

probably neither. But apparently the Greeks can claim for their church and chapel the greater antiquity, the likelihood possibility."

For the Christian Messenger.

A SUGGESTION.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I very much wish that many of your readers would write for the *Messenger* articles on Faith, Hope and Charity, how and upon what truths they act, and how react, according to scripture and according to their own experience. I wish this because I feel sure it would be useful to many of your readers, and profitable to the writers themselves. It would doubtless help the writers to read, say in a concordance, passages under the heads of Faith, Belief, Trust, Hope, Charity, Love to God, God's love to man, The manifestation of His love to those who love him, and its effects as found under the heads of Holy Spirit, Justification, Peace, Joy, Heaven, Salvation, &c. &c.

And now friends lose no time, for the day is far spent, and the church, and the world, are suffering the lack of the knowledge of the nature and of the value of Faith, Hope, and Charity. These riches of God's glorious grace; are matters of study, under the guidance of wisdom from above, the most interesting and most profitable that either the child or the man in Christ Jesus can employ their minds upon.

Yours ever,

A. B. C.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., July 9, 1873.

As many of our readers will be anxious to learn what was done at the Annual Meeting of the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society, we publish the official Minutes together with a brief extract from the Report as follows:

SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society was held at Bridgewater on Monday, June 30th. The President, Bro. S. Selden, in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. S. March. After opening remarks by the President, in absence of the Secretary, the Report of the Board was read by Rev. S. B. Kempton.

The Report showed that "during the year 21 Missionaries had been employed, who report 348 weeks' labor performed; 782 sermons delivered; 393 Prayer and Conference meetings attended; 2107 family visits made; 7921 pages of tracts distributed; and 66 baptisms, being an increase over last year in the number baptized of about one hundred per cent."

The Report proceeds, "These statistics however but imperfectly shew what has been accomplished by the missionaries. The accompanying extracts from letters received indicate that the seed has been faithfully sown, and while some fruit has appeared, much yet remains to be gathered in, and the future only will reveal the actual results of the missionaries' toil. There is much reason for encouragement from what we do know has been done, but the necessity for continued and increasing effort on behalf of the destitute in our Home Mission fields is still imperative."

On motion it was Resolved, That a list of the delegates and members of the Society be entered on the Minutes.

They were as follows:

Granville Street Church.—Rev. E. M. Saunders, Bro. S. Selden, John Rhuland and Alex. Robinson.

Lunenburg.—Bro. G. Langille.

2nd Halifax.—Rev. J. F. Avery and Bro. J. C. Dunaresq.

2nd Cornwallis.—Rev. E. O. Read.

1st Cornwallis.—Rev. S. B. Kempton.

Members in their own right.—Revds. Jas. Parker, I. J. Skinner, S. March, D. M. Welton, W. E. Hall, T. A. Higgins, J. L. Read, D. Freeman, J. F. Kempton, J. F. Murray, Bro. F. Webber, (life member), Geo. O. Gates, John McLearn, Chas. A. Webber, W. J. Gates, M. Curry, Jos. Parker, M. Kinsman, Wm. Faulkner, C. Kennedy, Edward Parker.

On motion it was Resolved, That the Reports of the Secretary, and also of the Treasurer, after being audited, be accepted and printed under the direction of the Board.

The following resolution was moved by Rev. S. March, seconded, and adopted.

Whereas, in the view of the action of the Eastern Association last year in the subject of the Home Missionary Union and of the

acceptance of the principle of Union by this Society at its annual meeting last year at Truro,

And whereas, in view of the modifications made in the Constitution of the Union made at its late annual meeting at Bridgewater, and of the action of the Western Association, and its acceptance of the Union as now constituted, and of the action of the Central Association at its present meeting at Bridgewater, and of its acceptance thereof,

Therefore Resolved, That this Society, comply with the request of the Nova Scotia Home Missionary Union as presented by its delegate, and that the Board of this Society be hereby directed, after all liabilities are met, and this Society is legally empowered to transfer its funds to the Union, and the Union is, by Incorporation, legally qualified to receive them, to transfer its funds to the Union to be employed by it for the purposes for which they were donated, and to pass over all books and records to the Librarian of Acadia College, and request him to put them in the Library for safe keeping.

On motion it was Resolved,—That the officers of the Society and the Board of Managers be the same as last year, substituting the names of I. J. Skinner, for that of Dr. Cramp, John Rhuland for that of Alexander Robinson, by request, and the addition of Rev. J. F. Avery.

On motion it was Resolved, That the Board be located at Halifax for the ensuing year.

On motion it was Resolved, That the tabular statement prepared by Rev. E. M. Saunders be attached to and published with the Minutes, and that he receive the thanks of the body therefor.

After Prayer by Brother G. O. Gates, the Session adjourned to meet with the Eastern Association next year.

THE N. B. WESTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

held its annual session on Thursday the 26th ult., and following days, at Kewick. Rev. T. H. Porter was chosen Moderator; and Revds. Calvin Goodspeed, and J. W. Manning, Secretaries. Two new churches were received into the Association.—Zion Church at Carleton, and Olvet Church at Otuabog.

Foreign Missions called forth deep interest, the brethren W. F. Armstrong and George Churchill, missionaries elect were present, and presented the general claims of the heathen world, and the special call made by Siam for carrying the gospel to its benighted people, and invited the active and generous co-operation of the churches in carrying to their fellowmen the glorious gospel of the Blessed God. Rev. Dr. Sawyer spoke briefly on the position of the Mission, and the relation of the three brethren—two of whom were at the meeting—chosen and appointed for this great and momentous work. Rev. W. B. Boggs, gave an historical sketch of the Mission work of the churches of these provinces. Rev. Mr. Pope pastor elect of the church in Leinster Street, St. John, gave a warm earnest address on the subject.

The N. B. Baptist Education Society held a meeting at 8 o'clock on Friday morning, and discussed the question of selling the Seminary at Fredericton. Brethren W. P. Everett, G. M. W. Carey, C. Goodspeed, and B. N. Hughes took part in the discussion. At 10 o'clock the Associational Sermon was preached by the Rev. T. H. Porter the Moderator, from Matt. xviii. 15-18: "subject 'Christ's method of treating offences.'" The Circular Letter on "The duty of the hour" was read by the writer Rev. W. B. Boggs.

In the afternoon session the Seminary question was again brought forward, and spoken to by Rev. Thos. Saunders, and Rev. W. P. Everett. The resolutions agreed to at the meeting previously held at Fredericton were submitted and approved by the Association by a vote of 48 to 5. The effect of which will be that the Seminary will be forthwith offered for sale.

A public Educational Meeting was held on Friday evening. Addresses of much earnestness and power delivered by Revds. W. P. Everett, C. Goodspeed, Turner and Sykes, and by Dr. Sawyer, President of Acadia College. The absolute and immediate necessity of making provision for ministerial training of the highest possible character in our own provinces was dwelt on and enforced especially by the first named speaker.

The Home Mission Report described the sad, destitute condition of many parts of the country and the loud calls for missionaries coming from every quarter.

It was agreed that the time of meeting next year be the fourth Tuesday in June at 2 p. m.—instead of Thursday at 10 a. m.—at Jacksonville.

This Associational gathering was one of much harmony and accompanied by warm devotional exercises giving promise of future life and progress.

THE N. S. CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

The Baptist Church at Bridgewater has for several years, invited this Association to hold an Annual Session with them, but other places have been chosen, not so far distant from most of the churches, until 1872, when the invitation so kindly given was accepted. The session was held on Saturday the 28th ult., and following days.—Travelling by railway is a luxury now so commonly enjoyed that a day's journey by driving is hardly to be borne. However, starting at 6 o'clock in the morning enabled us to reach the scene of action, said to be 75 miles, by about 9 o'clock in the evening. Part of the road is pretty good, but there is much room for improvement on a large portion. On arrival we found a number of warm hearts all ready to give us a hearty welcome. Not being present at the opening meeting we had to depend on what we learned. The number of ministers and delegates was not so large as it is when the place of meeting is nearer the centre of the Association. The character of the meeting was not however at all injuriously affected by this circumstance for we cannot call to remembrance any session of the body in which there was more of harmony and good feeling, and but few in which a devotional spirit more generally prevailed.

We mentioned in our last the preachers on Lord's Day and the previous proceedings. It is seldom that so few delegates are present from the Western Association, there being but two ministers, Rev. P. R. Foster, and Rev. A. Cohoon, and two other brethren Dr. Randal, and J. B. Kinney.

The following brethren were appointed delegates to the Eastern Association, Revds. Dr. Sawyer, Dr. Crawley, T. A. Higgins, J. F. Murray and Bro. S. Selden.

On Wednesday afternoon various reports of Committees were received. The following is the one on Denominational Literature.

DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.

We as your committee desire to express our sense of the great importance, and need of using the press, that might engine for good or evil, turning it as much as possible to supply information respecting the operations of our denomination and to disseminating the truths we hold so dear.

The *Christian Messenger* we believe is doing good service and by careful piloting, with the support of our brethren, may do much to instruct the people in the things and ways of God.

We also think much good might be accomplished by means of the circulation of tracts, care being taken in the selection and writing of the same, to see that therein nothing but Christ be lifted up, and one Faith, one Lord, one Baptism clearly defined.

If Colportage and Mission work could be combined, it appears to us that the visits of such an agency would be welcome in many an outlying district, and the sale of cheap, but good sound literature the means of enlightenment and blessing long after the herald has gone to sow in other fields. We feel that the books must be interesting, aiming at the moral and spiritual advancement of the people, and that at first no great profit could be obtained from such sales, but that in time such sales would increase, and as a greater interest awakened both in the vendor and his wares, and who can tell the results that will follow the bearing of such precious seed from door to door among the scattered home-lands?

But this we do know, if we sow thus in hope, it will please the Lord of the harvest, and the ingathering shall not be small if he cause the increase; which we all might beg for Jesus' sake.

J. F. AVERY, Chairman.

The following Report of the Committee on Mission was read and laid on the table.

MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions beg to report that the prospects of the Independent Mission to Siam, inaugurated a year ago, are encouraging. Three men and five women—eight in all—will leave for that field this fall, and the funds necessary to send them are now in the Treasury, or will be by the time of their departure. The fact that the Baptists of these Provinces have taken upon themselves the entire work under God of supporting and conducting this mission will doubtless have the effect more and more of developing the missionary spirit, and the mission resources of the denomination. The Women's Missionary Aid Societies have performed important service during the

past year, and it is hoped that the aid which these societies have shown themselves capable of rendering, will be greatly increased in the future.

Your Committee heartily favor the principle of union and concentration in our Domestic Missions, and recommend that the Constitution of the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Union, as recently modified and amended by the union, and adopted by the Western Association, be adopted by this Association. God in his Providence is opening effectual doors in both the Home and Foreign field. God grant that the Baptists of these Provinces may arise and enter them.

D. M. WELTON,
Chairman.

Rev. E. M. Saunders as the delegation from the N. S. Baptist Home Missionary Union laid the case of the Union before the Association, and the action taken at the recent annual session at Bridgewater, also the action of the Western Association in relation to the Union in deciding to pass over its Missionary operations to that body. A lengthy discussion followed concerning the action to be taken on this report.

We were of opinion that in order to secure entire harmony and unanimity of action between the two Associations—the Central and Eastern—heretofore combined so beneficially in Mission work, the Eastern Association should be again asked to acquiesce before finally handing over to the Union the mission work and responsibilities of the Central churches.

As however such a course did not commend itself to the brethren we withdrew a motion made to that effect and submitted the following:

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the adjourned meeting of the Home Missionary Union, to be held at Windsor in August, to make Denominational Literature a separate Department of the Union, on behalf of which special appeals may be made and funds provided for the work of colportage."

The brethren were unwilling to adopt this and passed the report of the Committee without amendment. We therefore requested that the motion might be recorded on the minutes. This was readily granted.

The Evening Session was a general Missionary Meeting. Addresses of much fervour and appropriateness were delivered on behalf of Missionary work in its different aspects.

Brother Rufus Sanford, one of the missionaries elect, spoke of his experience in relation to the Mission work, the earnest desire he had long felt to be made the instrument of imparting gospel blessings to the heathen, and how he had been sorely exercised while a student; but that since he had resolved on going, the darkness had all cleared away and he now felt more joy in the anticipation of his work than he could express. He invited all the brethren to co-operate as far as they were able, and he believed that in doing so they would have the Divine blessing upon them.

Rev. J. F. Avery said he had offered himself for missionary work when he was 16 years of age, but being too young he was not accepted, yet he had determined to engage in service for Christ in England. He expressed the pleasure and satisfaction he felt in coming to labor in this country. He had felt that there were many fields in Great Britain but having had his attention turned to Nova Scotia, he, in opposition to the advice of many friends, had come; and felt more and more that he had been rightly directed in so doing, and stated that his expectations of the people and place had been more than realized.

Rev. J. F. Kempton said although he had been disappointed in his desire to labor in the foreign field, yet he had not ceased to feel interested in that department of Christian labor, and felt that the glorious prospect opening up before us was full of encouragement that the nations of the earth would be brought to Christ. The raising up of three men so well suited to go forth on our behalf should inspire us with confidence that it is God's intention to greatly bless us in our work at home and abroad.

Rev. W. G. Parker always felt the missionary breeze warmed his heart and made him feel better prepared to labor at home. He would be glad to have it blow upon him every day. He fully believed that God would bless the churches while they were endeavouring to send the genial influences of the gospel to the dark abodes of wretchedness and sin.

Rev. James Parker believed this was

a time when God meant to try our faith. God had directed all the operations hitherto. He wrought on the hearts of Judson and Carey and through them brought great blessings on all who gave themselves to the work in which they were engaged. The obstructions that appeared when those men started out had been removed, and now every land is open to Christian labor. The trials that Baptists had passed through in former years had given them strength and preparation for carrying the truth every where. He had known brother Sanford from his early boyhood and had long cherished the hope that he would eventually become a missionary to the heathen.

Rev. A. Cohoon had long been acquainted with the missionary, Brother Sanford, and had known the struggle he had endured previous to his determination to devote himself to that work, and had witnessed the joy of which he had spoken. He (Mr. C.) believed that the desire to sustain an Independent mission which had animated the churches of this province for the past forty years, are now about being realized for more of permanency than ever before. He believed this was a work that belonged to all and if one, two, or three, are called to go, the rest were called to labor at home and hold up their hands, systematic giving would enable the people to raise an amount fully equal to all the demands.

Rev. E. M. Saunders spoke to the sisters present and encouraged them by noticing the peculiar adaptation of the organization of Women's Mission Aid Societies to call forth all their benevolence, and to stimulate the brethren in efforts to do good in this way.

Rev. S. B. Kempton spoke of the Missionary enterprise as a paying concern. If a commercial speculation were found to yield a good percentage, all-like to participate in it, so should it be with this work, whatever it is put into it gives an ample return. He noticed the devotedness of some of the parties engaged as missionaries, and with another brother, he noted that Foreign Missionaries were generally made from the best Christian material in the churches.

The meeting was pronounced by all as one of the best ever attended by any present.

Tuesday morning was appropriated principally to Education matters. Rev. T. A. Higgins read an excellent report from the Committee on the subject. Speeches of much power were delivered by several of the brethren.

Rev. D. Freeman showed that the education obtained by the aged ministers was of a more practical and valuable kind than that received in the schools, but we need a more rapid process of development for the young men now. The College was at this day the back bone of all the evangelical operations of the churches. The ministers themselves must take hold of the College and show their people the necessity of its being well sustained and it would then be supported. The Ladies' department in the Academy was but paying a debt long withheld from them, and he hoped to see it continued and greatly enlarged.

Revds. T. C. Delong, Jas. Parker, T. A. Higgins, Joseph Murray, and A. Cohoon also spoke ably and well on behalf of the College and its management.

Other reports were presented and the routine business of the Association attended to, till the close of the morning session, when the hearty thanks of the visiting brethren were given to the friends at Bridgewater, and the Session closed with prayer by Rev. T. C. Delong. The Moderator pronounced the benediction.

In addition to all the kind attention shown to the delegates at Bridgewater, the proprietors of the steamer *LaHave* invited them to a trip down the river in the afternoon. About a hundred availed themselves of the invitation and enjoyed the beauties of the scenery on the banks of this most beautiful of Nova Scotia rivers. We passed down about 12 miles to the "Alpine" Mills. On the banks are piles of lumber waiting for shipment. Mr. Benjamin's mills are one of the most extensive.

We regret that our limited time prevented our visiting them, and examining the vast works by which this establishment is surrounded and carried on. We shall not soon forget the successful race of the pastor's son with the steamer, the hymns and spiritual songs by which the time was filled up, and all the pleasant memories of our visit to the Association at Bridgewater.