

## Religious Intelligences

meeting in the Free Trade Hall, every inch of which was occupied by enthusiastic hearers. Resolutions and papers are to be printed, and a Ministerial Declaration drawn up by Rev. W. Arnot, is to be signed and circulated all over the United Kingdom. The number of signatures will show the strong tide of clerical feeling against the liquor trade.

The members of the Evangelical N. Union are looking forward with hope and interest to the Berlin meeting in September. Deputations to Berlin have returned and reported to meetings held in the Freemasons' Hall and Lambeth Palace. On the latter occasion the Archbishop, seventy-six years of age, filled the chair with energy and vigor.

The Exeter Hall Episcopal Services on Sunday evening were crowded, but opinions are divided as to the classes attending. The best efforts are made to induce working people to go there.

A useful body of Christians, the Primitive Methodists, have been holding their yearly Conference, and report five hundred and ninety-eight preachers, 110,083 members (2134 increase in the year), 25,403 Sunday School Teachers, and 139,487 scholars. The Wesleyans expect a large addition declared at their evening Conference. But what need for greater progress everywhere! "O Lord! send now prosperity" may well be the prayer of every Christian body and every Christian believer.

B.

### The Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., JULY 10, 1857.

#### TO ADVERTISERS.

Parties indebted to the *Religious Intelligencer* for advertising are notified that our Printer, Mr. G. W. Day is authorized to collect the same.

R. J. UNDERHILL, *Agent.*

We have been so constantly engaged in the Sessions of our General Conference up to an early hour on Thursday morning, that we have not been able to prepare a number of notices which should have appeared this week.

Parties wishing to continue to receive the "Intelligencer," but who are in arrears for it, must forward payment for the past, and also prepayment for the next term, or it will be discontinued as soon as new mailing books can be prepared.

#### The General Conference.

THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE FREE BAPTISTS OF NEW BRUNSWICK, assembled with the Church of this City on Saturday last. The attendance of Ministers and Delegates was large. As early as 10 A.M., the place of worship was nearly filled, when the services of the day, was opened by singing, and prayer by Elder E. McLeod. The time till nearly 1 o'clock was occupied as a social Conference; and never did we witness more of the Divine blessing and presence manifested in any social gathering than on this occasion. The time was readily and profitably occupied, and many hearts felt it was good to be there. Among those present were the Rev. C. Knowles of Nova Scotia, his co-delegate the Rev. S. R. Benson was detained from the meeting by illness; Rev. J. M. Bailey, Delegate from the General Conference of Free Baptists of North America; also Rev. G. R. Batchelor, agent of the Free Baptist Foreign Missionary Society; and Rev. Y. White of Maine as visitor. The session was one long to be remembered, and indicated a prosperous future for our meetings.

At half-past 2 P.M., met for business. After singing and prayer, the General Conference was formally organized, and Elder J. Noble appointed Moderator. The names of the Ministers and Delegates being received, the Corresponding Secretary of the Conference was called upon for the Annual Report. This document giving an account of the state of our denomination, may be seen on our first page. After the reading of it, its adoption was moved by Elder S. Hartt, who accompanied the motion with some brief remarks as follows:

#### REMARKS.

Elder Hartt said the Report could not be less interesting to all than to him; he had spent the year travelling and labouring on the ground represented in it, and it was exceedingly comforting to him to hear it read. During his visit to the first district he had endured great fatigue, but he found the people liberal and free-hearted. The brother who occupied that field had a laborious field of labour, but he rejoiced to know that his faithfulness and self-denial were rewarded in the accomplishment of much good. It was known that he was appointed as Delegate to Nova Scotia. After having fulfilled that delegation, he visited the eastern Churches, and in meeting them felt that it was necessary to confess our fault in their long neglect. He could not have "remembered if they had cast us off entirely, but such was their grace, with us through the labours of those through whose instrumentality they were gathered, that they could not bear that thought." He spoke of the feelings he had when he bid adieu to Brother Hartt, and left him to labour in that field among strangers. He was possessed that, looking but his deep interest in the cause of God could have induced him to endure the fatigue and labour necessary to the maintaining of the cause there. He did not know that he should himself ever see them again; others could be found to labour with them, but he was pledged to return there again if nobody else did. He would refer to the expression in the report—"What hath God wrought?" He had attended all our Conferences from the beginning but one, and he knew well that God had not only wrought much in relation to members, but also in relation to the establishment of the faith which we profess. He knew the struggle through which we, as a denomination, had passed. He spoke of his first visit to this City, when in the struggles of his soul he thought if God would convert one sinner here he would be satisfied. But much greater than this had resulted, and looking round now upon the Congregation before him, he said, "What hath God wrought?" What God had wrought. He referred to the union of our Ministers in sentiment, and thought that no body of

men were more united in this particular. He hoped our young brethren would keep humble, live useful, and follow Christ closely.

Elder G. A. HARTT in seconding the motion said he had been labouring as a Missionary for some time. He spent some time on the Ranch where Brother Knollin now had pastoral care. When he went to Westmoreland with Brother Hartt, he found the churches very low, and some of them scattered, but are now greatly revived. From many places in that region the cry now was, "Come over and help us." It is an inviting field of labour, and when he left, he was urged to return again or see that some other brother was provided to take the oversight there. He spoke of the steadfastness of the second church in Dorchester. This church was planted eight years ago by Elder McLeod, and not one member he believed had fallen since, but nearly all had grown in grace.

Elder E. SPURGEON said he had noticed particularly the reference made in the report to the east, and also to the west, and he was led to inquire with David—"Is there not a cause?" He referred to his labour at Arroostook where from one to two hundred had once professed religion, but when he went there he found only a few meeting together. Intemperance had done much evil in that place, and he looked over the condition of the people with much trembling, but at their solicitations he entered into labour among them, and so could well explain in view of the result—"What hath God wrought?" Brother Hartt's visit there had accomplished great good, and the cry of the people was for labour.

Elder G. COCHRAN of Dorchester, said he belonged to one of those churches that had been so long neglected; but he thought no church in the denomination was more attached to it than this. They had however been so long without a visit from any of our ministers, that sometimes in the struggle they thought they must give up. "For Oh!" still he, "we could not." The visits of brother Hartt and Hartly were much blessed, and both of them live in the affections of the people. Their long destination of preaching had begun to effect our character as a people, but now that danger was past, and he believed the labour of the Free Baptist ministers in that part of the Province would be attended with the gathering in of many souls.

The Report being accepted, the Moderator called for the

#### NOVA SCOTIA DELEGATION.

ELMER C. KNOWLES said that he could not promise as much interest in his report as in the one just accepted, but he wished to say something relative to the cause in his native Province. The churches there were disadvantageously situated, being scattered over a large territory—They had also passed through some changes which had greatly hindered their prosperity. But still the cause has advanced, and the annual delegations from this Province had greatly aided them, and he thought the cause was now as favorable as at any former time. In almost every neighbourhood in the County of Yarmouth there was a Free Baptist Church and meeting house, and souls had been added to many of them. He thought the doctrinal preaching by them had influenced other denominations, and these revivals had also greatly aided in building up interdenominationalism; so that the good accomplished was not confined merely to their own people, it was felt and enjoyed by others. In Cornwallis Elder Weston had laboured last winter with great success. Some young brethren during the last two years had been ordained and promoted well. Revivals had been enjoyed by them during the last winter and spring, and many had been added, some also had been called away by death. The churches in Nova Scotia were upon the whole prospering. He had himself been disabled from travelling and preaching during the last few months, but recently his health had improved, and he had baptised a few who were recently converted. Encouragement in the cause of Foreign Missions would continue.

Elder E. McLoek said he could not let the opportunity pass without occupying a few moments. He felt a deep interest in the cause of his Redeemer, and while he listened to the remarks that had been made, the fire kindled within him. He looked round upon the assembly before him gathered from various parts of the Province and it caused him to feel deep emotion. He was well acquainted in many parts of this Province, it was his native land, he knew the sentiments of the people, and he knew that the doctrines preached by the Free Baptists had taken a fast hold on the mind of the public. The people believed them to be the doctrines of the Bible, and he rejoiced to know that the Ministers of our denomination saw eye to eye in every particular. They had weighed each other, only yesterday, in the balance of the sanctuary, and they were one in the faith of the gospel. No body of men were more united in sentiment than they. He referred to the influence of the gospel which they preached on the public mind. It was not confined to their Churches only, numbering as they did about seventy, reaching from Amherst to Dartmouth; it went abroad like the breath of morning, it entered into other churches also, and the last great day alone would reveal the complete results of the labour of the men, who labored and unshamed had gone forth to range this Province with the Word of Life for the salvation and deliverance. God had owned our labours, and we rejoice therein, and we have no need and great even other, and easier each other than this was a lack of agreement in some particular matters. He had sympathized with them, and a better understanding was come in. The Lord had mercy on his cause, and he believed they were now better prepared for usefulness than at any former time. He referred to Elder E. Sullivan in terms of praise, and marveled at the blessing that had attended his labours. At the last Annual Conference revival was enjoyed, and a number of young persons had bowed to the sceptre of Jesus. He had always been comforted in his visits to Nova Scotia, and he rejoiced in their proselytry.

#### UNITED STATES DELEGATION.

Elder E. McLoek introduced to the Conference the Rev. J. M. Bailey, Pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church in Free, Me., and one of the editors of the *Morning Star*; who was a delegate to this Conference from his denomination in the United States.

Elder J. M. BAILEY said he had the honor of appearing before them as the delegate from the Free Will Baptists of North America. He was happy to be present, to exchange christian salutation and to rejoice with us in our prosperity—More prosperity had been enjoyed among his own people the last year than formerly. In New England especially large additions had been made; in some revivals from fifty to one hundred and professed religion. The Free Will Baptists of the United States number about 30,000 communicants, of these a large portion are in New England. They have no churches in the South, in consequence of their being strictly opposed to slavery. Large numbers in consequence of this had been kept from their communion. They were engaged in the Foreign Mission enterprise, also largely in Home Missions, by which feeble churches were raised in both New England and the West. Other organizations also exist among them for the promotion of morality and religion. They are not only opposed to slavery, but have always been in the front ranks in the cause of Temperance, and aided in the introduction of the Maine Law. We see no reason to be ashamed of them.

Others also spoke relative to the cause of Christ and the counsels of the gospel, and we see no reason to be ashamed of them.

The use of liquor was a preventive to the progress of truth, it must be abandoned by all who would

receive the gospel. In nearly all their churches Sabbath schools existed, and have been greatly blessed. They were also engaged in Education.

Much influence had formerly been exerted against this department of labour, but the opposite has principally disappeared. They had a College in Michigan; a literary institution, and also a Biblical school in New Hampshire, which had been greatly blessed; the Maine State Seminary was in course of erection and the institution would soon be opened. But he did not refer to education, meaning that it only qualified for the ministry—no, God must make ministers; and those made must be students of God's word, getting the spirit of that word in their hearts. He did not believe in a man made ministry, whether made at home, or in the schools; but one that God calls and qualifies for the work. Such were efficient ministers. He congratulated us on our prosperity, and he hoped we would reciprocate the delegation and trusted we should drink in the same spirit.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS.

REV. O. R. BACHELOR Agent for the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Society, said he had the pleasure of a visit to this Province last year, and forming an acquaintance with some of our churches. The Foreign Mission Society felt deep gratitude for the interest manifested by us and the aid afforded. The last year had not been as prosperous in the Foreign Mission Field as former ones. Two young men, native preachers, had died during the year. There is now in the field, at Orissa, in India, three American Missionaries with their wives, one unmarried American female teacher, and six native preachers. A number have been added to the churches by baptism, and they were making progress in diffusing Christianity in that western land.

Since he left the Mission field in India he had visited the Free Will Baptist Churches in the West. In some of them a deep interest existed in the cause, in others not so much. A female organization for Foreign Missionary purposes existed in their denomination which was doing much good. In the wilds of Michigan he found those who felt for the heathen world. Where he found those who were interested for the salvation of souls at home, he found also the Foreign Missionary spirit. Among the students in the College at Michigan much anxiety existed in some to enter the foreign field. During a recent visit of the Rev. J. Phillips, a returned Free Will Baptist Missionary, to this College he had requested that all the students who felt willing to labour for the heathen should meet him at one time, and to his surprise about 100 responded to the request. In the Institution at New Hampshire also, where a revival had recently occurred, an unusual interest existed in this cause among the students. He believed that always when under the influence of the Holy Spirit, we should feel for others beyond ourselves, and be ready to labor anywhere. He trusted the interest already manifested in our churches in the cause of Foreign Missions would continue.

Elder E. McLoek said he could not let the opportunity pass without occupying a few moments. He felt a deep interest in the cause of his Redeemer, and while he listened to the remarks that had been made, the fire kindled within him. He looked round upon the assembly before him gathered from various parts of the Province and it caused him to feel deep emotion. He was well acquainted in many parts of this Province, it was his native land, he knew the sentiments of the people, and he knew that the doctrines preached by the Free Baptists had taken a fast hold on the mind of the public. The people believed them to be the doctrines of the Bible, and he rejoiced to know that the Ministers of our denomination saw eye to eye in every particular. They had weighed each other, only yesterday, in the balance of the sanctuary, and they were one in the faith of the gospel. No body of men were more united in sentiment than they. He referred to the influence of the gospel which they preached on the public mind. It was not confined to their Churches only, numbering as they did about seventy, reaching from Amherst to Dartmouth; it went abroad like the breath of morning, it entered into other churches also, and the last great day alone would reveal the complete results of the labour of the men, who labored and unshamed had gone forth to range this Province with the Word of Life for the salvation and deliverance. God had owned our labours, and we rejoice therein, and we have no need and great even other, and easier each other than this was a lack of agreement in some particular matters. He had sympathized with them, and a better understanding was come in. The Lord had mercy on his cause, and he believed they were now better prepared for usefulness than at any former time. He referred to Elder E. Sullivan in terms of praise, and marveled at the blessing that had attended his labours. At the last Annual Conference revival was enjoyed, and a number of young persons had bowed to the sceptre of Jesus. He had always been comforted in his visits to Nova Scotia, and he rejoiced in their proselytry.

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