The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., September 6, 1882.

ONE PAPER.

It is hardly necessary for us to say that we are in hearty sympathy with the movement recently inaugurated to have but one Baptist paper for the Maritime Provinces, if, by equitable measures, it can be made practical and permanent. In fact, the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER was for a number of years *the* one only paper representing the views of the Baptists of these Maritime Provinces. It was established for the whole not for any section, or for one province, and its policy and course from the first up to the present time has been consistent with the original design—to unify and consolidate the interests of the body, to educate and guide the denomination, and to stimulate intelligent advancement in educational, missionary and general religious effort. Its pages are a history of the denomination.

When the Baptist Convention was organized thirty-six years ago, the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER was recognized as its organ, and it has ever since been in the fullest harmony with its work, and has given a consistent and uniform advocacy and discussion of all its interests. Sectional feelings and divided interests have arisen, and papers have been established to support these movements. Some of these have gone into obscurity, others still live and have experienced many vicissitudes incident to changes of proprietorship, of policy, and the various sectional interests of which they are the supporters. Not so the MESSENGER. Its policy has been in harmony with the Convention. Its object has been unity and expansion. Under its present management the Baptists of the provinces have more than doubled in their membership, and we have reason to believe that by a hearty consistent support, much more may yet be done in the same direction.

LAYING THE CORNER STONE OF THE FREDERICTON BAPTIST CHURCH.

This very interesting ceremony took place on Friday last, commencing at 10 o'clock. The morning was fine, and a large concourse assembled to participate in the services. They commenced by the choir chanting the 84th Psalm, "How amiable are thy tabernacles," etc. The pastor, Rev. F. D. Crawley, read a selection of appropriate passages of Scripture.

Rev. Joseph McLeod, Free Baptist, then offered prayer.

Rev. F. D. Crawley then made a short address, of which the St. John *Sun* gives the following report:

We are here to-day to celebrate a rare and noteworthy event in the history of our church. It is over forty years since a similar ceremony was performed on this spot, where the church that was swept off a few months ago by the fire fiend was erected. It is a peculiar and prominent event, happening only once in a lifetime. The interest and importance of this occasion are not confined to the small number of persons who compose our congregation, but to the community—to many of our friends at home and abroad, and also to those who are obscured from our view by the invisible cloud of eternity, who a few weeks or a few years ago joined their friends in the spirit land. We lay this corner stone to-day and rear these walls for the glory of God and for the proclamation and defence of the principles of His gospel.

This is a representative and symbolic act, and has relation direct to our hopes and aspirations for the future of our church. The page in our history about to be turned we hope may be more faithfully written and bear richer germs of truth than even the past.

The clerk of the Church, H. C. Creed, Esq., A. M., then read an interesting Historical Sketch of the Baptist Church in Fredericton, for the past 51 years. From this it appears that there has been a continuous record. Facts previous to that date, from 1802, were noticed. Rev. T. H. Harding, about that date, made a visit to New Brunswick, and preached here and in almost every part of the province with remarkable success. A large number of ministers have gone forth from this church. It has truly an illustrious list of men and women in its membership.

Mrs. Charles Spurden, widow of the late Rev. Dr. Spurden was then escorted by Judge Steadman, to the corner stone, and a beautiful silver trowel placed in her hands with which she laid the stone and repeated the following:—

"We lay this Corner Stone to the honor and glory of Jehovah, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Here may the rich and poor met together to worship the Lord, the Maker of us all. From this place may the everlasting Gospel of the Son of God be carried even unto the ends of the earth."

In the stone was placed a copper box, in which were deposited copies of the following:

History of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, by Rev. I. E. Bill, D. D.

Memorial Volume of Acadia College and Horton Academy.

Year Book of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, 1881

Minutes of the Western Baptist Association of New Brunswick, 1881.

Calendar of the University of Acadia College, 1882.

Calendar of Horton Collegiate Academy and Acadia Seminary, 1882.

Historical Sketch of the Fredericton Baptist Church, 1814-1881.

Complete List of the present members of the Church, resident and non-resident, and of present and former pastors and other office-bearers.

Photographs of the Church edifice previous to 1881, and as existing when destroyed by fire.

Photographs of Revds. Samuel Elder, Charles Spurden, D. D., T. H. Porter, A. J. Stevens and F. D. Crawley, Pastors of the Church.

Current Canadian coins and notes of the People's Bank of New Brunswick.

Copies of the latest issues of the *Christian Visitor* and *Christian Messenger*.

Copies of the latest issues of the Fredericton *Reporter*, *Maritime Farmer*, *Capital* and *Herald*

Programme of the Exercises of the Day.

The Church at present numbers 318 members.

The hymn—

"O God our help in ages past."

was then sung.

Rev. Mr. Mowatt, pastor of St. Paul's church, said he was glad to be present on such an auspicious occasion in connextion with a sister church. He had witnessed one stormy night last winter the sad conflagration of the old church, and he now rejoiced that its place was about to be filled by another and much grander structure. The church would not be the property of one denomination alone, but of the whole community and of the Christian denominations everywhere. It would be a source of pride when erected and he trusted the past history of the congregation would be altogether eclipsed by the events that will be recalled in connextion with it in the future.

Rev. Mr. Wadman also spoke briefly, after which the doxology was sung, and the Rev. J. D. Crawley pronounced the benediction.

WE perceive by our St. John contemporary, that it is the intention of those who have promoted the establishment of an Academy in that city to enter upon the experiment at once. It is stated that a building has been rented and the Seminary will open about the first of October, having male and female departments, that "only first class instructors will be employed," and that "in a few weeks the Seminary will be an accomplished fact."

The Committee appointed by the Convention to confer with the Board of N. B. Education Society, do not appear to have accomplished much towards inducing the brethren to use their endeavors to remove existing obligations of the body before undertaking these new responsibilities.

The Governors of Acadia College consented to withdraw the paragraph of their Report having reference to this movement, simply because they were unwilling that the Convention should have to vote upon it, there being a decided difference of opinion as to the propriety of the measure—the establishment of an Academy in St. John—even among the New Brunswick members themselves.

THE ENGLISH BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY, purpose holding the Autumnal meetings of the body on Tuesday, Oct., 2nd., at Liverpool. Arrangements are made for preaching at 7.30 a. m., a public missionary breakfast at 12.30, p. m., a public missionary sermon and public meetings in the afternoon and evening.

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION.

THIRD ARTICLE.

We omitted in our last the following:

FOREIGN MISSION TREASURER'S REPORT.

Aug., 1882. Dr.		
To Rev. R. Sanford, salary	$1200 00	
" " " general exp.	727 25	
" " " travelling exp.	1106 66	
		$3033 91
" Rev. G. Churchill, salary	$1200 00	
" " " expenses	500 00	
		1700 00
" Rev. R. Hutchinson, salary	$ 900 00	
" " " travelling exp.	930 73	
" " " outfit	500 00	
" " " expenses	241 50	
		2632 23
" Miss C. Hammond, salary	$ 500 00	
" " " expenses	372 50	
		872 50
" Rev. W. P. Everett, Sec.-Treas., 6 months salary	$ 200 00	
" Rev. W. P. Everett, postage bill, &c	6 64	
		206 64
" Rev. J. E. Hopper, 12 copies Ph. Report	$ 3 00	
" Rev. J. E. Hopper, Missionary Appeals	4 75	
" Rev. E. W. Kelly, postage on circulars	4 00	
" Bank of India discounts, commission, cablegrams, &c.	20 92	
" discount on uncurrent funds	8 73	
" blank book, $1.00; postage, $3.50.	4 50	
" S. Selden, publishing Year Book.	95 00	
		140 90
" balance in Bank of India	$ 21 56	
" " Bank of New Brunswick	1395 67	
		1417 23
		$10003 41
Aug. 18, 1881. Cr.		
By cash on hand		$1866 56
Aug., 1882.		
By contributions from churches and individuals during the year:		
From Nova Scotia	$2163 18	
From New Brunswick	856 73	
From P. E. Island	173 46	
		3193 37
" W. M. A. S., Nova Scotia	$1374 48	
" W. M. A. S., New Brunswick	792 71	
" W. M. A. S., P. E. Island	142 10	
		2309 29
" legacy late M. D. Newcomb	$ 115 00	
" " Gideon Cogswell	52 75	
		167 75
" interest on Investments	$ 205 00	
" " deposits in Bank of New Brunswick	12 84	
		217 84
" proceeds of sale of $2000 Provincial Debentures		2248 60
		$10003 41
" balance to new account		$1417 23

C. F. CLINCH, Treasurer.

St. John, N. B., Aug. 18, 1882.

After the Report on the State of the Denomination given in our last, had been under discussion it was received.

The Committee on Dr. Cramp's History of the Baptists in Nova Scotia, &c, submitted a report stating that it had been revised by him, and that he had bequeathed the manuscript to the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces to be used by them for the benefit of the Kingdom of Christ. As the executors were desirous of handing the manuscript over, it was recommended that it be thankfully received.

The Report was adopted, and the same committee appointed to ascertain how it should best be published.

The Report on

HOME MISSIONS

was then read by the Secretary, Rev. A. Cohoon.

It shewed that during the year 50 mission fields had been aided to the extent of $4,853. These fields embraced about 97 churches. The aid rendered was in respect to Provinces as follows:—

$2,605 to 27 fields in Nova Scotia.
1,654 to 17 " New Brunswick.
594 to 6 " P. E. Island.

There have been 58 missionaries employed, who supplied 246 stations. They had labored 1,783 weeks, preached 4,667 sermons, baptized 282 converts, 52 other persons had been received by letter and experience, and 2 new churches had been organized.

The French Mission has six stations, at which much good is being done.

The work done in the Book Department had been principally in supplying Sunday Schools with libraries, and in distributing tracts and denominational pamphlets by the missionaries. The sales in the past two years amounted to $701.15.

The North-West was referred to, and a recommendation given that the Convention authorize the Board to subsidize two or three promising fields in Manitoba.

The Treasurer's accounts showed that there was a balance of $658.19 required to meet the expenditure of the past year. Generous bequests had been made by the late Gideon Cogswell of Cornwallis, N. S.; H. H. Morse, of Paradise, N. S.; and Noah Webb, of New Jerusalem, N. B. The Report states that for the current year there should be not less than $8,000 provided for carrying on the work efficiently.

Explanations were made of points noticed in the Report, and it was taken up clause by clause and passed, and subsequently adopted as a whole.

Rev. Isaiah Wallace mentioned that the churches were suffering for want of a uniform hymn book at a cheap rate. He thought there should be one provided. The Baptist Hymn Book of the Baptist Publication Society was mentioned as the most suitable known at present for our use, and it was believed that some effort should be made to get it more generally adopted.

NEW FOREIGN MISSIONARY.

It was announced before the adjournment that the Board of Foreign Missions had appointed Bro. Isaac C. Archibald to go out to India as soon as he could get ready.

IN THE AFTERNOON SESSION

the consideration of the Home Mission Report was resumed. On the clause having reference to Manitoba being read, Rev. Edward Whitman spoke of the cost of living there as much beyond what it is here, so that what would appear to us as a large salary would there procure much less of the necessaries of life.

On enquiry being made as to climate, Rev. W. H. Porter said that although the cold of winter was greater, yet it is not felt as much as it is here. It seems to be highly beneficial to weak lungs. He believed that some who were dying from the harsh sea breezes might go there and live and labor for many years in comfort.

Dr. Castle said he had become acquainted with brethren laboring in the West, and he wished to correct some of the impressions given to the public as to their character and numbers. Several ministers had gone there, and had taken up land to cultivate, and would preach as they found opportunity. There were at Brandon not more than sixty Baptists. But an earnest, devoted man might go there, and gather in those who might remove there, and build up a church equal to that at Winnipeg There were great possibilities in the future, and still there would be a vast Western region beyond.

Some questions as to the practicability of finding proper missionary work there, being asked and replied to, the clause was adopted. The other clauses were also put and carried almost without discussion.

The Treasurer, Rev. J. A. Gordon, read the Treasurer's Report, shewing that the receipts from all sources had been $5,676.13, and the expenditure $5,232.09, the present balance in hand bein $250.08. In reply to a question the Treasurer said the deficiency of $650 mentioned in the Secretary's Report was independent of $400 in hand.

Rev. G. O. Gates, from the committee on a form of Church Letter and Statistical Table for the Associations, reported a form that had been submitted to and adopted by the Associations. The report was adopted.

Rev. C. Goodspeed read the report of the nominating committee of members to the several Boards and Standing Committees. As there were some alterations subsequently made we must leave these to appear in their corrected form in the Year Book.

After an address from Dr. Douglass on the position of the American and Foreign Bible Society, and a few words from Rev. Dr. Castle recommending co-operation with the British and Foreign and the American Bible Societies, the Secretary said he had received a reply from Dr. Griffith as to the propriety of appointing delegates to the Bible Convention to be held at Saratoga in November next, advising that they be sent. The following were named:—Dr. Bill, Dr. Hopper, Dr. Parker, Rev. C. Goodspeed, S. Selden, Dr. Welton, Dr. Day and T. M. King.

The following were appointed delegates to the Baptist Union of Ontario and Quebec:—Dr. Saunders, Rev. G. O. Gates and Dr. Rand.

Rev. Dr. Sawyer here brought forward the remaining clauses of the Report of the Governors of Acadia College. The accounts of the Treasurer were read and adopted.

Rev. Dr. Bill then offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted:—

"In view of the embarrassment of the Board of Governors of Acadia College by reason of the existing debt of $32,000, and the gracious offer of Wm. Cummings, Esq., to pay $3,000 this debt on condition that the whole is removed within the next year, which offer has lead to a subscription of $9,000:—

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Convention the Board of Governors should immediately employ means for a united effort, in order that the entire debt may be liquidated within the Convention year.

In view of the desire that has been expressed in the meetings of this body that there should be a Baptist Academy established in New Brunswick:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to confer with the directors of the N. B. Board of Education Society, on the question whether it would not be better that any such Academy should be conducted in connexion with this Convention.

THE TUESDAY EVENING SITTING.

A letter from the N. S. African Baptist Association asking for the proper mode of proceeding to obtain membership in this Convention, a committee of three—Rev. Dr. Saunders, Rev. J. W. Manning and Rev. J. F. Avery, was appointed to afford the required information.

Rev. Dr. Bill introduced a resolution as follows:—

Whereas, The Baptists of the Dominion of Canada are engaged in carrying forward independent missions in separate portions of the Telugu field:

And Whereas, These Baptists have one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism:

And Whereas, Union is strength,

Therefore Resolved, 1st, That in the judgment of this Convention an organic union with our brethren of Quebec and Ontario in prosecuting the work of Foreign Missions is exceedingly desirable,

Resolved, 2nd, That our Foreign Missionary Board be instructed to open a correspondence with the Foreign Boards of the Upper Provinces, expressing the views and wishes of this Convention on this important subject,

Resolved, 3rd, That the deputation appointed to attend the Baptist Union of Canada at its next anniversary be authorized to do what they can to further prepare the way for the consolidation contemplated.

Dr. Bill spoke warmly in favor of the adoption of the resolution.

Rev. G. F. Miles moved that the resolution lay on the table and the legitimate business of the Convention be proceeded with. Carried.

THE HOME MISSIONARY MEETING

was then opened. After singing a hymn Rev. Mr. Hurlin, Secretary of the Home Mission Board of New Hampshire, addressed the meeting, and shewed the good that had been effected by the missionary operations under his own observation. Some small churches had been helped for a while, and had now become strong churches, able to sustain themselves and help others.

Rev. A. W. Barss, of St. Margaret's Bay, N. S., gave some interesting statements of the work in the neighbourhoods where he had laboured.

Rev. J. A. Gordon presented the financial aspects of the Board, and shewed the need of greater effort on behalf of this work. He did not regard the usual distinctions in labor as right. Men engaged in secular employments, when they devote the proceeds to work for Christ, perform Christian work no less than those who actually preach the Gospel. He did not think we should relax in our Home efforts to aid the Foreign, or any other work. Prayer and singing were good and desirable, but money was also wanted.

The collection was then taken, after which Rev. W. E. Hall gave a short but most effective speech, showing that all labor employed for missions was in the spirit of the Apostle Paul, and recommended the weekly offering as the most effective and scriptural. The rule of our obligations is that we receive all from God, and owe all to Him and His cause.

The business of the Convention was here resumed, and Dr. Bill's resolutions were taken up.

Rev. Dr MacVicar of Toronto Theological Seminary, spoke in favor of the resolutions. He hoped the time would soon be here when the Baptists from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the North Pole to the Boundary line would be as one.

On motion of Mr. John March the matter of Union was referred to the Foreign Missionary Board, which was carried.

By request the resolution is to appear in the Year Book.

After the Treasurer had read his report it was voted that $100 be paid the Secretary for his labors. The Minutes were then read and after singing "Blest be the tie that binds" the Convention closed by prayer and the benediction.

TRURO, Sept. 4.—*Dear Messenger*,—The work of the Lord is prospering in Truro. I baptized four yesterday. Help me to praise.

Yours truly,
J. E. GOUCHER.

TO OUR READERS.

Our young readers, and perhaps a few of the older ones, have enjoyed the reading of our Select Serial "Coming to the Light" as it has developed itself from week to week. It has abounded with lessons of christian faith and love and service. If we had but our eyes open we should often see rewards of of Christian effort no less pleasing and marvellous than those contained in this beautifully written story. Providence often puts in the path of those who seek for them, ways of doing good, but little less inviting than that of Mrs. Clinton with poor Fidgetty, and, when such opportunities are embraced they often afford a life-long joy and satisfaction to the patient laborer, whether rich or poor.

We shall shortly commence another choice Serial which will benefit as well as gratify our young readers. Any who are thinking of becoming subscribers to the *Messenger* would do well to do so at once, so that they may have it from the beginning.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS by sending on fifty cents will receive the *Christian Messenger* to the end of the present year. Any person sending on at one time the names, and addresses, of four new subscribers with two dollars will receive a fifth copy for their trouble or it will be sent to the address of any other person as they may direct.

Our subscribers have doubtless observed the large amount of valuable original matter that has appeared in the columns of the *Christian Messenger* during the past few months. Many pens have been employed from week to week in furnishing our pages with profitable reading. Of course, it is not all equally interesting to every one. We have amongst our readers learned men and ministers, as well as merchants, farmers, and fishermen, ladies, aged and young, and not a few little ones. We endeavor to provide something for all, and, if we may judge from the encomiums often received, not without success.

We need hardly say that the weekly visits of the *Christian Messenger* to a family cannot fail to leave upon it marks of superior intelligence, and render its members comparatively well informed. When our agents and subscribers consider this they may have the satisfaction of knowing that in combination with ourselves they are accomplishing the mission of doing some good in the world, over which they may take satisfaction, and experience some joy.

PROF. COLDWELL, of Acadia College has been spending his summer vacation in the U. States. Part of the time he was at Colby University, working in the laboratory of that institution with Professor Elder and a few New England gentlemen, who are interested in scientific studies. The party also spent ten days camping out at Casco Bay, Maine, where they gathered several valuable geological specimens. Next year Prof. Elder and friends, are to return the visit, when some time will be spent visiting Blomedon, the shores of Cumberland and other places.

The Professor's visit to the States will not be without especial advantage to the students of Acadia as he purchased for the College a large amount of philosophical apparatus, which, with that previously on hand, will place the scientific department in a better condition than it has ever been. In the College Museum, too, it will be found that many changes have been made during the past year; the splendid collection purchased from Rochester, N. Y., have all been labelled and placed in position, while many valuable contributions have been made by friends of the institution.

Professor Coldwell has become quite an enthusiast in the department of Natural Science, and, with the new and improved apparatus, he will be able to make the various subjects taught much more interesting to the student. In fact, the Scientific Department of the College is now in a highly efficient condition, the facilities for study being fully equal to some of the best New England Colleges.—COM.

Recently the Baptist Sabbath School at Westport, Digby Co., held a tea meeting, and realized the sum of $97 for S. S. purposes.