

The Christian Messenger.

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{ WHOLE SERIES. }
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Poetry.

PRAYER ANSWERED IN DISAPPOINTMENT.

"One jewel more," I asked, "to make me glad."
He took the one I had."
"Come quickly, Lord, and heal this wounded heart!"
Still more he made it smart.
"At length from trouble bid my soul repose."
Yet thicker came the blues.
"Grant me a life of active zeal," I said.
He laid me on sick-bed.
I asked to soar in sunlight as the lark.
But groped on dull and dark.
"At least, give peace in victory over sin."
More loud grew battle's din.
"Oh, let me rest with thee in pastures green!"
Only steep crags are seen.
"Why wilt thou keep me, dear Lord, dost prune me so?"
"That grace may quicker grow."
"Why in my portion mix such bitter leaven?"
"To fit thee more for heaven."
"Lord, take thy way with me, thy way, not mine."
"My child! all things are thine—
All in the end, though grievous, shall prove best,
And then—eternal rest."
Newman Hall.

Religious.

CANADIAN BAPTIST ANNIVERSARIES.

The Annual gatherings of the Baptist Missionary Convention of Ontario were held at Aylmer on the 15th October and following days. The new Baptist Church there in which the meetings were held is a handsome edifice, capable of accommodating 1000 persons.

The Church Edifice Society was the first in order. From the Annual Report it appears that since the organization of the Society 11 churches have been assisted in the liquidation of their debt, or in the erection of new places of worship, in sums averaging for each Church a little over \$293, or in the aggregate, \$3,225. The loans issued since last annual meeting have been \$675. The present financial state of the Society is as follows:—Due from Churches, \$3,192 50; unpaid subscriptions, \$513. Balance in hands of Treasurer, \$255. The assets are thus: \$3,708.

The Home Missionary Convention came next. During the year there were 38 missionaries employed at 113 stations; the average congregations comprising in the aggregate 8,740. These missionaries have preached 3,818 sermons, and have received appropriations from the Board of \$4,563 75, while the churches to which they have ministered have paid them in the form of salary \$7,978 20. The number of members in the mission churches is reported to be 2,110. The number of persons baptized during the year by the missionaries is 174. Between 1856 and 1872 seventy-four new chapels have been built. The work of the Society has now become so extensive that it is in contemplation, to engage a travelling secretary who shall devote his entire time to visiting the mission stations, raising monies, exploring new locations, &c.

The following is the resolution passed referring to this matter.

Resolved—"That we proceed to the appointment of a Secretary and Superintendent of Missions at a salary of \$600, whose duty shall be to devote six months of the year to the work of conducting the correspondence of the Convention, visiting the Mission-fields, organizing plans for the raising of money, and generally supervising the Home Mission Work.

Subsequently the Rev. Wm. Stewart, of Toronto, was unanimously elected to that office.

A conference on Sabbath Schools was next held at which it was resolved to take steps for the formation of a Provincial Baptist Sabbath School Convention. Rev. Dr. Hurd preached an able sermon on the 16th from Isaiah lv. 11. "As the rain cometh down, &c."

On the following day Rev. Dr. Fyfe reported on the

MISSION TO MANITOBA

that the Committee had succeeded in securing the services of Rev. A. McDonald of Sparta for the Mission who was regarded as eminently qualified for being the pioneer missionary who will proceed to the North West next Spring. The Committee was reappointed.

The Committee appointed to compile a New Hymn book reported, and they were directed to go on and complete the work.

In the evening a platform

FOREIGN MISSIONARY MEETING

was held.

The Rev. J. E. Clough of the Telooogo Mission gave a speech of great interest. Mr. C. was enthusiastically received by the large audience who had come to hear him. He said he was glad of the privilege of being with them on this occasion—glad for his own sake, glad for the sake of the brethren who were at this moment labouring among the Telooogos, glad for the sake of the 25,000 converts whom God had granted to their prayers and labours, and glad for the sake of the millions of Telooogos who were still sitting in the midst of heathen darkness. He would like to say a word or two about the people among whom their society was operating. In complexion the Telooogos were black or olive.

The farmers, labourers or those who might be designated coolies, and who worked mostly in the open air, were jet black, while those whose employment was in-doors were of an olive complexion. Though black, they were not Africans. Were a phrenologist blindfold, to pass his hand over the heads of a hundred Telooogos and Europeans he couldn't distinguish the one from the other. The great mass of these Hindoos were degraded to the lowest level in the social scale. Nevertheless, many of them are sharp shrewd fellows who are quite capable of over-reaching even a Yankee. It is far more difficult to preach to them than to an audience in this country. The Brahmins are continually on the watch to get the preacher into a trap by proposing some subtle question, and unless he is on his guard and able to turn the tables on his questioner, the derision of the whole audience is turned upon him. It is a popular fallacy to suppose that these people are ignorant of art and science. Three thousand years ago they understood algebra, astronomy, rhetoric, logic, &c.; they could calculate eclipses of the sun without the appliances of modern astronomy. In architecture they rivalled anything found in Europe. They were called the Yankees of India. Their religion is a compound of superstition and prejudice. They will believe anything but the truth. He gave an example. News had come down from Ongole that the Government had sent a number of scientific men to watch an eclipse of the sun. The natives reported that the English had erected a tower 60 miles high, and that they were going to catch the eclipse, (which the natives believed to be a great snake about the sun trying to swallow all that luminary up) and bury it in a hole in the earth, so that the Hindoos should be troubled no more with eclipses. Brahma; Vishnu and Seva were their principal deities; but they have 350 millions of inferior gods. In fact they worship everything by which they obtain a livelihood. The farmer worships his plough, the carpenter his tools, &c. They believe in the transmigration of souls, and their fatalism hardens their hearts against the sorrows and afflictions of their fellows, while caste, like a great upas-tree, sheds a deadly blight on all classes. When he went into the Telooogo field nine years ago the prospects were very dark. Many of the English residents regarded a mission among this people as foolish and absurd. They had no confidence in missions. But God's time came at last—their labour among that people had been eminently successful; 2,500 of

these had been converted. The progress of the Gospel among them was positively marvellous, and had astonished Christians at home. But what were their prospects now? Everything they could wish. The demand on the part of this people for missionaries was such as almost to lead him to pray that, for the present, at least, the Lord would give them no more converts, for they could not take care of them. The railways that now intersected the country were doing more than any other agency to break down caste. But they wanted Christians in this country to help them with men and money. He had promised the natives, who were very unwilling to allow him to leave India, to raise \$50,000 in America, and to send out three new missionaries. Mr. C. closed a long and interesting address by calling on the friends of missions to give their money and prayers in aid of this important and flourishing mission.

The following is a summary of the Foreign Missionary accounts of the past year.

Dr.	
Balance in hand.....	\$194 19
Received during the year....	2136 08
Balance due Treasurer.....	28 33
Total.....	\$2658 60
Cr.	
Paid Parent Society.....	\$2620 00
Translation of Telooogo	
Scriptures.....	10 00
Printing and Postage.....	20 00
Bank Commission.....	8 60
	\$2658 60

At the close of the meeting, Dr. Fyfe asked the audience to remain for a little, and in a suitable speech, on behalf of the brethren, presented Dr. Davidson who had been the Secretary of the Home Missionary Society for the past fifteen years, with a gold chronometer worth \$125.00.

The annual meeting of the Superannuated Ministers' Society, was held on Friday forenoon. The report was a very interesting document, setting forth the large amount of good that the Society has been permitted to accomplish during the few years of its existence. It has now a capital of over \$12,000, which ought, however, to be increased to \$20,000 as soon as possible. A much larger number of churches than usual had made collections for it during the past year. Three new applications were considered and granted, thus necessitating a larger income for the coming year. The officers for the year are Hon. W. McMaster, President, Rev. J. Dempsey, Secretary, and W. Craig, Treasurer.

The evening meeting was on behalf of the Canadian Literary Institute, at Woodstock, which is in a highly flourishing condition under the able management of Rev. Dr. Fyfe.

It is found impossible to accommodate within the walls of the institution all the applicants for admission. An additional wing to the main building is therefore in process of erection.

The chair was occupied by C. Raymond, Esq., of Guelph, and prayer was offered by Rev. Joseph Clutton. An able and interesting paper was read by Dr. Fyfe on the material, intellectual and spiritual prosperity of the Institute. The following resolution was then moved by Rev. C. Walker, seconded by Dr. Davidson, and unanimously adopted:

Being fully aware of the importance of providing adequate intellectual, moral and religious training for those who are destined to become mothers of the future generation, and under whose maternal influence the youthful and plastic mind is to be moulded, either for good or evil, this meeting heartily rejoices that, with the aid of a gracious providence, our brethren, in connection with the Canadian Literary Institute, have been enabled to make very considerable additions to their building, and especially for the accommodation of female pupils; and it is hereby resolved that our brethren engaged in this good work shall have our hearty and prayerful co-operation.

Addresses were also delivered by Revs. A. McDonald, of Sparta, and Dr. Cooper, of London. A further resolution expressing gratitude for the work accomplished in educating young brethren for the ministry and pledging

the meeting to increased support of this indispensable work, was moved by Prof. Crawford, seconded by Rev. J. Mackie, and supported by Rev. J. L. Campbell.

Next year the meetings are to be held at Brantford.

ENGLISH BAPTIST UNION.

The last English Mail brought us the account of the proceedings at the Annual Session of the English Baptist Union. The meeting were held at Manchester. This great manufacturing centre has not been so historically famous in connection with the Baptist denomination as the places in which the autumnal sessions of the Union have been held for the past four years—Bristol, Leicester, Cambridge and Northampton. Each of those large towns have their own story to tell of Baptist worthies and their struggles and triumphs. Manchester has several Baptist churches. The Union Chapel in which the various meetings of the Union were held dates from 1842 and combines the latest American conveniences and comforts in the interior, with an exterior in the most approved style of Italian Architecture, and will comfortably seat 1200 people whilst 1500 may be easily crowded into it.

After the preliminary devotional exercises, Dr. Underhill delivered an able and powerful address on "The present prospects of India in a Missionary Aspect."

Addresses were afterwards given by ministers from various parts of the country.

A Designation Service followed, of three missionaries, who were shortly to proceed to India on missionary work—Rev. J. Anderson, who had been home from there on a furlough of two years, Rev. G. H. Rouse who had also previously labored there, and Mr. St. Dalmas who had been recently accepted by the Committee. Each of these brethren gave addresses on the position they occupied and the motives by which they were being actuated in resuming or entering upon the work.

The Rev. GEORGE PEARCE, who had recently come from Calcutta (where he had laboured for the long period of fifty years) than gave a short address. He had come home only because threatened with the total loss of his eyesight; and if God should restore his sight he was willing to go back again. (Cheers.) He did not despair of the work of the Lord in India; on the contrary, he believed there would be a great manifestation of Divine grace in that country before long.

The Rev. C. M. BIRRELL then engaged in prayer on behalf of the brethren going to India, after which he proceeded to address them in a characteristic and profoundly impressive style, solemnly pronouncing and handing over to them the golden words of our Lord, "Lo, I am with you." He showed how their Lord would be with them—(1) as a Saviour; (2) as an example; and (3) as a leader.

The Rev. Dr. STEANE then engaged in prayer; and at a few minutes after 2 o'clock this most interesting and successful missionary conference came to a close.

Seventy of the delegates were afterwards, along with the missionaries, entertained at dinner in one of the ante-rooms of Union Chapel, and a pleasant hour spent in friendly intercourse, with a few informal speeches from several of the brethren.

On Wednesday morning 850 delegates had been reported, representing about 700 churches.

At seven o'clock in the morning a prayer meeting was held in Grosvenor-street Chapel, at which the Rev. S. Chapman, Glasgow, presided. The session in Union Chapel was also opened by a devotional service, which was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Underhill; special prayer was offered for the Pastor's Augmentation Fund and the Education Board. After the de-

votional service, the Rev. Dr. Thomas took the chair.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The President, on rising, was received with applause. He said the denomination to which they belonged had always been a sect spoken against everywhere. If all things were duly considered it might be confidently affirmed that no party in Christendom had given proof of loftier principles, larger views, or a more expansive charity. The subject on which he spoke was "The Baptists and Christian Union." The whole denomination in Wales seemed to be settled down into moderate Calvinism, accepting in substance the views advocated by our great Andrew Fuller. The breaches of former times had been well nigh repaired in the spirit of truth and love. The associational principle, also, had now taken complete possession of the Christian population of that part of our country. If funds could be obtained for one efficient college in Wales, with a larger staff of competent professors, and 50 or 60 students, with higher qualifications for admission, he thought it would be more in harmony with the spirit of the times. (Hear.) He took a general survey of the wide field embraced by the Baptist Union. In former times their churches were less united in heart and action than they were in the present generation. They were formerly somewhat isolated, lacking the bond of visible union and strength, with doctrinal differences which caused coldness and alienation; but the violent controversies of the past had subsided, and the Particular Baptists throughout the kingdom (though not to the same extent as in Wales) acquiesced in the evangelical principles of modern Calvinism, and the number and influence of brethren who held extreme views of doctrine was apparently diminishing. While they had much cause for gratitude and joy in the visible unity and co-operation of parties more or less identified with the great body of Particular Baptists, they referred with peculiar pleasure and satisfaction to the present position and relations of the General Baptist Denomination, and the history of the origin and growth of that body within about a century. On both sides there seemed to be an earnest desire for closer union and fellowship. Why, then, should not the Union, without further delay, initiate some practicable measure of comprehension on the broad principles which they held in common, and under the appropriate name of Baptists—(applause), allowing full liberty as to views of doctrine more or less general or particular.

The Rev. SAMUEL GREEN moved, and the Rev. Mr. WALTERS, Birmingham, seconded, the appointment of Dr. Edward B. Underhill, secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, as next president, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

AUGMENTATION FUND.

The Rev. CHAS. WILLIAMS (Accrington) gave an abstract of the Pastors' Income Augmentation Society. He said—This society was established to assist churches in providing an adequate and honourable maintenance for their ministers. At present it confines its grants to churches which give salaries of not less than £60 or more than £120 to their pastors. Of the 1,113 associated churches 742 pay stipends from £120 downwards, the average being £75 a year, the remaining 371 paying stipends upwards of £120. The society divides its income equally between the participating pastors, the dividend this year amounting to £20. The income during the last three years was more than trebled, and the hope was expressed that in the course of a few years the whole of the 1,113 associated churches would be confederated together in this mutually helpful organization.

BAPTIST PROGRESS.

The Rev. Dr. ANGUS read a paper on "Our Progress," based on the statistical and spiritual condition of the