 for foreign missions. We owe it ourselves to do this much. It might well be twice that sum. Let us remember that when our fathers founded this Convention the two great objects to which attention was given were Education and Foreign Missions. You have tried to do your duty to the former; the latter claims a share in the help so generously bestowed upon her twin sister. We only ask \$25,000, but our hearts would overflow with grateful joy if this amount were doubled.

This clause on the Forward Movement called forth remarks favorable to the proposed effort from Rev. H. F. Adams, Dr. Keirstead, Dr. Trotter, Rev. F. M. Young, and a resolution was adopted referring the suggestion contained in the clause to a special committee to confer with the Board as to the practicability of carrying out the suggestion.

In connection with the clause on finances a statement was made to the Convention by Mrs. John March that there was a matter relating to the finances in dispute between the Board and herself. On motion of Rev. J. A. Gordon a committee consisting of Hon. A. F. Randolph, Dr. Keirstead and the president of the Convention to consider and report upon this matter was appointed.

The clause on finances is as follows:

FINANCES.

The receipts of the year on current account have been \$15,648.85. These have been made up from the following sources:—Contributions from the churches. Special donations by individuals and Sunday Schools, Mission bands and Legacies, and most of all from the W. B. M. U. —to whose generous aid so much is due for the present condition of our work. It will be noted that quite a large sum is sent direct to the treasurer of the Board, and has been very gratefully received. The total expenditures have been \$15,306.40; thus leaving a balance in favor of the Board on the year's business of \$342.45. But the deficit of last year, which amounted to \$2,731.57 makes the present deficit \$2,389.12. This amount received from the Bradshaw Trusts (I and II) was \$1,728.25, of which \$763.00 was from Trust No. I, and \$965.25 from Trust No. II. There has been no division of the income from these trusts this year because the expenses incurred in connection with repairs on properties which had to be taken over by your Board were so extensive that when the bills are paid there will be a deficit of \$716.09. It will also be observed that there is a shrinkage of \$950 in the securities belonging to the Bradshaw Trusts. The property in which this shrinkage occurs was held for \$2,900, the amount of the mortgage thereon and was sold for \$1,950.

LEGACIES.

There have been received from this source \$1,155 of which amount \$800 was from the late Mrs. Susan Fulton of Bass River, \$25 from the late Mrs. James B. McNutt of Onslow, \$200 from the late William Rhodes of Aylesford, and \$100 from the late James Anderson of St. George, \$30 from the late Mrs. Cynthia Dodge of Wilmot. In addition to the above legacies, your Board has received during the year through the generosity of James E. Masters, Esq., of Canning a conveyance from him of his leasehold lot on the South Wharf in the city of St. John, consisting of a water lot with brick building thereon upon the following conditions: that they pay to Mr. Masters during his lifetime the annual sum of \$248 in quarterly payments beginning with May 1st, 1899, and to his executors a sum of \$120 and at his decease, the property or the proceeds of the sale thereof to be equally divided among the three Boards of the Convention, viz., Home Missions, Acadia University and Foreign Missions. The property is subject to a mortgage of \$1,000 and is valued at upwards of \$4,000. It is estimated that the income from rents will pay the annuity, interest on the mortgage, taxes, repairs, premiums, of insurance, etc, so that the property will, on the death of Mr. Masters come to the three Boards with no other encumbrances than the principal of the mortgage. The Board expresses its high appreciation of this valuable gift.

A summary of the reports from the various mission stations shows that the number of churches in the field is 7, with a membership of 314. There was added to the churches last year 59, of whom 39 were by baptism, against 103 the preceding year. There are 48 native helpers, of whom 18 are preachers and 17 are Bible women, 8 are Colporteurs.

There are nine outstations.

Tekkali has become a district Mission field with a missionary in charge. A hospital for women and children has been established in Chicacole, with the promise of great usefulness. There never was a time in the history of our mission when the work in India seemed to be in a better condition for reaping an abundant harvest than now. The new departure in the employment of native helpers and locating them in the midst of the people for whom they labor instead of segregating them on mission compounds was the custom—the large hopefulness of the brothers and sisters on this mission field—and this in spite of the dread of curtailment, all give heart and hope to your Board as to the ultimate

victory that is sure to come if we only prove faithful and give to this work its proper place in our hearts and our contributions.

In connection with the presentation of the Financial Statement of the Board. A criticism was offered by Rev. W. E. McIntyre in respect to the charge of \$200 for managing the Bradshaw Trust funds. He considered that the moral effort of making such a charge would be bad. If people understood that their benefactions would be subject to a discount for management, it would tend to restrain benevolence. At this stage of the meeting a number of visitors, some of whom had been invited to seats in the morning session, were invited to the platform, to receive and respond to the welcome of the President. Rev. Dr. McLeod of Fredericton, Editor of the Religious Intelligencer responded in an eloquent and ringing speech. He welcomed the Convention to the city in the name of the ministers of Fredericton—many of whom were absent from home. He also presented the greeting and the love of the Free Baptist body, and when Mr. McLeod declared his conviction that the two bodies should become the United Baptists, the ringing applause showed that the sentiment found an eager response in the Convention—Other visitors who responded in fitting words to the welcome of the President were Rev. H. E. Wise of Norwich, Conn., Rev. J. Coulter of Fredericton, Rev. B. Ward of Boston, and Rev. S. W. Cummings of Chester, Pa.

SATURDAY EVENING.

The public foreign missionary meeting of Saturday evening was one of deep and sustained interest. It was indeed a meeting that will become historic, and people will look back to it as one of the notable occasions in the history of the foreign missionary enterprise in connection with the denomination in these Provinces.

The meeting was opened by the singing of the hymn: "Jesus shall reign." The Scriptures were read by Rev. F. H. Beals and prayer was offered by Rev. J. E. Tiner.

The first speaker of the evening was Rev. C. W. Townsend of Hillsboro, who delivered an eloquent and impressive address. He spoke of the condition of things at the close of the 18th century, and of the men of that day who were distinguished for their labors in the gospel. It was then that the modern missionary movement was beginning to be felt. The century now closing has been illustrious in missionary effort. Great results have been reaped through the prayers and efforts of Christ's people on behalf of the heathen world. And how shall we face the new century which is at hand. Surely with no thought of retrenchment or slacking effort, but with a stronger purpose and fuller consecration to the work. Other Christian peoples are raising large sums of money for the promotion of the Lord's work at this time, and should not we do likewise? Was it too much to expect that Maritime Baptists should raise \$100,000 for a forward movement in foreign mission work by the beginning of the new century? We want to give to the point of sacrifice. Then we shall see our work crowned with success. Mr. Townsend went on to present a number of reasons for a forward movement in Missions.

1. Christ commands it. It is his marching orders. The command is "forward." 2. The world needs it. The moral degradation and lost condition of the heathen world appeal most powerfully to our Christian sympathies. 3. The preservation of the denomination in vigorous health and strength demands it. 4. It is demanded by faithfulness to the traditions of the past. Our fathers have left us a precious inheritance for the improvement of which we are accountable.

The second address of the evening was by Rev. Geo. Churchill, returned missionary. Mr. Churchill said his thoughts led him back to the first Convention which he ever attended, that held in Windsor, 26 years ago. Then he was about to enter upon missionary work. Now he looked forward with hope of returning to India again. He knew now what the conditions were, there was for him no romance in mission work in India, there was much indeed that was unattractive—even repulsive, but it was the great desire of his heart to return and labor among the Telugus. If it was asked what had been accomplished in a quarter of a century of mission work in India, it could be answered that the nucleus of a native Christian community has been formed, and there is a comparatively small, but effective missionary force. Foundation work has been done. It requires much time even to prepare the soil for the sowing of the seed of truth in heathen India. But the outlook is full of hope and the question is, will the Christians here at home sustain the missionaries and convince the heathen that the love of Christ is constraining them to send the gospel to India?

The next address was by Miss Helena Blackadar whose application to be sent as a missionary to India has been accepted by the Board. Miss Blackadar spoke tenderly of her conversion, her early Christian experience, her desire to go to the foreign field and her work as a teacher among the colored people of the South, a work in which she felt a deep interest. But she had felt that it was her duty if possible to go to India. She knew that it was the desire of the Board that she should go, but the Board could not send her unless the necessary funds were provided and she pleaded earnestly that the people would make it possible for her to go. Rev. J. W. Manning Secretary-Treasurer of the F. M. Board, said that he would not himself make a speech, but would introduce Miss Eva de Prazer of India who could address the meeting. Miss de Prazer, Mr. Manning explained, represented

in herself some of the results of the work of our missionaries in India. Miss de Prazer is of a mixed blood, her father being an Englishman and her mother a native of East Indian stock. Miss de Prazer was converted under Mr. Sanford's preaching and was baptized by him. She is a young lady of superior intelligence and good education. She is engaged in medical and hospital work in Bimilipatam and finds opportunity to minister to the spiritual as well as to the physical needs of the people. She is in this country with the purpose of acquainting herself more fully with hospital work.

Miss de Prazer said it had been a long cherished purpose with her to visit this country that she might see the people who had been instrumental in sending the gospel to her native land. She spoke of her conversion 16 years ago. The sense of sin was so strong upon her that she almost lost her reason, and it was only after weeks of terrible darkness that the light broke upon her soul and she was enabled to rejoice in the truth. She was here to thank the people not only for herself but on behalf of the people of India for what they were doing for the Telugus. Miss de Prazer spoke in the highest terms of the missionaries, both as to their work and from their characters—happily so different from that of many white men who go to India, and she spoke in most affectionate terms of Mr. Sanford whom she regards as her spiritual father. People here, Miss de Prazer said, might be disappointed that there were not larger apparent results from the work of the mission. But there were results and if people of this land could understand the terribly degraded moral condition of the people there, they would understand how great a miracle it is to save a soul in India.

Rev. J. A. Gordon speaking of retrenchment or abandonment of the work as an alternative of going forward, said that if Baptists were not going forward in the Foreign Mission work, they must get a new Christ and a new Bible. Mr. Gordon then proceeded to make an appeal for money and subscriptions to place the Board in a position to send out the missionaries who are ready to go and as is generally the case with Mr. Gordon, his appeal met with a most gratifying response. Pledges on behalf of individuals, churches, B. Y. P. U. Unions, &c., came in rapidly until \$1500 had been subscribed.

Then Secretary Manning came forward and made the very gratifying announcement that since coming to the Convention a letter had been placed in his hands from an old and tried friend of the cause, containing a cheque for \$3,000 for the Foreign Mission work. The name of the donor, Mr. Manning announced, was Deacon J. W. Bars of Wolfville and the announcement was received with great applause. But another announcement and another gratifying surprise were to follow. Secretary Cohoon of the Home Mission Board came forward and stated that Mr. Bars had made a similar donation of \$3,000 to the funds of the Home Mission Board. It is stated that Mr. Bars had placed in his will bequests of \$3,000 each to Foreign and Home Missions, but that he had decided, with the full concurrence of his family, to become his own executor in these matters, and accordingly changed the bequests to donations. It was ordered that a message be sent conveying to Mr. Bars the Convention's grateful acknowledgement of his magnificent gifts.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

The Convention has been blessed with fine weather, but Saturday and Sunday have been very warm. The Free Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist pulpits of the city and Gibson and many Baptist pulpits in the surrounding country were supplied on Sunday by ministers in attendance upon the Association.

The Convention sermon was preached at eleven o'clock by Rev. W. H. Robinson, of Antigonish, before a large congregation. The subject of his discourse was the High-Priesthood of Christ, the text was Hebrews 3:1. As this excellent discourse will probably be published in a later issue of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, it is unnecessary to attempt any abstract of it here.

The first part of the afternoon was occupied with a Sunday School service, in connection with which an excellent address was delivered by Mr. W. C. Cross, of St. John.

The later part of the afternoon was devoted to a meeting in the interests of the North West mission work. Prayer was offered by Rev. T. A. Blackadar.

The president expressed regret that there had been a disappointment in respect to the coming of Rev. A. J. Vining, Superintendent of Missions in the North West, who had been expected to be present and take an important part in the services of the afternoon, but he was glad to say that speakers had been secured for the occasion, who, he felt sure, would be heard with great interest. Mr. Emerson proceeded to speak briefly of the great part which the North West was destined to play in the Dominion, politically and otherwise, and the importance which therefore attached to the promoting the North West mission cause.

The report on the subject was presented by Rev. J. A. Gordon. It expressed the conviction that no department of our denominational work is more vitally connected with our future national and denominational welfare and consequently none more desirous of intelligent and prayerful consideration and generous support. It emphasized the importance of strong support of this work in reference to the welfare of those who shall settle in that part of the Dominion, the welfare of the country and the future financial and moral strength of the denomination in Canada. The report expressed gratification at the measure of support given to the mission this year and asked for a more generous measure of support for the future.

Mr. Gordon moved the adoption of the report and supported the motion in a vigorous speech. He was followed by Rev. Ira Smith, of St. John, who made an eloquent and forceful plea, on behalf of the Northwest work. This was Mr. Smith's first address before the Convention, and he was heard with great interest. Mr. Smith was followed by Rev. H. E. Wise of Norwich, Conn., who had some experience in mission work in the Northwest and who was able to speak of that which he had seen and known. Rev. F. M. Young of Bridgetown spoke briefly and closed the meeting with prayer.

At the evening service, Rev. Ira Smith preached to a full house an earnest and very impressive sermon from 1 Tim. 1:15. This was followed by an evangelistic service led by Rev. Dr. Gates assisted by Rev. S. W. Cummings, in which many took part.