

The Christian Messenger.

Haltax, N. S., June 14, 1882.

N. S. WESTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Our telegraphic despatch last week incorrectly said, "urging the use of Union Helps." It should have said condemned the use, &c.

After reading and correction of the Minutes on Saturday afternoon, the reading of Letters was continued. The Circular Letter to the churches was then read by the writer, Rev. S. McBlack, on "The importance of the intellectual element in religious life."

The report on Christian Benevolence was taken from the table, and on motion it was adopted as follows:

REPORT ON CHRISTIAN BENEVOLENCE.

Touching the important subject of Christian Benevolence, your committee desire to call attention to the following points:

1. To give for the support and advance of the cause of Christ is a christian duty and privilege.
2. To teach the people to perform this duty, and enjoy the privilege, is the work of the pastor, and he who fails in this keeps back something that is profitable to his flock, and does not teach the observance of all things commanded by Christ.
3. The amount contributed by many of the churches of this Association during the last Convention Year for the denominational work, is much below what might be reasonably expected of them. (See report of Finance Committee in Year Book for 1881.)
4. The "Convention Scheme" deserves the approval of all interested in raising Benevolent Funds:—(1) Because it affords a wholesome stimulus. (2) Because it proposes to provide for our benevolent works according to their respective needs.
5. For the carrying out of this plan each church should adopt some method of collecting, simple in its working and at the same time of such a character as to keep the subject before the people throughout the year. One excellent method is by the use of envelopes.

The NEW CHURCH organized in February last at Carleton, Yarmouth Co., was received into the Association by the Moderator, giving the right hand of fellowship to its delegate, Rev. H. N. Parry.

The invitation to hold the next session of the Association with the Lockport church, was accepted.

The Committee on SABBATH SCHOOLS reported, warning against the tendency to supplant the Word of God with the speculations of men, and emphasizing the needs of many who compose our churches with reference to a more thorough, broad and critical knowledge of the Word of God, which may be best supplied by such members entering the Sabbath School either as teachers or scholars.

The Committee on OBITUARIES, reported the ranks of the ministry of this Association unbroken by death, and referred to the death of the late Dr. Cramp; also, the death of deacons and laymen of high standing. Fitting references were made to the memory of Dr. Cramp by Rev. I. Wallace, W. E. Hall, J. H. Saunders, and J. F. Kempton.

Committee of Arrangements reported. Preacher for next year, Rev. J. H. Saunders, alternate, Rev. G. E. Good. Writer of Circular Letter, Rev. C. Goodspeed.

Delegates to the Convention—Bros. A. Longley, H. H. Crosby; Dea. Jos. Nickerson, Austin Locke and Richard Clark.

A telegram was received from Rev. J. A. McLean, saying, "Health much improved, am off to Colorado. Farewell."

MONDAY EVENING—EDUCATIONAL MEETING.

The report on EDUCATION was presented by Rev. I. Wallace, showing the institutions at Wolfville to be in a flourishing condition, but that increased financial support is greatly needed. He followed the reading of the report by stirring words in review of the history of Acadia College, and the benevolence of the people of this county in reference to the Endowment Fund.

Rev. J. H. Saunders spoke of the need of a settled policy on the subject of Education. Acadia College exists, as a necessity of the Baptists in these provinces. Her work is to give, not higher education simply, but to give culture. The Baptists owe what they are, largely to Acadia College. Our fathers looked up to God, and we succeed when we follow their example.

Rev. G. H. Goudy spoke of the education of the ministry. Emphasized the thought that genius will study.

Rev. S. McC. Black said the work of the Baptists will be best done by making Acadia College strong. "If we let it fall below others, students will not come. If we maintain the status it has, and make it more than it is, we shall continue to draw good men and so send out better men. The Arts Course must be made efficient, even at the sacrifice of the Theological Department."

Rev. E. Hall spoke of the need of an educated ministry to contend with the infidelity of the age. He advocated the sustaining of the Theological Department at Wolfville. There should also be an increased attendance at the Academy and Seminary.

Rev. J. A. Durkee referred to the report of the resignation of Prof. Schurman, and said that this should nerve us to increased effort.

Rev. A. Cohoon said God led his ancient people by the right way. He was leading us. He had confidence to believe that notwithstanding differences of opinion in regard to the best line of policy to pursue, God would lead us aright. On the one hand we were being asked to give up our Arts course, and on the other hand to abandon the Theological Department. We needed both. He referred to what was being done in Ontario, and said he was interested in our educational work because it was for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

TUESDAY MORNING.

After reading of the Minutes and corrections being made in the list of delegates, Rev. A. Cohoon presented the following resolutions touching the printing of the Minutes of this Association in the Year Book of 1882.

Resolved, 1. That we request the Convention to publish the records of this Association with their own Minutes, allowing us seven pages in addition to the tables, and in case it declines to do so, the Clerks be a committee for publishing the Minutes as usual.

2. That \$50.00 of the moneys received at this Association be placed in the hands of this committee as our proportion towards the printing of the Year Book, and that the Convention be requested to publish such an additional number of copies of the Year Book as will give the Association about 1,000 copies as its proportion.

3. That hereafter the churches be requested to send up to this Association for the publishing of the Minutes in the Year Book a sum equal to 12 cents per copy for the number of copies desired.

Rev. I. Wallace read a form of Church Letter prepared by the Committee of the Convention, and amended by a committee of this Association. Report adopted, subject to the action of the other Associations and Convention.

The Report on Temperance was presented by Rev. G. H. Goudy, as follows:

We re-affirm our convictions that total abstinence and prohibition are the only rational cure for the evils of intemperance. And we urge it upon the attention of our churches that the best means of compassing this desire are—

(a) That every church member be a total abstainer.

(b) That every church member do his utmost to secure prohibition.

And we are sure that these means shall accomplish this evil, inasmuch as these two principles, commanding themselves to our reason are based upon eternal truth.

Respectfully submitted,
GEO. H. GOUDY,
Chairman.

The Report on Mission having been referred back to the committee, and Rev. J. H. Saunders appointed chairman, reported, commending the energy with which the Home Mission Board was pushing on the work entrusted to them, regretting the danger of the operations being embarrassed by a heavy debt at the close of the present Convention Year. The report also expressed the belief that the French department was exerting an influence for good—and the hope that the Foreign Mission would be reinforced by two families this Autumn. It also urged

careful consideration of the policy of the Board.

Reference having been made in the report to the sickness of Mrs. Sanford and Miss Hammond, earnest prayer was made for them by Rev. P. R. Foster, and also for Bro. Sanford by Rev. P. F. Murray.

Resolutions to memorialize the Convention in respect to a Hymn Book were adopted.

After some other matters of routine, the Association closed to meet with the Lockport Church at the usual time in 1883.

The attendance of delegates to the Association was much smaller than usual, owing to several causes, but all the meetings have been highly interesting. The number of baptisms was 331.

Rev. J. H. Robbins preached on Tuesday evening.

NEWSPAPER MORALITY.

We have to read the newspapers of all parties and we can but observe in some of them things which appear incompatible with good taste and propriety.

Perhaps we do not as frequently as we should call attention to what may appear to us the mistakes of our brethren of the fourth estate. We well know that, to err is human, and criticisms should be designed to correct and improve what seems to be amiss. We look for and frequently find strictures upon ourselves, for few of us are endowed with the power to see ourselves as others see us.

Up to the present time the, so-called, political press has been warmly engaged in an exciting election contest and due allowance must be made for strong party feelings and the different points of view from which they severally see things, as well as the diversity of the sources of their information. But all this should not make it impossible for us to place the fullest reliance upon their veracity. It is notorious that the information given us by the party organs respecting the various meetings and ordinary incidents of the campaign is of a very diverse and contradictory character, so as to warrant the common remark that in order to obtain the real facts of the case it is necessary to read both sides, and then use our own judgment.

In their treatment of each other we have observed some things in our daily papers which are surely unnecessary and unbecoming. A simple reference to them should lead to their abatement. One of our leading journals refers to a contemporary as "the midday Ananias," "the two cent Ananias" or simply "Ananias." This has possibly some reference to a scripture character, either the good man who baptized the Apostle Paul at Damascus, or the High Priest, so-called, or another man of the same name who sinned against the Holy Ghost and met a terrible fate. The contemporary retorts by calling that leading journal "the dead meat organ" whatever they may mean. But surely these things are unworthy respectable and dignified journalism, and we should not call attention to it were it not for the persistence with which the nuisance is kept before the public.

There are some things very reprehensible in the manner in which the party papers refer to persons who are brought prominently before the public in our political contests. The following is an extract from the closing paragraph in an editorial of a morning paper of the 6th inst., the whole of which was of a similar character:

"The fact is that this man Parsons is a coarse blackguard, a disgrace to the party which permitted itself to be bulldozed into nominating him."

We do not refer to this for the purpose of defending Mr. Parsons who is an intelligent, honorable christian gentleman, an active and successful worker in the church and in the temperance and similar reforms. Where he is known it cannot be of any possible injury to his reputation—it may have been of actual advantage to him under the present circumstances. But it is none the less discreditable to journalism. Such things as this degrade public life. Respectable and intelligent men on both sides shrink from contact with such contamination, and retire from participation in public affairs to the

great disadvantage of the public interests.

There is another feature of newspaper morality to which we may be permitted to refer—that is the details of crimes, scandals &c., whether true or false, which the daily press sometimes spreads before its readers. That which will make a spicy paragraph is chosen before that which will make a healthy one. It has a way of sometimes doing up even its police reports, of local crime, as if it were all a joke. That which to a good man or woman is infinitely sad and pathetic is sometimes made to appear a matter to be laughed at, or to be passed over as of no account.

We might enlarge on this matter but refrain as it is not a pleasure to us to expose the errors of brethren. We do but speak the truth in love.

We had the above prepared two or three weeks ago, but have delayed its publication lest it should be supposed that we had inserted it with the intention of influencing the elections.

DARBYITES.—The religious sect known as the Plymouth Brethren has sustained a severe loss in the recent death of Rev. John N. Darby—one of their most prominent leaders. Mr. Darby was quite a remarkable man—the son of an Irish gentleman, he was thoroughly educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and when quite young took orders in the English Church. Having an active enquiring mind, and much force of character he soon became restive under the dead formalism of the State Church. After a careful investigation of the Scriptures, he was led to reject the Episcopal system of the church and its ordinances, and associating himself with a few kindred spirits established themselves as a band of Bible Christians with as little system of organization as it is possible to conceive of. In contra-distinction to those who arrogate to themselves the title of "the church," they called their organization simply "the brethren." Mr. Darby did much by his great abilities as a writer and a debater to bring the peculiar tenets of the sect into public notice, and the following which he obtained in a section of the brethren from this circumstance received the familiar name—Darbyites.

In point of doctrine the brethren do not differ materially from other orthodox Christians. They emphasize the work of the Holy Spirit, and the spiritual unity of all true believers. They have peculiar notions respecting the coming of Christ—the restoration of the Jews, and the millennium. They have no well defined order of the ministry—but each in turn, or as prompted by the Spirit, becomes the leader in their meetings and administers the ordinances. They consider that their mission is more especially to reform other churches, and they have been more zealous in proselyting than in carrying the gospel message into "the regions beyond." This together with their sad lack of internal cohesion has been disappointing to those who were led by their sudden growth to expect a large future for the Brethren. The fact is that already in the first half century of their existence the disintegrating forces appear to have become stronger than the progressive, and the sect seems to be rapidly going to decay.

MR. BENNET, proprietor of the N.Y. Herald, has generously provided \$50,000 for the support of the widow and family of Lieut. DeLong, who perished in the Jennette expedition.

A nephew of Robert Burns who is said to have in his younger days borne a marked resemblance to the poet, is an inmate of the Glasgow poor-house. English papers are calling for the raising of a fund for his support.

CANADA makes double the amount of cheese per capita than the United States does, and with about one tenth their population. Our reports of butter are about one half as large. Good for Canada!

More than half the newspapers published in the world are printed in the English language.

MR ISAAC REINHIMER had a hard struggle last week to place over his wife's grave in the Jewish cemetery Long Island, a monument with the dead woman's face cut in bass relief upon it. The trustees held that it was a violation of the ancient traditions of the race against idolatry—that it was making a graven image. He however, obtained an injunction from the court—had the gate-keeper arrested, and the gates broken down, and the monument duly erected in defiance of all protestations. Such are the Hebrew ideas of following the traditions of their forefathers.

Mrs. M. M. RICKER passed the best examination of seventeen applicants for admission to the bar at Washington. She was particularly well up in the laws respecting real estate.

The blessings of Education are to be extended to the masses of the people of India. A Royal commission consisting of twenty-one members representing various districts of that country has been appointed for the purpose of devising the best methods.

There were over 1100 names registered of delegates and visitors to the late Anniversaries in New York, not including those from the city and vicinity. Free entertainment was given to about 400, including speakers, missionaries and delegates from farther west than Ohio. The next annual meetings are to be held at Saratoga in May, 1883.

A Postal Card from a friend at Seneca, Illinois, dated June 12th, '82, says: "The weather is cool here. We had warmer days in March than we have since had. The farmers are beginning to fear that the corn crop will be light. There has been much rain."

His article, "A day in a Chinese Sunday School at Chicago," will appear next week.

Yesterday was a busy day with the Elections. We go to press on Tuesday afternoon—to get the Wednesday morning mails—too early to ascertain what is the result of the polling. We were inclined to delay our issue for a day, but feared that by doing so we should disappoint many of our readers, who are accustomed to meet the mails on the usual day. We might not get the complete list of the members returned in one or two days, we must, therefore, be content to wait till our next, when we may expect to have the full list for Nova Scotia, and the numbers of those returned for the several provinces of the Dominion.

The following is a list of those returned by acclamation—sixteen or seventeen of whom are said to be in favor of the government:—

Name of Member. Constituency.
Sir Charles Tupper, Cumberland.
Hon. John Costigan, Victoria, N. B.
Hon. Mr. Monahan, Bagot.
Hon. J. J. C. Abbott, Argenteuil.
Hon. P. Mitchell, Northumberland.
Alonso Wright, Ottawa.
Mr. Ives, Richmond—Wolfe.
Dr. Grandbois, Temiscouate.
Dr. Lessage, Dorchester.
Mr. Quimet, Laval.
Mr. Daoust, Two Mountains.
Mr. Riopel, Bonaventure.
Mr. Bergeron, Beauharnois.
Mr. Haggart, St. Leger.
Mr. Hall, Sherbrooke.
Mr. Kirdpatrick, Frontenac.
Mr. Methot, Nicolet.
Mr. Courso, Montreal East.
Mr. Lesjardines, Hochelaga.
Mr. Bechard, Iberville.

We received by a late English mail a copy of the Liverpool Courier with the following paragraph marked. We give it for the benefit of any who may be disposed to accept the offer:

NEW MODE OF DISSEMINATING RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.—We hear that a gentleman has just made a very liberal offer in order to promote the circulation of Christian literature in Canada and the United States. It is to bear the expense of sending to the people of the New World, at almost nominal rates, a large number of parcels of books and pamphlets. These are to be sent to any minister or Sunday-school teacher who may like to apply for them. Some thousands of such parcels have, we know, in the same way, lately been sent all over this country; and now a number are to be sent across the Atlantic. Each parcel is to contain some of the newest English publications by well-known authors, among whom are Flavel, Aitken, Spurgeon, &c., and

especially of Miss F. R. Havergal, whose works have lately had such an immense circulation in this country. These names are sufficient indication as to the character of the books. The British Gospel Book Association of this city have the matter in hand, and we understand that so long as the present grant lasts any Christian worker in the States or Canada, by enclosing to them a one-dollar bill, will have a two-and-a-half dollar (or ten shilling) parcel forwarded free. The parcels have been so much appreciated in this country that we are sure many people on the other side of the Atlantic will gladly avail themselves of such help, especially in districts that may have been awakened up by Mr. Moody's preaching.

We may merely add that we have no knowledge of this matter more than appears in the above extract.

We were glad to learn on our recent visit to the educational institutions at Wolfville, that the Acadia Seminary is making such good progress. We were permitted to make a few extracts from the report of the Lady Principal, Miss Graves, to the President of Acadia College. Said Report makes some gratifying comparisons as follows:

The total number enrolled shows an increase of six, upon the attendance of last year, the increase of pupils boarding in Seminary building is yet more marked when compared with previous years as the following figures will show:—We closed the Fall term of the present year with 31 boarders as opposed to 19 and 23 of the two Fall terms of 1879 and 1880 respectively. We close the present Winter and Spring Term with 38 boarders, contrasted with 25 and 24 in the corresponding terms of the two previous years, and according to present indications not only a large majority of the boarding pupils will return next fall but there is an encouraging number of new applications.

I take pleasure also in calling your attention to our present financial standing in contrast with that of last year. We have kept throughout the year an exact record of all expenditures connected with the building, the household and the school. I submit the same under its various classified heads, for your inspection and on comparison with the total income of the school, kept in the same manner, a gratifying balance in our favor will be shown.

Of the 57 students enrolled for the academic year, 12 are from New Brunswick, 2 are from Cape Breton, 1 from the United States, 17 reside in Wolfville and 25 are from other parts of Nova Scotia. Of this number enrolled, 38 in the regular Seminary course, or preparing for the same, and 19 are pursuing selected studies.

The department of Instrumental Music is now thoroughly graded as will be seen from the catalogues issued this year.

REV. E. C. SPINNEY, D. D.—The recent Anniversary Services of the 1st Baptist Church at Burlington, Iowa, was an occasion of interest. Dr. Spinney—a graduate of Acadia College—preached from "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us." Some of the interesting facts brought out in the sermon were: Fifty-four members were added to the church during the first year of Dr. S's. pastorate, and during the past year one hundred and thirty-six have been received, one hundred and twenty-three by baptism.

Dr. Spinney stated that the finances of the church were in a most excellent condition. All the current expenses have been easily met. Three thousand dollars have been raised to remove the incumbrance on the Walnut Street Chapel, \$500 have been contributed to foreign missions, and other objects have been generously remembered. The pastor intimated that at no distant day measures would be taken toward the construction of the proposed new church edifice.

A Boston correspondent of the N. Y. Examiner says:

The Executive Committee of the Missionary Union are setting a bad precedent for the foreign field. They have accepted two members of the Middle Class of Newton, and will send them abroad with theological studies incomplete. If a full course of education is of any value for the ministry, it would seem to be of more importance for a missionary than for a pastor at home. Deficiencies cannot be supplied abroad, and at this stage of the missionary enterprise, it is an unwise policy to put at the head of our great movements in heathen lands, men less fully equipped than those we demand at home.

The pastor of the Third Presbyterian church in Paterson N. J., has evidently been through a phase of experience not wholly novel to bachelor ministers. Among the pulp notices of a late Sunday he included this certainly rather astonishing one:

You are doomed to disappointment this summer, as you have been the two