

doing something in harmony with what the Saviour came to do for the world. And yet how little is all this when compared with what He did for us!

ACADIA COLLEGE.

After the Sermon the Annual Report of the Governors of Acadia College was read, with the Treasurer's accounts and a letter from him with important suggestions. The discussion of the various matters contained in these documents was resumed in the afternoon.

Rev. Dr. Pryor spoke of the deep anxiety he had felt on taking charge of the Institution at Horton in its early history, and remarked on the altered state of public opinion with regard to the value of education now as compared with that period. He conceived it to be of the greatest moment to maintain a close connection between education and religion. He had seen the sad consequences of separating them, and related some instances of what had come to his knowledge in some of the Colleges in the U. States, where religion was ignored. Demoralization had been the result and religion was then sought as the best means of placing restraints upon the students. He was glad that it occupied a higher place in Acadia College. No doubtful position in this respect was taken by the Governors or the Faculty; whilst he fully believed they would not interfere with the religious convictions of any students.

Dr. Cramp noticed the steps that had been taken to celebrate the past year—it being the 25th since the establishment of Acadia College. The character of the students who had graduated, and the positions they were now occupying were some evidence of the benefits arising from the institution. He thought the failure in realizing the amount proposed as a jubilee offering—twenty-five cents per church member—indicated a want of interest in the matter of education. He would not charge it to a want of zeal in the pastors, or indifference in the deacons, but he thought it might be attributed to some extent to a low state of religious feeling. He had lately been in Canada and whilst there had taken occasion to look over the Statistics of the Baptist Associations. Some of these shewed an increase of 12 per cent during the year, whilst in N. S. & N. B., it was but 1½ per cent. When Christian people are alive and active they will strive to provide sanctified learning for their young men.

Dr. Parker stated that what he had heard since attending this Convention of the good done at Acadia College had made him feel it to be of more value than ever before. He had always felt much on its behalf but was now more fully convinced of the importance of sustaining it in the highest state of efficiency.

Mr. W. Cummings believed that the ministers should bring this subject before their people, and of this were done judiciously and earnestly he thought there would be no deficiency of funds. He was glad that his own pastor did not omit doing so, and he believed it did good both to minister and people. We should not rest satisfied with what had been done in the past. We are continually receiving and must expect to appropriate what is thus committed to us. No object had better claims to support than Acadia College.

Rev. Mr. McKenzie pastor of the Baptist Church in Providence, R. I. said that about 16 years ago he had been a student at Horton. After his conversion he determined to get an education although under engagements previously made, he was enabled, by working day and night, to release himself so as to carry out his desires. He came to Halifax where he knew no one. Here he was reduced to great straits and having spent all his money on his way to Horton, he was two days and a night without food. He here related the plain unvarnished tale. Whilst he must have kept back far more than he told, it was evident that his determined resolution sustained him amidst the difficulties pressing upon him. This by the grace of God had enabled him to persevere. Week after week and month after month he had lived upon a biscuit at each meal. He confirmed all that had been said about the necessity of religion in connection with education. He had gone from Horton to Harvard University and there in a class of seventy found but four who cared at all for religion, not a single professor was a religious man, and he had found that they used their influence against rather than in favor of religion. His own efforts to awaken concern in his fellow-students had been opposed by them. The future of many of those students bore sad testimony against the unnatural separation of religion from education. Education is now sought for in ministers, and by ministers, and he held it to be the duty of the churches to provide it.

[We had the pleasure of hearing Mr. McKenzie preach on Lord's Day an able sermon from Psalm cxxvi. 6. He directed attention

to the necessity of (1) *Tearful sowing*, and (2) *Patient waiting*, in order to secure (3) *Joyful reaping*. On learning his history, we had the key to his earnest but natural eloquence, in treating this subject.—Ed.]

N. S. DeMill, Esq., had previously spoken before a more private meeting of the governors, and had noticed the blessing Acadia College had been to him and his family. He again repeated some of the remarks then made. The governors might feel at times anxious and depressed when they were unable promptly to meet the engagements made with professors, but he should ever feel indebted to it; six members of his family had been brought to Christ while receiving instruction there; and he believed that others had similar feelings, and would never allow the institution to suffer as long as it was in their power to help. At the close of his brief speech he pledged, on behalf of Leinster Street Church, \$400 during the ensuing year.

A proposal was made by one of the ministers of the N. S. Eastern Association to raise \$1000 for the present year, and an offer was made by him to be one of twenty to do this. We did not hear the result of this generous effort.

Rev. A. D. Thompson spoke of the ability of the denomination who own Acadia College to provide all necessary support. He called attention to the edifice in which the Convention was assembled to shew what might be done where the will existed. He compared the Academics at Horton and Fredericton to Aaron and Hur,—they held up the hands of Acadia College, and drew from this the importance of upholding the two former institutions and removing the difficulties out of their way, so that they might be in a condition to prepare men for availing themselves of the advantages offered in the latter.

J. W. Bess, Esq., shewed that every man owed a good education to the members of his own family, but that, he conceived, was not sufficient; he should also see that like advantages are provided for his neighborhood; and churches should see that education is provided for those called to the Christian ministry. He believed that education generally in Common Schools and Academies would be vastly improved by sustaining efficient colleges. Wherever a well-educated man takes up his residence, there he will strive to improve the character of the schools.

Dr. Warren of Boston came forward by request, and expressed his pleasure at being present to hear of the affairs of Acadia College. He liked the College because it was not a fast institution. He did not like institutions that rose up rapidly and obtained a great endowment, without effort. Slow growth, if healthy, is the best. Time was thus allowed for the roots to go down into the hearts of the people. The College did not belong to one man or one church, but to many men and women and many churches. He liked it, too, because it was the product of piety. There is great need of this in educational institutions. He also loved it because it had been in the furnace. It had lived, and then looked almost as if it were dead. God had sent his Son and he was put into the furnace, and so anything good has to go into the furnace and be tried. Its value is not known until it has passed through this experience. He believed it was destined to do much good, but should be sorry to hear that it had lost the sympathies of the people.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Monday evening was devoted to Foreign Missionary objects. Rev. Dr. Tupper read the report. He said he had experienced much sorrow on account of the great disappointment in respect to Brother Kempton. He explained the circumstances in which the Board had been placed. They had felt fully satisfied on learning Brother Kempton's desire for Foreign Missionary work, and concluded to accept him, subject to the decision of the Convention and medical examination. The opportunity of able medical opinion, as to his suitability for an Indian climate, could be secured at St. John, and it was deemed proper that this should be deferred till the brethren assembled here. He now had to announce that three medical gentlemen had been consulted, and their united testimony was that his constitution was unsuited to an eastern climate, and they could not recommend him to be sent. This decision demanded an alteration of plans proposed, and greatly disappointed the Board and Brother Kempton, with whom they felt much sympathy.

Rev. Dr. Warren had learned of the proposed Convention, and had come to bring the cordial greetings of the Board. The connection existing between the Baptists here and the A. B. M. Board, through Rev. A. R. R. Crawley and those laboring with him, gave them a community of interest in this matter. Burmah had been heretofore conceded to them as Baptist ground. The success which had attended their missionaries, had shown

that God smiled on their labors. But now Catholics and Episcopalians are coming in and trying to make inroads. He expressed his sympathy with the brother who had been so disappointed, but the Board in Boston had had similar experience. Only a few days before he left home, a highly intelligent Christian man had come on all the way from Illinois,—a two days journey. They had to reject him, because not suited in this respect. But said Dr. W., "Is there no alleviation?" How often do we have men go out and die on the voyage, or live but one, two, or three years, and then are removed, when just ready to grasp the sickle to reap in the great harvest. It is not, even then, all loss. It is but a part of God's great agency. Not one throb of the heart or one tear pressed out by the operation of the Holy Spirit is lost. If the churches are waiting, in God's time the man will appear. Dr. W. here shewed some remarkable coincidences in missionary work—that God directed their movements and then asked "Is not this God working?" The providing of funds was often shewn to be beyond man's wisdom. Men were raised up where least expected. Only by trust in him could they go forward.

W. H. Wyckoff and Rev. C. Buckbee also spoke in reference to the subject—the latter especially concerning the missionary.—Horace Jenkins, who had been converted in the church of which he was then pastor, at the age of 12 years, and then a poor boy, having a widowed mother and five or six children depend upon him.

We need not assure our readers that the meeting was one of great interest.

At a subsequent sitting of the Convention, a resolution was carried to appropriate \$400 of the Missionary Funds towards the salary of our Brother Rev. A. R. R. Crawley.

Tuesday was occupied, morning and afternoon, in the business of the Convention. The following was an important Report presented and adopted, on

THE STATE OF THE DENOMINATION.

Your committee have to report that the statistics of some of the Associations are incorrect, and that it has been necessary to rectify them. After careful examination of the Minutes, and comparison with the reports of former years, the following is an abstract of the corrected returns:—

NOVA SCOTIA.			
Western Asso., 62 churches, 186 bapt'd,	7469 m'bers.		
Central do., 40 " 99 "	3873 "		
Eastern do., 61 " 108 "	3486 "		
—153	—393	—15,828	
NEW BRUNSWICK.			
Eastern Asso., 62 churches, 277 bapt'd,	4914 m'bers.		
Western do., 53 " 209 "	3907 "		
—113	—496	—8,821	
Total.....268	879	24,649	

These statements shew that there is a decrease of 31 in Nova Scotia, and that the net increase of the whole body (279 members) amounts to only 1 1-7 per cent. Three new churches have been formed, viz., at Lower Wickham, and Kinnear Settlement, in New Brunswick, and 2nd Preston, N. S.

Nine brethren have been ordained, viz., Sept. 16, 1863, S. B. Kempton, New Minas, N. S. " 30, " W. Parker, Upper Aylesford, N. S. " 30, " W. H. Ritchie, Barrington, N. S. Oct. 15, " J. C. Steadman, 2nd Elgin, N. B. Jan. 17, 1864, A. Weaver, Milton, Queen's Co., N. S. May 12, " Geo. Weathers, Newport West, N. S. June 5, " Joseph H. Kempton, Mira Gut, C. B. " 15, " J. R. Strang, 1st Studholm, N. B. July 5, " J. M. Curry, Norton, N. B.

Five new meeting houses have been opened, viz., at Black Rock, and Little River, in Nova Scotia; at Florenceville, and Leinster Street, St. John, and Keswick, in N. B.

Reviewing these statements, the committee beg to observe.

1. That the small amount of increase this year, smaller than in any previous year since these reports began to be issued, is a melancholy fact, to be deeply deplored by all well-wishers to the cause of the Redeemer.

2. That it behoves the pastors and deacons, and the servants of God generally, to institute serious enquiry into the state of the churches, with a view to ascertain, if possible, whether any obstacles have been thrown in the way of the truth, or whether, by defective discipline or criminal inactivity, any have "hindered the gospel of Christ."

3. That at such a time as this it is especially needful that every believer among us should "examine himself" impartially, and by the word of God, in order, to discover by what means he may more fully "adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour," and more diligently and perseveringly labor for its diffusion among his fellow-men. 4. That the zeal displayed by other denominations in regard to the furtherance of education, and the preparation of young men for the work of the ministry, should stimulate the Baptists of these Provinces, and re-quick-en their energies.

5. That it is incumbent on us to seek the Lord with all humility and earnestness, entreating him to "turn us again, and cause his face to shine upon us, that we may be saved;" and that therefore the churches be requested to set apart a day for this purpose, in agreement with the practice of former years.

J. M. CRAMP, Chairman.

Our space compels us to omit a report of the speeches at the evening meeting. It was

occupied by the brethren Wyckoff and Buckbee in explaining the nature and objects of the American Bible Union, and by Mr. N. P. Kemp in a relation of the labors of the American Tract Society amongst the Freedmen.

The thanks of the Convention were cordially voted to the brethren in St. John, for their generous hospitality; and to the steamboat proprietors and railroad managers for the accommodation afforded the delegates in coming to and retiring from St. John.

The *Acadian Recorder* of last week sings a very touching swan-song, on its last number appearing, before coming out as a tri-weekly. As a weekly it has lived over fifty years, being the oldest newspaper in Nova Scotia. Its new edition is to commence next week, and proposes to appear on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

NEWS SUMMARY.

The question of emigration from Ireland to supply recruits for the Federal army has recently occupied the attention of the British parliament and government. Agents have been busily employed in engaging young active men in Ireland and the north of England, to come to America to work, at high wages, and have succeeded in inducing many to cross the Atlantic, who have not discovered, till it was too late, that they had been entrapped and were forced to enter the army. Correspondence had passed between the two governments on the subject, and Mr. Seward had made fair promises, but the exigencies of the war were so great that he confessed his inability to prevent men from being sent off to the army while it was uncertain whether they had been fairly enlisted or not.

The U. States war operations are evidently being complicated by political and party considerations. More liberty of speech is being permitted and a less vigorous prosecution of the war than otherwise might be expected. One day we have rumors of peace proposals being made and another day they are contradicted and charged upon southern sympathizers. These cause slight fluctuations in the currency, and are probably invented for the purpose of enabling unprincipled men to enrich themselves. In the mean time but little is being done. In another week or two the country will be in the midst of its electioneering agitation. On the result of this, more than on anything else, now depends the continuance of the war.

Notices, &c.

CORRECTION.—The Treasurer of the Central Association desires to correct an error in the account of moneys published in the Minutes. The sum received from the Church at Tancok, was \$9.36 instead of \$1.80. He will pay over the balance \$7.56 to the Treasurer of the Home Missionary Board.

Colchester Co. Quarterly Meeting.

The next Colchester County Quarterly Meeting, will be held, (D. V.) with the Baptist Church, at Great Village, commencing on Saturday, Sept. 24th, at 2 o'clock, P. M. There will be a Ministerial Conference at the Pastor's house, at 10½ o'clock, A. M. J. E. BALCOM, Pastor.

Great Village, Aug. 26th, 1864.

Rev. W. BURTON wishes us to make the following announcement:—

Dear Brother,—Having been appointed a Mission to Margaree for 4 weeks, I intend shortly to go on that Mission. Please publish this notice in your next issue of the *Christian Messenger* as I wish to preach on my way, viz.:

In Merrigomish.....13th Sept.
Antigonish.....14th do
Guysboro.....15th do
Crow Harbour.....16th do
Cape Canso, Lord's Day.....18th do
Manchester.....19th do
Meeting-house, Strait of Canso.....20th do
Port Hood.....21st do
Mahon.....22nd do
Margaree, Lord's Day, at 11, A. M.....23th do

I ask the brethren in each of the above places, to give public notice of the same, and that a collection for the Mission will be taken in each of the places. Services on week days will be at 7 o'clock in the evening, in all the places, as the day will be required for travelling.

By attending to this you will favour the cause we love. WM. BURTON.

Hantsport, Aug. 25th, 1864.

P. S.—Brother Meldrum, at Merrigomish, please appoint the place of meeting.

Letters Received.

H. E. Payson, Esq., 20th.—Answer sent 27th.
Rev. A. F. Porter, 24th, with 20s. for Home Mission. Rev. W. Burton, 25th. D. DeLong, 15th. Rev. W. Chipman, 22nd. H. J. Gesner, 29th. L. R. Morse, 16th. Rev. J. E. Balcom, 23rd. Rev. J. C. Morse, 10th. Asaph Marshall, 28th, with a box of fine August Apples.—Much obliged. N. Hebb, 22nd.—Sent. Rev. B. Scott, 17th.—Was not overlooked. C. Kennedy, 19th, 1 sub. \$1. D. Mosher, 27th. Dr. J. Woodbury, 27th.

For General Intelligence, &c., see page 272.