

For the Christian Messenger.

GRAND PRE SEMINARY.

DEAR SIR,—

Your readers will have observed that the Seminary is, to be revived. Miss M. R. Eaton has engaged the building, and proposes to carry on the Institution in the same manner as before, in regard to the plan of tuition and the general regulations and arrangements.

The three years' course of study will be adopted. At the end of that period, those who have successfully pursued the course, and undergone satisfactory examination, will receive the usual Certificates.

Miss Eaton has applied to some of the Churches, and to benevolent individuals, for assistance in purchasing the furniture, and is prepared, in the event of success, to place the property thus secured in the hands of Trustees, to be held for the benefit of the Institution.

This is a praiseworthy enterprise, and deserves to be encouraged. The Teachers already engaged are fully competent, and no effort will be spared to render the Institution efficient in all respects.

ONE OF THE COMMITTEE.

Wolfville, July 31, 1869.

For the Christian Messenger.

THE PRESIDENCY OF ACADIA COLLEGE.

Wolfville, July 30th, 1869.

DEAR SIR,—

In consequence of the resignation of Rev. J. M. Cramp, D.D., of the Presidency of Acadia College, it was unanimously voted at the last meeting of the Board of Governors, that an invitation be extended to the Rev. A. W. Sawyer, D.D., to occupy the position.

Correspondence was accordingly had with Dr. Sawyer, by a Committee of the Board.

We are gratified to be able to announce, that after due consideration of the matter, the invitation has been accepted, and in his reply of the 13th inst., Dr. Sawyer states, that he will be prepared to enter upon his duties, at the commencement of the College year.

It must not be concealed, that this appointment, together with other changes, will entail a much larger outlay than heretofore, on the part of the Board. We trust that the delegates and brethren who come to the Convention, will be prepared to meet the action of the Board, in a liberal and generous spirit.

It might be well to remind those churches who have not yet responded to the "Appeal," that there is still time before the closing of the Financial year to forward the amount requested.

Yours, &c.,

STEPHEN W. DEBLOIS, Sec'y.

For the Christian Messenger.

ACADIA COLLEGE.

Mr. Editor,—

In reading a semi-official article in your paper of 9th June I observe one of the matters which occupied the attention of the Board of Governors of the Acadia College at its meeting a few days previously, was that of increasing the salaries of the Professors.

I at first doubted the power of the Board to do this, as it seemed an act more properly belonging to the legislative body formed by the Convention, than by an executive Board. But in looking at the Act of Incorporation I find that the Governors have the right to fix and alter Salaries; But conceding this power, I would ask was it wise to do so when the Convention was so near at hand, with whom the power to furnish the requisite funds alone exists?

It occurs to me as desirable in important matters of this kind, that notice of intention should be moved and laid on the table at one meeting of the Board, only to be acted upon at a subsequent one. This seems important, as governors called together from a distance to act without previous conference may do things hurriedly which afterwards cannot be undone, it also occurs to me that the Board instead of voting to increase or diminish salaries, should pass a resolution asking the Convention to do the act, required, and with sufficient reasons given, in most cases, their wishes would be met and carried out.

It is very evident that, unless there is great harmony of action between the Board and the Convention, funds will not be voted or raised by our churches; and so all votes of a financial nature though made

with the best intention by the governors of the College will fail in effect.

My opinion, is that it was not the most auspicious time to pass the vote referred to. The pecuniary affairs of the Provinces are embarrassing, and so felt to be by the active business men in the Churches, whose contributions are usually depended upon to sustain the funds of the College.

The salaries of the Professors are no doubt small. And yet, there is a large number of men of education and piety filling similar situations and other useful positions, with but very moderate remuneration for their services.

By the last published report of the Treasurer it will be seen that he was only barely able with his skill and ingenuity to bring the College through the year free of debt; unless the resources of the institution have improved of late, I think it will tax the energies of the Board to plan ways and means to raise the \$1700 additional—required to carry out the vote referred to. This of course includes the salary of the Professor of Natural Science; now ready to enter upon his labours.

I have no desire to find fault with the late action of the Board, but wish to place my views before our denomination and churches, so that when the Convention meets the circumstances of the case may receive due consideration, and each delegate may come with his mind fully instructed. I shall not be backward personally to bear my share of all necessary outlay in sustaining this important institution, Acadia College.

CAUTION.

July 29, 1869.

For the Christian Messenger.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Dear Brother,—

Our Association was held, according to appointment, at Cavendish, commencing on Saturday, the 17th ult., at 10 a. m.

It was opened with devotional exercises, sustained throughout with much fervour, and continued until noon. Brother M. P. Freeman was then chosen as Moderator, clerks were appointed, and every thing was ready for business.

The letters, read in the afternoon, disclosed, as was to be expected, a varying state of things in the churches. Two of the churches, I regret to say, failed to report themselves. One new church, just formed at Cavendish, applied for admission to the Association. Two of the churches, at Uigg, and at West and Clyde Rivers, told of revival movements, and of marked increase. The numbers throughout the Association, in the year, had risen from 627, reported last year, to 693; that is, had realized a net increase of 66; being at the rate of 9½ per cent upon our whole membership.

The attendance throughout the three services of the Lord's Day, was large, outside of the house, as well as in it. The brethren, W. George, Missionary-elect, A. Chipman, and S. T. Rand, were the preachers. All, as aided from above, did their work well, and were well heard; brother George with peculiar emotions, because of his peculiar relations and position. Liberal collections were taken throughout the day for Home Missionary purposes.

Monday morning we had the Association Sermon, by the Moderator. The text was from Phil. i. 17. The preacher treated of the church of Christ as "set for the defence of the Gospel." The brethren asked him to print his sermon in the Messenger. It was seasonable and weighty, and deserved all the good things that were said about it.

The Education Report came after the sermon. It brought before us the venerable retiring President of Acadia, side by side with his successor, in the vigour of his years; which might well remind us of Aaron putting off his robes, and transferring them to Eleazer. Two of the brethren had pledged the Island Baptists to the amount of forty dollars (\$40), for the support of the new Professor of Natural Science, for whose employment at Acadia arrangements had been made at last year's Convention. At the close of this morning's session, by a sort of spontaneous movement, the greater part of this sum was raised among us on the spot—an excellent practical proof of the extent to which we Islanders care for Acadia.

Home Missionary business occupied our attention in the afternoon. Our Treasurer told of obligations all met, and of a goodly balance in hand. Better still, our Secretary's report told of signal usefulness in connection with Home Missionary work,

and looked forward hopefully to the future.

The evening was devoted to the Missionary theme abroad as well as at home. Brother Kidson, our Home Missionary, and brother George, were heard with deep attention and interest. The latter told us something of the Mission field in Burmah, and something of his own exercises in regard to his proposed entrance upon that field. His warm and pathetic appeals went home to the hearts and the purses of his audience; as was manifest in the handsome contribution made to our Foreign Missionary funds in the course of the evening. Wherever this brother went, indeed, he was recognized as a man raised up by God for the work to which he has put his hand, while goodly contributions, not at the Association only, shewed how the hearts of our Islanders are opened towards the Foreign Missionary enterprise. And is not this to be traced to the fact, that we have now a man, and such a man to send into the Foreign Missionary field?

Tuesday morning completed our Association work. An animated discussion on the fitness of attempting the issue of a monthly paper on the Island was the notable feature of the morning. Arrangements were made for testing the wishes of our people on this matter; and if the thing go any farther, of course you will hear more about it. Let me add, that nothing is intended by this to the injury of the Messenger. Indeed we strongly think, that our small subsidiary movement, if it ripen into decided action, will, in the long run, rather tend to promote the interests of the Messenger than otherwise.

The meetings, held of course in the newly opened and commodious meeting house at Cavendish, overflowing on the Lord's Day, as I have said, were well filled up throughout the Association. The weather was delightful, and was diligently improved for Association purposes. The Cavendish friends more than maintained their high character for hospitality. The newly formed church at Cavendish shewed signs of life and progress. The presence and aid of brethren from Nova Scotia contributed, after a right godly fashion, to "the feast of reason, and the flow of soul." Every thing conspired to make the occasion deeply memorable. Above all, the smile of heaven was manifestly enjoyed, and was to the Association as its anointing from above. It seemed to us, that we beheld "the goings of our God, our King, in the sanctuary;" and that he had come down to consecrate us, as an Association, for future service on our beautiful Island.

I add two items from our proceedings. The sixth Article of our Constitution was altered to read thus:—

"VI. The religious sentiments of this body are such, in general, as are held by the Associated Baptists of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick."

The Christian Messenger was recommended in these terms:—

"With regard to the Christian Messenger, your Committee conceive, that it continues to deserve the support of our body. We are only sorry that it is not more extensively sustained. And whether we should ultimately be led to establish our Island paper, or not, we would strongly recommend that our old and valuable paper be more extensively taken."

I regret that this report of our late Association has not reached you sooner; but the delay was unavoidable.

I remain,

Your fellow-worker,

J. DAVIS.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.,
August 4, 1869.

For the Christian Messenger.

ONTARIO CORRESPONDENCE.

The Associations and the special objects before them. Education. Foreign Missions. The Red River delegation. The late Rev. Dr. Caldwell. The Season. Great rain and hail storms, &c.

I have been looking over the reports of some of the Associations of Baptist Churches recently held in Ontario, in hope of being able to cull some items of interest. But owing to the very general character of the published notices, and the absence of statistics, I am unable to arrive at any knowledge of the numerical increase or decrease of churches and church members, sufficiently definite to afford a means of measuring the work done, or the progress made during the year. There seems however good reason to hope that when full returns are published, they will show the year to have been one of progress and blessing. For many weeks past we have had announcements from various quarters

of additions to the ranks of baptized believers and increasing interest in religious matters.

The principal subjects brought before the Associations, in addition to the usual ones of Home missions, Denominational paper, &c., were the Foreign Mission, the delegation to the North West and the wants of the Educational Institution at Woodstock. To the regret of many, the scheme for the purchase of the Mission premises at Alloor has been of necessity abandoned. The difficulties in the way of securing any property to an unincorporated body, and the real or fancied undesirability of the appointees of the American Union holding special relations to an Auxiliary Society, together with the uncertainty still existing in regard to the best localities for future operations amongst the Telugus, all seemed to render it inexpedient to carry out the original plan. By the consent of the donors the \$700 or \$800, which had been raised for the purchase of the property is to be expended upon the outfit of Bro. McLaurin and his partner, and other purposes connected with the mission. The negotiations connected with this movement seem to indicate pretty clearly, what was before the opinion of some, that the resources of Canadian Baptists will never be fully developed until we have an independent mission.

Progress is being made in Educational matters. Of the \$8,000 required for payment of debt and erection of new buildings, \$5,000 to \$6,000 have already been pledged. The unusual stringency in commercial matters in some parts of the country has increased the difficulty of raising this sum. Still the friends of the Institute are sanguine of success. The new building is in process of erection and is to be ready for use at the commencement of the September term. I am happy to state the Hon. W. McMaster, of Toronto, has, with his accustomed liberality, given \$2,000, one fourth of the whole sum required.

The delegates to the Red River country report their safe arrival in the Fort Garry district after two weeks travel. The distance to this point from Ingersoll whence they set out, is nearly 1500 miles. Most of the fourteen nights were, of course, passed under tents. For the results of the delegation in the shape of information to aid in future Missionary operations, we must wait. The expenses of the trip, to the Baptists of Ontario, will probable amount to \$500. This has been already, or is to be, raised, by voluntary contributions. As to the necessity for purchasing the information needed at so high a price there are differences of opinion.

We in Ontario have just now been called to suffer a heavy loss in the sudden death of Rev. Dr. Caldwell, for many years pastor of Bond St Church Toronto. For many weeks past his failing health made it clear to his friends, as well as to himself, that his days of labour were drawing to a close. By his own wish arrangements had just been completed for securing the services of Rev. W. Stewart of Brantford as Co-pastor. By a singular providence the first duty of the new pastor was to preach a funeral sermon in memory of his predecessor. Another circumstance is now recalled with sad pleasure by the friends of the deceased. On the Wednesday evening preceding the Friday on which he died, he attended the weekly prayer meeting, and in the course of an impressive address remarked, referring to the recent death by drowning of a member of the church, that he thanked God there was such a thing as sudden death and he could pray for it. His own death, caused by rupture of the aorta, was almost instantaneous.

Dr. C. was a native of Northamptonshire, England, was baptized at 17 years of age, and soon commenced to preach the Gospel in the villages around his native place. He came to America when 24 years of age, opened a school in Quebec, spent some time as a teacher in various stations, and was ordained in Chingacousy. He was pastor successively of churches in Lockport, New York, in Roxbury, Charlestown and in Boston. He spent 19 years in New England. He last pastorate in Toronto was abundantly blessed.

His talents were solid rather than shining. He was eminently practical and judicious. So far as brief opportunities for observation enable me to judge, I should say he was remarkably free from any fondness for display or notoriety. What greatly endeared him to all classes amongst friends and acquaintances was his eminent kindness of heart. He was ever ready to sympathize with every one's distresses. An aged minister who knew him well remarked to me that he was never known to engage in warm controversy with any one. It seems