

neither would grow without irrigation. No wagon roads, nor any of the conveniences of life. But now a different picture presents itself, for everywhere are seen evidences of thrift and progress. The cattle, sheep and horses are dispersed, and this great valley is cut up into hundreds of farms, with good fences. Highways cross each other at short distances. Hand-some residences dot the landscape, and instead of the *adobe*, or mud-wall cottages, now we have the most handsome mansions. The great gang plow drawn by five or eight horses will turn up more land in a day than a Mexican would in a month. Orange orchards and deciduous trees are seen by the million and grapes raised by the ton. Instead of harvesting with the knife the heads of the grain are clipped off with a great machine pushed by four horses, and the steam engine to thrash the grain passes through the field as a thing of life, gathering in the straw as it goes for fuel to keep up the steam, requiring no wood or coal, the grain being sacked at the same time and left in the field till sent to market for weeks without fear of rain or storm. Along the middle of the valley rush along the steam-cars, the same route by which the pioneers drove their slow teams to this ocean market from Salt Lake to purchase their goods. Los Angeles being the nearest market, it was not uncommon to see camped here in those days 400 teams from the Mormon City. One of the first things which attracted our attention was the large team of mules bringing Bullion from the mines. This team consisted of eleven hundred mules stretched along the line of road, a portion of which entered the city every day with the greatest regularity; but now the Iron horse performs the labour; and all these great changes, with many others too numerous to mention, have taken place within a short term, not to mention our net-work of street cars, which ply to various parts of the city, filled with passengers, by which one can go to any part of the city for ten cents. All these airs of a great city being put on and only about 16,000 inhabitants. Alas, the vices of men flourish also; the richest soil bears the rankest weeds; the sin of Sodom was caused by "idleness and fullness of bread." An exodus of our citizens has taken place as usual to the sea-side where every facility is afforded for spending the summer months. Ample bathing establishments, not surpassed in any State in the Union. So much for the "City-by-the-Sea," Santa Monica, the wonderful young city and sea-port of South California, the future terminus of the Union and Texas Pacific Railroad. In July, 1875, the first lots were sold. Since then hundreds of city lots have been sold, several hundred buildings have been erected, and the town now contains a population of about one thousand people.

Begging pardon for trespassing on your time and patience I will conclude with a word of advice to miners who wish to come to California, which is precisely what we have said before. Don't come out here unless you have plenty of means, as it is not a poor man's country, and those who possess means can live very happily in Nova Scotia amongst a people every way far superior to the cosmopolitan character of the inhabitants of California, for every nation under heaven have representatives here, and the climate and everything is vastly different here, and the probability is that Nova Scotians would not be pleased with the noise and rush of California life; too fast, I fear, for a people who are not demoralized as yet; but, of course, they must act on their own judgment.

W. HOBBS.

For the Christian Messenger.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT. THE "RINE" METHOD AND THE DUNKIN ACT. THE ABUNDANT HARVEST. EDUCATIONAL MATTERS. THE TWELFTH IN MONTREAL, &c.

The temperance movement is advancing along two distinct lines in Western Ontario at present. The "Rine" method is accomplishing wonderful results, at least temporarily, and we cannot but believe that a certain percentage of those results must endure. This method is simply the old "pledge" system. By the magnetism of downright earnestness, Mr. Rine and his supporters are daily bringing large numbers of all classes of people in our cities and towns to subscribe to a simple pledge that "God helping them" they will abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. By this means wonders have already been accom-

plished in Toronto and other places in the way of restoring the drunkard to his senses and renovating wretched homes. To the constant objection that the pledge will be broken the reply is that even a temporary restoration to manhood and a little taste of respectability and domestic happiness are worth something, and that those who fall can sign again. Where there is everything to gain and nothing to lose experiments are surely allowable.

The other method is the Dunkin Act agitation. This act is undoubtedly defective but as involving the principle of prohibition is thought well worth trying. An attempt is shortly to be made to pass the necessary bye-law in Toronto. The prospect is dubious. The fight will be a hard one but the friends of the measure are thoroughly in earnest and will struggle manfully. May they not have the chagrin of those in Oxford who after carrying the bye-law by means of the most strenuous effort, had to see it set aside on a mere legal technicality. They mean to do the work better next time.

The crop prospect is now excellent, on the whole. The season has been very favorable for most of our staples and there is now good reason to hope that the "harvest home" may soon be shouted over barns full of the kindly fruits of the earth.

Want of time has prevented me from following with any degree of attention, the proceedings of our numerous Associations. Your exchanges have no doubt enabled you to see what has been and is being done. The various denominational societies and agencies are pressing home their respective claims with great zeal and pertinacity. There is much need of this, for under the pressure of the "hard times" the coffers have been but scantily supplied of late.

We are rapidly approaching a crisis in our educational affairs. Hitherto contributions have been asked and given entirely for the support of the Theological Department. But with the recent advances in the curriculum the Literary Department can no longer hope to be self-sustaining. If full collegiate work is to be done an Endowment must shortly be forthcoming. Whether the people are educated up to the point of endowing a College proper remains to be seen. Of their readiness to support the Theological Department there can be no doubt, but it may not be easy to convince all that the two must stand or fall together.

So far as appears money is now the thing needed in order to place the Institute in a most favorable position and enable it to do an excellent work. It has from the first been affiliated in name with Toronto University, but hitherto it has been hard to see that the affiliation existed in more than name. Some months since the Trustees and Faculty of the Institute united in pressing upon the attention of the Senate of Toronto University three requests which had been informally made before, but never granted. These requests were for

I. Local examinations at affiliated colleges.

II. Special examinations for women.

III. A system of identification of the papers sent in which would conceal the names of students and colleges until values had been assigned to all the answers.

By dint of a little persistent pressure upon the *Senatus*, whose faith, by the way, in "one-horse" colleges, is not very strong, statutes have now been passed making full provision for the carrying out of each of these proposals. The consequence is that the Institute, and any other affiliated college that pleases, may henceforth have its students, of either sex, examined, classified, and when competent made recipients of the standing prizes, scholarships, degrees, &c of undoubtedly the best University in the Dominion, and one of the first on this continent, without any of the labor, or responsibility, connected with such examinations and the conferring of such honors and degrees. The new curriculum of the University is just issued. In its language departments the excellent method of constant change of books and authors is adopted. This obviates to a considerable extent the real objection to the Central University plan arising out of the monotonous sameness in higher education which must otherwise ensue. The very full provision for honor courses in the different departments, is another provision by which variety is attained. In the examinations for women the same question papers are to be used as in the regular University examinations, but candidates are not necessarily required to take the whole round of subjects.

The subjects of the various departments of any examination are arranged in groups, and ladies may select one, or several, or all the groups. Certificates and standings are given to the successful candidates and it is hoped that the Legislature will vote the wherewithal to add a liberal prize list. At the examinations for matriculation just closed, for the first time in the history of the University, two young ladies presented themselves, and I am glad to say, obtained creditable positions on the class lists, each gaining second class honors in two or three departments and one first class honors in German.

In one feature Toronto University differs from many others on this continent. Nothing in the curriculum is put down for show. The work prescribed and that exactly has to be prepared, and the examinations passed or ruthlessly "plucking" ensues. The Baptist Institute is just now pardonably proud of one of its former students who at his recent Second University examination achieved a feat without a parallel in the history of the University, by carrying off four scholarships and the Dufferin Medal. To stand first in three distinct departments classics, English and Modern Languages requires both work and talent of no ordinary type, as any one may see by examining the curriculum. A proficiency scholarship followed the three as a matter of course.

The recent sad and disgraceful doings in Montreal have sent a wave of excitement all over Ontario. Questions long in abeyance have been brought to the surface and will have to be decided. Party processions, however undesirable in themselves, cannot be put down either by legislation or by intimidation without tenfold worse evils resulting.

By weakly, or wickedly, as the case may be, pandering to the passions of a mob, Mayor Beaudry and his advisers, instead of securing the peace they hoped for, have reaped a present harvest of riot and murder, and made it tolerably certain that the inevitable conflict will be fought out next year, with intensified bitterness. Well will it be for Montreal and the lovers of law and freedom in the Dominion if the civic chair is at that time occupied by a man with head clear enough and heart sound enough to see and say that the right of peaceable procession, however bad the taste which prompts the procession, is one which must be maintained at all hazards and at any cost in the first city of the Dominion.

J. E. W.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., August 1st, 1877.

THE P. E. ISLAND BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

At this season of the year Prince Edward Island puts on its "beautiful garments." Fertile fields clothed with luxuriant crops of waving grain are seen in every direction. Under such circumstances a visit to the Island is peculiarly enjoyable.

The tenth annual meeting of the Island Baptist Association was held at Cavendish, beginning on Saturday, July 21st. The copious showers of rain which fell on the morning of that day did not prevent the brethren from assembling together and entering upon the proper business of the Association. Rev. J. I. DeWolfe was chosen as Moderator; Revs. D. H. Simpson and J. A. Gordon as clerks; and brethren James DesBrisay and B. F. Simpson as Treasurers. A short time was pleasantly and profitably spent in prayer and praise.

Several visiting brethren from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were present,—Revs. W. P. Everett, Thos. Todd, Geo. Armstrong, Isa. Wallace, W. H. Warren, M. P. Freeman, A. E. Ingram, and brethren C. H. Martell, and H. P. Shaffner, licentiates.

The letters from the various churches indicated that some progress has been made within the past twelve months in the dissemination of our doctrines throughout the Island. Upwards of one hundred baptisms were reported. The truth has been defended and promulgated; the artifices of wily opponents have been unmasked, their sophistry exposed, and their pretended arguments demolished. The outlook of our denomination on P. E. Island was never more hopeful and encouraging than it is at the present time.

Services were conducted on the Lord's Day at Cavendish by Revs. W. P. Everett, W. H. Warren and M. P. Freeman. The gatherings were so large that a considerable number of the people were obliged to betake them-

selves to a neighboring grove, where they were addressed by Revs. T. Todd, C. C. Burgess and other ministering brethren. Services were also held in adjacent settlements and at Charlottetown and Summerside.

An excellent practical sermon was preached by the Moderator on Monday morning on "The Power of a spiritually consistent Life." Then followed a carefully prepared and outspoken Circular Letter by Rev. J. A. Gordon. Both the sermon and letter will shortly appear in print. The topic of the latter was "Truth the only Basis of Christian Union."

The report on Education called forth stirring and eloquent addresses from a number of brethren. Acadia College has evidently warm-hearted supporters on P. E. Island. And rightly so, for no other part of the Maritime Provinces has received greater benefit from that institution. The present needs of the College were well presented by Revs. W. P. Everett, Isa. Wallace and T. Todd. Bro. Wallace, naturally sanguine, has become enthusiastic. He expects to do great things on P. E. Island. It is his purpose to visit all the churches on the Island before the meeting of the Convention at Wolfville.

The subject of Missions received deserved attention. Rev. W. H. Warren presented a condensed statement of the work accomplished during the past year by the Home Missionary Union. He showed not only what has been done but what remains to be done, and sought to awaken a spirit of more enlarged and systematic liberality, for the question of "ways and means" is one upon which the *Denomination*, rather than the H. M. Board, has to decide. It is folly to give little to the treasury and expect much in return.

Rev. W. P. Everett gave an excellent address. He called attention to the progress and prospects of our Foreign Missions. He also dwelt with much earnestness upon the necessity of adequately sustaining our Home Missionary enterprise, inasmuch as upon the welfare of this enterprise depends largely our success both in our work abroad and in our educational efforts at home. Revs. Isa. Wallace, T. Todd, J. A. Gordon and Bro. C. H. Martell followed with well timed and interesting addresses. The collections for Home Missions amounted to about \$70.00. The sum of \$22.00 was raised by special collection in response to Rev. R. Sanford's request for \$50.00 to build a chapel in the Jeypore district.

A session was held on Tuesday morning, when routine business was completed. The various reports were maturely considered and heartily adopted. Rev. C. C. Burgess was nominated to preach the sermon next year, Rev. D. H. Simpson being his alternate. The preparation of the Circular Letter was committed to Rev. D. G. Macdonald. The Association adjourned to meet next year at East Point.

On the whole it was a most pleasant harmonious and profitable Association. It is plain enough that our Island brethren have not in the slightest degree lost their interest in these important annual gatherings. We sincerely hope that their next anniversary will witness even larger and grander results.

CAMP MEETINGS do not appear to commend themselves wholly, as religious institutions, to the people of this Province. Our Methodist friends are the only body who have tried them here. They have been at large expense in providing a place—and a beautiful place it is—and in bringing attractive men to preach and to sing, but the results do not seem to have been quite equal to their expectations. The most noteworthy feature of the one held at Berwick a week or two since was the introduction of the Rev. Mr. Pentecost, from Boston. Being surrounded in Kings and Annapolis Counties by a community of Baptists, it was, perhaps, supposed that Mr. P., being a Baptist, would draw a large number of them to hear him, and he, being an open communionist, might do Methodist work, by infusing that heaven into the minds of the restricted communion churches of that neighborhood. The editor of the *Wesleyan*, whilst the meetings were in progress, pronounced Mr. P. "a settled Pastor in South Boston, holding there a position of great influence, and whose fame has been enhanced recently by a call which he made for freedom from the close communion of the Baptist Church, of which he is a distinguished ornament." In the same article our contemporary holds up Mr. Pentecost's personal appearance for the admiration of his readers. He speaks of his "stature," and says:—

"Our American brother is apparently

possessed of every bodily gift which can well come to ordinary men. For three days the crowd, always increasing, sat at Mr. Pentecost's feet, entranced by his wonderful, natural illustrations, rare insight of the Scriptures and fervid eloquence. Preachers were behind and around him weeping and smiling by turns. Mr. Stebbings took his full share too in the attraction. He is said to be equal to Sankey."

The editor on the same subject again on the following week, adds something to the picture he presents of Mr. Pentecost's physique, and says:—

"Dr. Pentecost's presence would afford provincialists an opportunity of hearing the class who, in the region of oratory, are moving the world to-day. Not one orator of ten can sustain a reputation for what we have learned to call power who has not begun to turn the scale at 200 pounds avoirdupois."

When reading this we could but wonder how much John Wesley weighed.

It is said that nearly 1,300 persons were present on Saturday afternoon. The editor speaks of the results and says:—

"By Saturday forenoon, when of the nineteen penitents at the stand it was seen there was but a solitary man, the eighteen having been women, mostly in youth, it became apparent that deeper work must follow—subsoil ploughing and the tearing up of stubborn roots—if widespread harvesting was to be gathered in."

After reading this we were looking for fresh announcements of results, and hoped to see some account of the number of persons who had professed conversion during the meetings. But instead of this we are informed by the editor himself:—

"That the campmeeting at Berwick this year had its defects. Much of the time was taken up with great discourses, some of them suited particularly to the thoughtful, others to believers in different stages of Christian experience; but the direct personal conflict with the sinner's sins, the breaking up of the crowd into knots and circles, in which each mature Christian becomes an exhorter and a guide, this was, we fear, not the result to the extent that might have been desired."

"We would not write thus, but for the pressure of two or three considerations:—

The campmeeting involves expense; it necessarily consumes time; it exposes its advocates to rebuke; it brings to friends in its vicinity much care and anxiety. With all this, it is really worth sustaining, and if so, for what special reason?"

Our contemporary then very justly remarks:—

Camp-meetings are not an experiment but they have always succeeded or failed according to the number of conversions following their exercises.

The inference is, that with all the effort and the importation of Dr. Pentecost and his associate, "equal to Sankey," the camp-meeting was not a success.

We learn further from one who was present that after Mr. Pentecost had taken his leave of the meeting and gone home, and just before the close of the meetings, one solitary baby was presented for baptism, so-called, and although all the rest might have been rejoicing at what they had heard and seen, yet this poor little innocent sent forth a most vigorous protest, almost equal to that Mr. Pentecost or any other Baptist minister would have done, against this application of water to the person. If that child should come to mature years and could call to mind the indignity he (or she, as the case may be) received on this occasion, we doubt not it would result in an accession to the Baptist instead of the Methodist church.

From a note in the last *Wesleyan* we learn further that notwithstanding "the scriptural arguments for subscribing, so grandly presented by Dr. Pentecost," there is still room for contributions "towards liquidating the expenses incurred in carrying forward the camp-meeting."

CHRONOLOGY OF THE WEEK.

July 22. Union of England and Scotland.....	1706
Battle of Salamanca.....	1812
23. First newspaper published.....	1588
Gibraltar taken.....	1704
24. Battle of Steinkirk.....	1692
Death of Dr. Lardner.....	1768
25. Abjuration of Henry IV.....	1593
Death of Thomas a Kempis.....	1471
26. Death of the Earl of Rochester.....	1680
Death of Romaine.....	1795
27. Death of Charnock.....	1680
First Atlantic cable completed.....	1866
28. Robespierre guillotined.....	1794
29. Toleration Act passed.....	1812
Death of W. Wilberforce.....	1833