

There is absolutely not a single case of it to be found in the New Testament." These quotations are enough to show the drift of the ablest pedobaptist writers during the last fifty years, and that their views upon this subject, so far as its scriptural authority is concerned, are identical with our own.

(Conclusion next week.)

For the Christian Messenger.
From England.

A friend writing from Liverpool, England, Jan. 27th, after noticing the mistake which we have already corrected respecting the church of which Mr. Birrell was pastor, says:—Rev. C. M. Birrell, and Rev. Hugh Stowell Brown were ever the warmest friends, and each preached the funeral sermon of the other's wife, within, I believe, one Sunday of each other, so that they were still further united, through sympathy. Mr. Birrell was emphatically a good man, and his death is regretted by all who knew him. I would say that the subjects of the "Evangelical Alliance" for the Week of Prayer, were left almost entirely to him to select.

Mr. Brown has decided to remain at Myrtle Street Chapel, for the present without a co-pastor. The Rev. Mr. Lewis of Rochdale was unanimously invited to take the co-pastorate with Mr. Brown, but felt it right to remain with his present church. Our new Prince's Gate Chapel is to be opened, March 20th. Mr. Carey will probably not be able to be here before the middle of April. Our building Committee are all members of Mr. Brown's church and congregation, and Mr. Brown is our Chairman. There are five Canadians (i. e. from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick) on the committee, and through their recommendation, Mr. Carey was invited by cable, and accepted in the same manner, and I trust that his decision may have Divine approval.

Our new building has a very plain exterior (almost ugly) but within will be particularly attractive, I think; it will seat 1000 people; the cost will be between £10,000, and £11,000 stg. The undertaking was rather a large one for the comparatively few who have carried it forward. We opened our Sunday School on 5th December with 154 scholars, and have since had 171 present, with a good staff of teachers; I think our school will prove a success.

We have a beautiful school room under the chapel, lofty, large and airy. Both the school room and chapel are heated with hot water. I have told them of Granville Street Library system, and we are going to adopt the same.

I think the Baptist cause is advancing in England. The last year, there was an increase, of more than double percentage of any other denomination, in proportion to their numbers.

The Irish question is giving much trouble, but I am sure that Gladstone will settle the difficulty, if any one can do so.

Our weather for some weeks has been unusually severe, and nearly every householder complains of pipes bursting or being frozen, also of gas going out. Several fatal boiler explosions have taken place, I am sorry to say. In consequence of the strike at the Lancashire Collieries, the price of coal is more than double the usual cost, which makes the cold all the more severely felt. There is very much suffering amongst the poor, in this cold weather.

The Messenger comes regularly, and I read it with pleasure, for my interest in the growth of the denomination in Nova Scotia is in no wise diminished by my lengthened absence from my native land.

Yours very sincerely,
H. B.

For the Christian Messenger.
Anent that Enquiry.

Mr. Editor,—

I have waited with some interest to see what reply would be given to the question submitted in the Messenger by an "Enquirer," two or three weeks since, concerning the matter of College Grants—whether under the circumstance of a negative resolution being submitted to the Baptist Convention, and laid on the table, the Governors of Acadia College should apply for or receive a Grant from the Legislature.

"Enquirer" surely is not seriously asking if the fact of a resolution being offered to a body, and not discussed or passed upon, is to change the whole

policy of the denomination that has obtained for half a century! If that were the case it would be a very easy mode of destroying the best things ever begun or contemplated by any society in existence. It may be that this view of the question has prevented any opinion being previously given; and perhaps, it might now be left to the common sense of your readers to decide whether there is really any question that needs a reply or discussion. Why I would ask, should the Baptist denomination be taxed to sustain Higher Education for the other denominations, whilst they are at the same time sustaining their own schools and providing a superior course of studies for their sons and the public? Why should Baptists in common with all other denominations be required to pay for the education given to Presbyterian young men in a college such as Dalhousie, governed by a combination of Church and State, and taught by a Faculty consisting almost entirely of Presbyterian clergymen, and at the same time for a moment entertain a question, whether they shall receive a grant in aid of their own. If Acadia College were an Ecclesiastical Institution, such as Dalhousie, where its Professors and Governors are dependent on a Church Court for their existence and support, there might, perhaps, then be some propriety in "Enquirer's" question. Acadia College in its Arts Department, is in its terms of admission for students and professors, free from sectarianism, like all our public schools. It should therefore surely receive an equal amount of consideration with any other collegiate institution in the province.

Whether the Governors of Acadia College are preparing to present the claims of that institution to the Legislature or not I do not know, but I do not apprehend that there will be any attempt on the part of the Government or Legislature to ignore its right to full consideration, and even a proportionately larger grant than heretofore. I believe that more work has been done for the amount granted to that body, than has been done by any of the collegiate institutions in the province.

GRANVILLE.

For the Christian Messenger.
Our Foreign Missions.

No. 5.

Dear Brother,—

In conducting Foreign Mission work successfully it is absolutely essential that we must have a corps of educated and thoroughly efficient missionaries. Men and women called of God to the work whose hearts are baptized with the love of Christ—whose souls are fired with apostolic zeal for missions and who are willing to make great sacrifices and surmount great difficulties in order that they may feed the starving—rescue the perishing.

Having secured such "ambassadors for Christ" to labour with us in the great Foreign Mission work, it is equally indispensable that they should have our fullest sympathy and support, that we should ever carry them in the arms of our faith and love, and that nothing but the plainest evidence that God has willed it to be so, should permit the ties which bind our hearts to their hearts in sacred alliance, to be severed.

Viewing in the light of these facts and principles the condition of our Foreign Mission at present, is it not our duty to examine and see whether we as churches and as individuals have been careful to keep in lively exercise these most necessary virtues of faith in God and the Mission, and ever abounding sympathy and solicitude for our beloved missionaries themselves?

When at the Windsor Convention we formally ordained our young brethren and sisters to this Holy Mission, our enthusiasm was unbounded. We delighted to call them "our Pioneer Missionaries." Our motto then was "Siam for Christ."

In obedience to what we believed to be the leading of Providence, "Siam" was abandoned, and our Mission was finally located among that most interesting people of India—the Telugus. However we still have our "motto" substituting "India" for "Siam"—the "Telugus" for the "Siamese." But what of our progress? Should we not seriously enquire why it is that our "Pioneer" missionary corps has become steadily and sadly reduced in strength, instead of receiving that reinforcement and growth which a reasonable development of the work should have secured?

Whatever lessons we may learn from the results of our action in not

retaining brother Boggs in connexion with our mission, we cannot reflect upon our decision then as having been inconsiderate or hasty. There was an evident desire on the part of many that the best possible should be done under the trying circumstances. We can only say that in the severe trial our faith failed us.

But why has there been no success in filling the vacancy then made in the ranks of our mission corps? It certainly was not for want of funds, for we find that our Board about this time took a new departure and generously voted their secretary a salary about equal to the salary of a single woman missionary in India, which salary has been continued ever since. Was it not rather because apathy has settled down upon our churches, and suitable persons have not volunteered for the work? We cannot overlook the fact that in the discussions of this sacred and important subject of Foreign Missions at our annual gatherings ever since that time, there seems to have been an entire absence of that enthusiasm and earnest zeal which aid, and always should characterize such meetings.

The crisis which has now arisen through the threatened withdrawal of brother and sister Armstrong from our mission, must be regarded as of far greater moment than the resignation of brother Boggs. Their longer connection with the enterprise—their greater knowledge of the language and habits of the people on the field—their success in planting and bringing accessions to the new mission church in Chicacole—the strong ties which bind them to the hearts of the churches at home and especially to the W. M. A. Societies—bonds which have become firmly cemented by many years of intimate relations and constant communication, makes their separation from us at the present time a matter of the greatest importance—reaching down to the very foundation of our organization, threatening indeed the very existence of our separate independent mission. Should we not regard this as a divine visitation, another trial of our faith? Let us be solicitous that we do not allow temporary prejudices and our weak faith to obstruct the path along which we may feel assured God will lead us, provided His guidance is generally and heartily sought.

In 1875, less than six years ago we had nine earnest, faithful labourers out in the northern Telugu country in India, as zealous and devoted missionaries as ever crossed the ocean. Their number has since been reduced to five. In the natural course of things Mr. and Mrs. Churchill must shortly abandon their work for rest, and the restoration of their impaired health, then our mission corps will number three, and it requires but little foresight to predict how soon our present policy if continued, will leave our mission field without labourers—our missionary corps wholly depleted.

We know that our missionaries have not failed in courage or zeal for the work, and that Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong as was the case with Mr. and Mrs. Boggs, are still bound in love and devotion to the Telugu people. And we know that they are desirous of continuing to labour with and for us in the great Foreign field, but for reasons still withheld it is impossible for them to remain longer in connection with our Board. Surely a mission policy which produces such results must be sadly at fault somewhere. May we not well doubt the wisdom of sending new missionaries out to the East, even if indeed any could be found willing to go under the circumstances,—until our whole mission policy has been revised and past mistakes corrected?

This matter of general policy and the course of treatment pursued by us towards our brethren out on the field is so closely interwoven with the unfortunate difficulties which exist between our Board, and the returned missionaries—that it must of necessity receive full consideration at the proposed special meeting of Convention.

Let the prayers and labour of all be directed to these important points, the thorough revision of our Foreign Mission policy, the restoration of harmony, and the sending to Chicacole of brother and sister Armstrong, the sending of them out, when they are sent, by our Board of Foreign Missions, and let these be followed by the sympathies, prayers and material support of every Baptist in these Maritime Provinces.

R. M. K.

A Universalist minister in New York State has just gained a suit against an estate, for preaching three funeral sermons. He was awarded fifty dollars.

For the Christian Messenger.
Foreign Missions.

Mr. Editor,—

The spirit of enquiry which breathes through the series of letters now in course of publication in the Christian Messenger on "Our Foreign Missions" is abroad in the land.

The denomination, generally, want to know just why the Missionaries have resigned, and why our Board has been so ready to accept their resignation. The editor of the St. John Visitor, himself a member of the Board, told us some time since, that it was thought advisable to throw a "mantle of charity," around the transaction! Why so? "He that doeth truth cometh to the light." Concealment forms no part of the creed of Baptists. It is abhorrent to all our antecedents, and to our very form of Church government. We have no bishops among us. We are brethren; and entire confidence must exist, and the utmost frankness prevail if we would engage unitedly and successfully in any work for the Master. Surely, no difficulty has arisen in connexion with our Foreign Mission work that would not be the better of ventilation—that might not well be intelligently and prayerfully considered by us all!

Yours, &c.,

A LIFE MEMBER OF CONVENTION.

For the Christian Messenger.
Convention Funds.

Dear Editor,—

The remarks of Bro. R. M. King, in the last Messenger, with reference to an omission in the Year Book, demand from me a few words of explanation. Bro. King admits that the amounts contributed by the Granville Street Church, Halifax, are reported in the Year Book, but wonders why "the column for Foreign Missions is blank," in the report of the Finance Committee. The matter is very easily explained. Bro. King sent me, on behalf of the Granville Street Church, \$166.40. That amount appears in the Finance Committee's report on page 76 of the Year Book. The money contributed for Foreign Missions was sent direct to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board, and the amount appears in his "detailed statement," page 55. As it never passed through my hands, of course it could not appear in my report. While reading the Financial report before the Convention, it will be remembered that I remarked that Granville Street Church had really contributed more than one dollar per member, and I regretted that all the money had not been sent to me, that it might have appeared in my report. I made a similar remark in reference to one or two other churches. Complaint was made by one brother, that all the amounts contributed by his church did not appear in my report. It was soon made plain that he had no cause for complaint, for it was readily admitted that all the money I had received was was duly acknowledged. To prevent the recurrence of such cases, it was unanimously resolved by the delegates * * * That the Convention earnestly recommend that the Scheme be adopted by all our churches, and that each church send all its contributions from time to time to the member of the Finance Committee residing in the Province in which it is located, to be by him forwarded to the Treasurers of the various Boards. The idea of sending all the churches' contributions to the Financial Committee, entered into the original plan, but it was frequently overlooked last year. I am pleased to say that the churches this year are kindly heeding the wish of the Convention in this matter.

G. E. DAY.

Yarmouth, Feb. 12, 1881.

For the Christian Messenger.
Horton Academy Statistics.

Dear Editor,—

In noticing "THE CALENDAR OF HORTON COLLEGIATE ACADEMY AND ACADEMIC SEMINARY" you say, "The summary shows that in all the classes of the Academy there are eighty-eight (88) students."

In reference to the Seminary you say, "The whole number of students enrolled is seventy-nine (79)."

Your notice of these statistics I fear will mislead, perhaps you are yourself led astray. You, doubtless, wished to give the public information in regard to the number attending these Institutions.

The following statistics will present to your readers the facts which they would naturally like to know:

Nov. 24th, 1880.

Whole number in Horton Collegiate Academy.....45
Whole number attending Acadia Seminary.....43
Feb. 10th, 1881.

The number attending Horton Collegiate Academy.....49
The number attending Acadia Seminary.....42
The 45 attending the Academy last November were made up in the following manner:

Number in the Boarding House.....23
Boarding in the village and coming from the village.....22
45
The 43 attending the Seminary in November last were composed as follows:

Boarding in the building.....23
From abroad, boarding in the village, 3
Belonging to the village.....17
43
The 49 in the Academy on the 10th of this month were made up in this way:

In the Boarding House.....27
From abroad, boarding in the village, 11
Belonging to the village.....11
49
The 42 in the Seminary on the 10th of this month are made up in this way:

Boarding in the Building.....23
From abroad, boarding in the village, 2
Belonging to the village.....17
42

I have obtained the statistics given above as one of the Visitors of the Institutions.

Yours, &c.,

E. M. SAUNDERS.

Halifax, Feb. 14th, 1881.

[We copied the numbers we gave from page 16 of the Academy Catalogue, and page 12 of the Seminary Catalogue, just published at the "STAR" office, Wolfville. If there be any correction required we shall be glad to receive it from whoever is responsible, for publication in our next issue.—Ed. C. M.]

For the Christian Messenger.
The Building Fund and other Accounts.

Mr. Editor,—

SIR,—In response to the enquiries of Rev. Mr. Cohoon in relation to the Building Fund, I may say that though a formal account must be passed by the Board before it can be published as part of their Report, yet some informal explanatory note might have been added to the published accounts which might show the general condition of the Fund. For the omission of that note probably I am responsible. The Treasurer has furnished me with the following statement of the Building Fund, as it stood at the time of the Convention:

On hand, Aug. 1, 1879.....\$1270 00
Cash received up to Aug. 11, 1880.....4408 00
\$5678 00

Paid on orders of Building Committee for heating apparatus of the Seminary, furniture of the new buildings, and agency expenses.....3743 00

Amount subject to the order of the Board.....\$1935 00

This is deposited at 4 per cent, \$1,222 in the Union Bank; \$713 in the People's Bank. Rev. R. D. Porter collected in the United States, \$1,400. There was paid on the same for salary and expenses, \$258.76. These sums are included in the above statements.

The names of the individuals from whom legacies had been received were in the printed statements prepared by the Treasurer, and circulated at the time of the Convention. It might be better to give them a more permanent place in the Report of the Secretary or that of the Treasurer.

An account of the income and expenditure of a year does not necessarily show whether "the College is paying its way," because there may be available funds or overdue liabilities that have not appeared in the record. But it will be seen by the General Account on page 33 of the Year Book, that a balance of \$787 against the College was brought over from the previous account, and that a balance of \$1,511 against the College is carried into the present year. If the expenses should remain as they were last year, considerable increase of income will be needed to balance the account. Whence is this additional income to be derived, and by what methods is it to be obtained?