

A GOOD MANY OF OUR SUBSCRIBERS, BY LOOKING AT THE NUMBERS ON THE LABELS OF THEIR PAPERS, WILL BE REMINDED THAT THEY ARE INDEBTED TO US. WE SHALL BE GREATLY OBLIGED TO THEM IF THEY WILL REMIT AMOUNTS DUE WITHOUT DELAY, AS WE ARE MUCH IN NEED OF FUNDS JUST NOW.

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLEOD, EDITOR.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1873.

REMEMBER IT.

When this reaches our readers the General Conference of Free Baptists will be in session. Every person who has any interest in the denomination and is anxious for its prosperity, must necessarily be interested in the Conference, and anxious that its deliberations may be calm and in good spirit, that its conclusions may be wise, and its action vigorous and decisive. To the end that these things may be thus let the churches pray. The actual business of the session does not fairly commence till Monday morning; would it not, then, be well for the churches on Sabbath to offer special prayer in behalf of the Conference? Nothing would be more fitting, and we hope that throughout the whole denomination, from churches and homes and secret places, will go up to the Lord the prayer that He will by His spirit influence the hearts and actions of the member of Conference, and cause everything that is done to be in the largest degree promotive of His glory. Brethren, pray.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

The *Daily News* says that there appears to be "a movement on foot to establish a sort of truce to the war on the school question." The *News* ought to be authority on such matters as its editor is a member of the Provincial Government. A Mr. Masson, a member of the Quebec Government, has been in this city (perhaps is here still), and has been interesting himself in the educational affairs of the Province, and is evidently very anxious to effect some kind of a settlement of the differences that exist between the people and the priests.

Being himself a red-hot Roman Catholic, his sympathies are of course with the priests, and should be instrumental in effecting anything, he would so far as possible make it to favor his coreligionists no matter how great the sacrifice of the public interests. He succeeded in bringing about an interview between the Roman Catholic Bishop and some members of the Government, at which time certain propositions were made by the Bishop, as follows:

That the Christian Brothers and Sisters should be licensed to teach in the public schools on successfully passing an examination, conducted in a special manner, in which test papers furnished by the Board of Education, to be filled in by the candidates, should be certified by their Bishop as having been written by the parties thus professedly examined; that to the schools taught by Christian Brothers and Sisters, thus licensed, Catholic parents should be permitted to send their children from any part of the city in which they happen to reside; and that, in such schools, there should be no books objected to by the Roman Catholic Clergy, while that for instruction in subjects on which any books deemed objectionable have been furnished by the Board of Education, the books of the Christian Brothers should be used.

Even though these concessions should be granted, the Bishop does not agree that the war against Free Schools should cease. They are bound to fight it out, and will probably never be satisfied till educational and all other matters civil and religious, are under control of the Papacy. Of course we do not believe they will ever be satisfied, for never in this enlightened country can they secure the unreasonable monopoly they demand. As to the propositions above there is but one course the Government can pursue, the only one they probably are inclined to pursue, viz.: to assure the Bishop that the Christian Brothers and Sisters of Charity can secure licenses to teach in the same way that other men and women do, and that they can teach in the public schools by submitting to the regulations which are common to all. The certificate of a Bishop is of no more worth in such a matter than that of any other honest citizen; the children of Catholic parents have no more right to claim the exclusive use of a school than have the children of parents of another religious belief; and the Roman Catholic clergy have no right whatever to say what books shall be used in public schools, and what they will substitute for those which do not happen to accord with their notions of what is proper. The Government will, of course, give them to understand these things; and in doing so they will be only expressing the wishes of the people by whose will they have power.

What is the cause of Mr. Masson's coming to New Brunswick and his extraordinary interest in school matters no one seems to clearly understand. Is it the manifestation of a love for peace and harmony on his part? Has his soul been vexed as he has, from afar, witnessed the struggles of his fellow-Romanists against the tyranny and oppression of the "Godless" school party? Has he thought that his co-religionists were demanding too much and thus defeating their own designs? Has he imagined that with a little more policy and some hiding of their full purposes, they might in time reach full success? Has he supposed that he could show the Free School party that they are wrong and persuade them to concede what the Catholics demand? Did he, influenced by any or all of these considerations, of his own motion, undertake the mission from enlightened, liberty-loving Quebec to enlighten, mistakes, down-trodden New Brunswick, expecting by his magic influence to make old things pass away and all things to become new—according to the standard of the one true and holy Catholic church? Perhaps so; but it is more probable that the present complications in Dominion politics have something to do with his pilgrimage. In either case he or those who employ him deserve credit for whatever of good there was in the motive that prompted the mission, and we hope the consciousness of having striven to do good may be ample reward. But in either case he is to be pitied for his efforts must all be in vain. The people of New Brunswick cannot be either cajoled or coerced into a relinquishment of their dearest rights, neither by individuals, governments, or priests. Mr. Masson and those for whom and with whom his efforts are being made may be moved by

the purest motives and all that kind of thing, but it will not be any harm for the people of this Province to keep in mind the fact that he is one of the Quebec host that under the direction of the priests voted as a unit for the infamous Côté resolution against the wishes and interests of the people of this Province. They were willing and anxious then to insult and wrong New Brunswick, and there is no reason to doubt that they only need the opportunity to do the same again, or worse if they can.

The people say, let us have our Free School Law untrammelled by any separate school notions or special privileges for any class of religionists; and when the people say this they mean it, despite the wire-pulling of politicians and the machinations of priests.

The Free Baptist General Conference of Nova Scotia convened in the Free Baptist Church, Session Hill, Yarmouth County; commencing on the 11th, and ending their business sessions on Monday, 14th inst.

All the ministers in the Conference were present. The Churches were well represented by Deacons, and the Quarterly Meetings by delegates, making in all a large number of members of Conference present. The Rev. Wm. Kinghorn, delegate from the N. B. Free Baptist General Conference, Rev. G. S. Ricker, from the Maine Central Yearly Meeting of Free Baptists, and Rev. Edward Wayman, visitor from New Brunswick, were present to speak words of cheer, give encouraging reports of the cause of God with them; and render valuable assistance.

The meeting was called to order by the standing Clerk. After singing, and prayer by Rev. D. Oram, the Rev. S. N. Royal, Pastor of the Session Hill Church, was elected Moderator. The Moderator made a few appropriate remarks, after which the names of members of Conference present were taken, Constitution and Bye-Laws read, and the usual committees appointed. Also a committee appointed to prepare a constitution of a Sabbath School Convention, concerning which action had been taken last year. The afternoon of Thursday was occupied in hearing reports of delegates from other bodies, and of delegates to other bodies; also reports of the Quarterly Meetings. The reports of the delegates afforded much information and encouragement. The Clerks of the Quarterly Meetings read making the meeting interesting and profitable.

In the evening Rev. E. Wayman preached; a refreshing season was enjoyed.

Friday morning, after attending to some unfinished business, the committees on Temperance, Sabbath, Sabbath-schools, Education, and Missions reported. These reports were discussed in an able manner, making this an interesting and profitable meeting.

Friday afternoon was devoted to the Sabbath-school interests. A Convention was organized, several Sabbath-schools were reported by letter; quite a number of delegates were present; the scholars of the Session Hill Sabbath-school were in attendance. The good singing by the choir and children, recitations by the scholars, and good speeches by a number of gentlemen present made this a pleasing and interesting occasion.

The evening of this day the Foreign Mission Society meeting was held. The Corresponding Secretary read his annual report, the adopting of which was moved, seconded and supported by good speeches; after which subscriptions and collection were taken of greater amount than at any previous meeting of the Society; this, together with the sums gathered and sent in by the churches, show an increasing interest in the mission work. The meeting on this occasion was large, and as this was the day on which the Rev. Mr. Bachelor and his associates, Foreign Missionaries, sailed from New York, a very solemn season in the midst of this meeting was enjoyed.

Saturday forenoon was occupied in new business. The encouragement of the Free Baptist interest in Halifax, and the purchase of a meeting-house was considered, which led to the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Conference recommend the Rev. H. J. Durkin as an agent to our churches, to solicit funds to assist in the purchase of the Universalist meeting-house in Halifax, for the Free Baptist church in that city.

After which the Conference appointed a Committee to prepare a subscription paper for the agent; which was approved by this Conference.

Saturday afternoon as many as the house would hold met for social Christian conference. Three and a half hours were spent in "speaking one to the other," and telling of love to Jesus, his people and cause; and the hope of a future meeting that knows no parting. This indeed was a time of refreshing coming from the presence of the Lord. The devotional spirit was excellent throughout the meetings. The morning prayer-meetings were refreshing seasons.

In the evening the annual meeting of the Education Society was held. A good report was read by the Secretary, good speeches made, and considerable interest manifested in the work of the Society, as indicated by the amounts realized in cash and subscriptions.

On the Sabbath, at 10 o'clock, A. M., the Rev. William Kinghorn, delegate from the N. B. F. B. Conference, preached to a large and interested audience. In the afternoon a Communion season was enjoyed at the table of the Lord. As only a part of the people could get in the house, the Rev. S. N. Royal preached to those outside. In the evening the Rev. G. S. Ricker, delegate from the Maine Central Free Baptist Yearly Meeting, preached with good acceptance to a crowded house.

Many pilgrims were supplied during the day, both in the town and different parts of the country, by our ministers. As far as we have heard the preaching was well received, and we trust much good seed was sown, which will bring forth much fruit to the glory of God.

Monday forenoon was spent by members of Conference in finishing up the business.

Among the important resolutions passed was the following:

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A CHANGE.

It is rather pleasing to notice the change in the tone of the press concerning boat racing since the conclusion of the Kennebecasis regatta, and the match race at Halifax between Brown, the pet of N. S. boating men, and Biglin, the New York champion. With scarcely an exception the press expresses the wish that there may not for a long time be a repetition of the races and the practices and scenes that invariably grow out of and accompany them