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ALL COMMUNICATIONS for the INTELLIGENCER should be addressed, REV. JOSEPH MCLEOD, Fredericton, N. B.

ITEMS of religious news from every quarter are always welcome. Denominational news, as all other matter for publication, should be sent promptly.

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# THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

REV. JOSEPH MCLEOD,.....EDITOR.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER 25, 1885


— A SPLENDID church edifice in which there is no spiritual piety is like a highly embellished tomb. A church cannot be painted into power.

— EVANGELIST MEIKLE is having success in Halifax. The large tent is filled every evening, and a deep impression is being made. The city ministers are co-operating. God grant the conversion of many precious souls.

— HOW TRUE it is that an unfortunate expression may shut the door against the very truth you wish to teach others. Therefore take heed how you speak as well as what you say. A diamond is worthy of a good setting. Truth should not be obliged to go on crutches when there is a chariot going the same way, though she will win the race against all odds.

— THE MARQUIS OF LORNE, who is a candidate for a seat in the British Parliament, in a speech to the electors whose votes he seeks, declared himself in favour of dis-establishment. He said that what he had seen in Canada had greatly impressed him in favour of free churches and free schools. Canada is a good place to learn many things. There are lots of lords who might get valuable lessons here.

— IT IS SAID that Brigham Young, junr., has so far completed arrangements for the possession of territory for the Mormons in Mexico that several companies of them will in a short time transfer themselves from Utah. Whether this is correct or not it is quite evident that the determination with which the anti-polygamy law is being enforced is making the "saints" uneasy. They will eventually have to do one of two things—abandon polygamy or seek another country.

— LADY DUFFERIN has distinguished herself by establishing in India a national association for supplying female medical aid to women. The scheme is to educate native women to be nurses and midwives as well as physicians. Skilled women physicians will be imported from Europe and America to act as teachers. Lady Dufferin has accepted the presidency of the association. She is an accomplished woman, of noble impulses and exquisite tact, and this enterprise promises to be potent in the emancipation of Indian women. Meanwhile it will relieve much suffering in a country where social customs do not allow a sick woman to consult a male physician, but permit her to languish and die in solitude.

— PLATTSBURG, Missouri, has had a touch of what may be called the union of "Church and State" in a small way and on a new plan. The successful evangelist, Samuel Jones, was labouring there, and the Mayor of the town issued the following proclamation:

"There is now going on in our midst a revival of religion unprecedented in the annals of Missouri. Under the preaching of the Rev. Sam Jones, the greatest of modern revivalists, ably assisted by ministers from abroad, the Christian religion is receiving a wonderful impetus in our country. In view of the above, and in acknowledgment to Almighty God for his goodness to this people as a community, and for individual prosperity through his kindness and love, I, Edward W. Turner, Mayor of the city of Plattsburg, do hereby designate and set apart Friday as a day of fasting and prayer. I respectfully and earnestly request that you cease from all secular pursuits on that day; that you close your places of business, and keep them so during the day. And I further request that you attend divine services at the camp-meeting ground at the Plattsburg Mineral Springs."

— OF "FAITH CURES" Spurgeon has opinions which, in a late number of the *Sword and Trowel*, he expresses thus: The faith-cures of professed Christian men have called others to the front in the direction of healing. In America, persons who make no profession of the Christian faith, but are opposed to the gospel, are working cures, and even those who assail them are of opinion that many of the cases of cure are genuine, and of much the same order as the marvels wrought by the orthodox. Faith in charlatans seems to have much the same effect as the faith which is inspired by better men. This should, at least, cause our friends to look about them, and make sure that they are not aiding and abetting a delusion.

That the prayer of faith shall raise the sick we firmly believe, but that any man, or set of men, or any house, has a special privilege in this line we gravely question. If friends who are subject to nervous diseases will believe that they are cured, there is no doubt that in many cases the disease will vanish; but that there is a miracle in that fact we refuse to believe. The fact is that we are in the period of manias, and unless we are very careful, we shall find ourselves in the snares of fanatical superstition. The unsettled condition of the church not only breeds infidelities, but gross misbeliefs. Pretenders to prophecy, healing, and other miraculous gifts, are growing bold, and there is a more than usual readiness to tolerate their impositions. Happy are they who, with steadfast faith in their Lord, are not to be duped by the inventors of fevered brains.

— THE ONTARIO Prohibition Convention held in Toronto, last week, had a large and representative attendance. Strong ground was taken, and it is evident that the friends of legal prohibition are determined to fight to win. In the matter of electoral action the following resolutions show the purpose of the convention:

1. That this convention affirms the necessity of electing prohibionists to all representative bodies—municipal, educational, and parliamentary.

2. That it is desirable to form a prohibitory union in each municipality throughout the province, the members of which shall be pledged to support, for municipal and parliamentary positions, such candidates only as are known and professed prohibitionists, and who will work and vote for the enacting, sustaining, and enforcing of prohibitory legislation.

3. That this convention request the executive of the Provincial Alliance to take such measures as are necessary for the organization of the proposed union, and to suggest to the branches of the Dominion Alliance in the other provinces the desirability of similar action.

4. That this convention express its warmest approval of the action of those members of the Dominion Senate who labored during the last session to strengthen the Canada Temperance Act, and who opposed the introduction of the wine and beer clause, and other efforts to mutilate the act.

5. That inasmuch as a large majority of that body, including nearly all the members appointed of late years, have shown decided hostility to the act, and temperance and moral legislation generally; and inasmuch as there is no prospect of obtaining from Parliament while that body is constituted as at present, such legislation as is imperatively demanded by the majority of the country, this convention express its conviction that the Senate should either be reformed in such a way as to bring it into harmony with the moral sentiment of the country, or that it be abolished.

That such candidates should be elected to the House of Commons as will support such a policy.

## CONFERENCE.

Next week the annual Conference of Free Baptists, in New Brunswick, will meet in Sussex. The Elders' Conference—a meeting attended only by the ministers of the denomination—convenes on Thursday at 2 P. M. Friday has heretofore been its day of meeting, but one day being thought insufficient for the consideration of the questions coming before it, it was last year resolved to meet hereafter on Thursday. It is always important that all the members be at the meeting, not less so this year than in any former year. The questions that come under the consideration of the Elders' Conference are quite as important as any that engage the attention of the General Conference, and, sometimes, they require all the wisdom of the body. Every member should feel it his duty to be present. Aside from the business of the meeting, the greeting, the recital of experiences, and the interchange of views by those who, while engaged in a common work, have been separated for a year, is pleasant—how pleasant none but ministers can know.

The General Conference, which begins at 2.30 P. M., Saturday, is preceded by a social meeting, opening at 9.30 A. M. This meeting is always a season of interest, and often of great power, giving tone to all the denominational services and business meetings that follow.

The session will, probably, continue till Wednesday, and will be crowded full of work, demanding great energy and much wisdom. A great variety of questions will receive consideration, all of them involving, in greater or less degree, the welfare of the denomination. The more than half-century of the denomination's life past has been full of blessings.

"What hath God wrought!" is the exclamation of many hearts on a review of the years, the work done and the successes attending it. With each year's blessing has come increased responsibility, and the necessity for greater wisdom and deeper devotions. Has the denomination fully appreciated its responsibility, and laid itself out to do the work God has opened before it? is a question that may fairly be asked. While we do not undertake here to find an answer to the question, we think it will be admitted by every thoughtful interested person, that the present is a time when there is a call for the fullest consecration and the broadest Christian enterprise. Never in the history of the Church has there been a more imperative demand upon it to be strongly and bravely aggressive than now. "The signs of the times," indicative of God's will concerning His church, should have the careful study of our denomination, and its plans be made, and its work be done, in accordance therewith.

It is to be hoped that the approaching session of Conference will be one of unusual interest and profit. It will affect the whole denomination, forwarding or retarding its work according to the spirit that governs its deliberations. If, with large faith in God, large things are undertaken, the work will go forward with increasing power; but if the hesitation and fear which come of small faith prevail, the work of the future will move slowly, and comparatively little will be done. We should "attempt great things for God," and then we will have a right to "expect great things from Him."

Let prayer be made that the Divine presence be manifest in the Conference, and that Divine direction be given in all its important work. "That God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ," should be the prayer and purpose of every heart.

## "INTELLIGENCER" SUBSCRIPTIONS.

For several years we have been accustomed to receive a good number of INTELLIGENCER subscriptions—both renewals and new—during the session of Conference. We hope the number will not be less this year than in the best of the years past. Will subscribers who can, please forward renewals by ministers and others going to Conference? If the ministers will kindly mention the matter to their congregations the effect will doubtless be good. We should like to get some hundreds of subscriptions at Conference.

We are anxious also to receive new subscribers. Conference says each year that every Free Baptist family should have the INTELLIGENCER. Will the friends of the paper emphasize Conference resolution by trying to secure new names? At the N. S. Conference we received a number of new subscribers. There ought to be many more received at the N. B. Conference. In order to help the friends of the paper who would canvass for it we make the following offer:

*To every new subscriber paying $2.00 the paper will be sent from the time of payment till Dec. 31, '86!*

Please make this offer known, and help the INTELLIGENCER in its work by securing as many new names as possible.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.

The Report of the N. S. Conference, furnished by the Assistant Clerk of that body, is so full that but little remains for us to write. We enjoyed being present with the brethren. The journey there was not particularly eventful but very pleasant. By steamer to Digby, thence to Yarmouth by train, thence to Port La Tour by carriage. With Rev. C. T. Phillips as travelling companion, Rev. E. Crowell's good horse, to bowl us along, and the varying and sometimes beautiful scenery of the way, the more than fifty miles between Yarmouth and the place of Conference were easily and pleasantly covered between 8 A. M. and 8 P. M. Having been over most of the road more than once by stage we had no desire to try that conveyance again. Our experience of it makes us all the more grateful to Bro. Crowell for his kindness in placing the trusty "Jim" at our disposal. Except first day—the day spent between St. John and Yarmouth—the weather was delightful....Port La Tour, where the Conference was held, is in Shelburne County. It is on the Atlantic Coast, about a dozen miles northeast of Cape Sable. It is ten miles from Barrington. The population is probably one thousand, perhaps more. The people are chiefly, almost exclusively, engaged in fishing. It is a neat and well-kept village. The homes are all comfortable. There are no signs of poverty, even in its mildest form, and most of the homes indicate the possession of more than enough. The inhabitants are such large-hearted and generous people as are generally found on the sea-board. Their hospitality to the Conference was unbounded, and deserved the hearty recognition it received. We found a pleasant home with Bro. Jos. A. Smith, and shall not soon forget the kindness received from him and his good wife. In this connection we must also mention kind attentions received in the homes of Deacon Cook, of Yarmouth, Deacon Spinney, of Argyle, Mrs. Chas. Knowles, of Tusket, Mrs. M. Wilson and W. S. Hopkins, of Barrington, and from many others in the journey to and from Conference, and during our stay there.

The Conference does its work with much readiness. Harmony characterized all its proceedings. ....The Home Mission work of the year was a marked advance on previous years. The year now begun will probably see still more done....The Foreign Mission Society is likely to enlarge its operations. A young brother—G. Francis—a member of the Halifax Church, feels that he is called to Foreign Mission work, and the Society has undertaken to help him fit for the work. The meeting of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society was interesting. The address of Mrs. J. E. Cushing was admirable and most effective. The reports were not so full as in some years, but this was owing not to a lack of Missionary interest but to a neglect of attention to collections in some sections, a neglect which will, we think, be remedied at once....Rev. A. Swim, the oldest minister in the Conference, was not able to be present. For several years he has not been strong enough to be at the Annual Meetings. But in the physical feebleness of old age—he is 85—he has the comfort and support of the Divine presence. He watches with interest the work of the brethren and rejoices in all the successes God gives them. He has also the comfort of knowing that one of his sons—the youngest—has devoted himself to the work of the ministry. Rev. S. K. West, also, is rejoicing in that one of his sons has given himself to the work of preaching the Gospel. He lives in Maine, where recently he was ordained. It must be highly gratifying to these men of God, now so near the end of their earthly ministry, to know that, after they have gone to their rest and reward, their sons will be carrying on the work they love so well and in which they have been so greatly blessed. In another than the general sense, being dead they will still speak for Jesus. Praise the Lord....In Barrington, where Rev. T. H. Siddall is pastor, the new church building is nearing completion. It is a fine structure, worthy the people who are erecting it. To Bro. Siddall's wise leadership this good work is largely due. It is expected that it will be ready for dedication about the first of the new year....In Yarmouth, Rev. E. Crowell is doing efficient work: The church has grown steadily under his labours. Just now they are erecting a vestry, a much needed addition to the church building. Bro. C. is the delegate to the N. B. Conference this year....Rev. W. M. Knollin lives in Yarmouth, and we enjoyed a few hours in his home. His health is not so robust as in the earlier years of his ministry, but he keeps steadily at work as his strength permits....We were glad to find Rev. J. I. Porter in better health than a year ago. His care for all the interests of the denomination is not abated. The younger ministers, as Bros. Miller, Royal, Kinney, and others, are full of courage and hope and are purposed to push the work with zeal and energy....On the steamer, homeward bound, we were glad to meet the brothers Lowden—Rev. J. M., pastor of the Portland, Me., church, and Rev. Geo., now on the sick list. The former is having success in his work, and is strong for more labour. The latter has not been able to do anything for nearly a year. He is worn and weak, but is hopeful of being restored to resume his work again. We trust his hope may be realized. From the human point of view such well-equipped and devoted young men can ill be spared from the ministry. Let prayer be made for him. We were glad to hear him talk of the gracious spiritual comfort and quickening that has come to him during the months of enforced rest from labour. How precious the Spirit's ministry is in such circumstances cannot be fully understood except by those who have had the experience. He abides with the trusting, and His gracious ministry is indescribable. ....Our visit to Nova Scotia was most enjoyable, in some respects more so than any previous visit. We shall long retain the pleasant impressions received.

## NOVA SCOTIA GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Twentieth Annual Conference of the Free Baptists of Nova Scotia was held with the church at Port La Tour, beginning Sept. 9th.

*Wednesday.*—Owing to the storm the Elders' Conference in the afternoon was not held. In the evening a number of friends assembled, and a welcome meeting was held. The pastor of the church spoke of the interest felt in the annual meeting by the community, on behalf of the church, and cordially welcomed the brethren and friends to Port La Tour. Deacon William Snow expressed his pleasure in being able for the first time to have a yearly gathering in Port La Tour. They had been praying that the meetings might be blessed, and much good be done. Heartily he welcomed them, and hoped all might be encourged and blessed. Rev. William Miller said he was glad to be present, and believed that they would have a good and helpful Conference. G. A. Crowell, Esq., on behalf of the community, extended a hearty welcome. He believed the people, generally, were interested in this gathering. He hoped that it would be one long to be remembered for the good accomplished. All the people of the community, he said, are anxious to do all they can to make your visit agreeable and blessed.

*Thursday.*—The Elders' Conference met at 8.30 A. M., Moderator, Rev. S. K. West; Assistant Moderator, Rev. A. Kinney; Secretary, Rev. T. H. Siddall. The visiting brethren present during the sessions, were, Rev. J. Phillips, Maine Central yearly meeting, F. W. B., Rev. C. T. Phillips, N. B. Conference, Rev. William Richan, Western Baptist Association, Rev. Jos. McLeod, N. B., Rev. Jas. Boyd, Maine F. W. B., Rev. Mr. Williams, (Methodist), Port La Tour, and Licentiate G. F. Currie, N. B.

*Resolved*, That all visiting brethren have a seat with us. *Resolved*, That we recommend General Conference to arrange for prayer and preaching each day of Conference. *Resolved*, That as an Elders' Conference we are in accord with the spirit and teachings of the denomination, as expressed in our articles of faith, and believe them to be in complete harmony with the spirit and teachings of the Word of God. *Resolved*, That we recommend General Conference to consider how our Ministers' Relief Fund can be augmented, and how it can be made more effectual for good, by being organized upon a wider basis. *Resolved*, That next session of this Conference be devoted to the discussion of the doctrine of the atonement. *Resolved*, That while we are deeply sensible of God's blessing and goodness to us during the past year, we yet realize how far short of our expectations are the results of our labors, and do desire that the coming year shall be one of marked progress. *Therefore Resolved*, That we do anew consecrate ourselves wholly to the glorious work of the Gospel ministry, and call upon our people loyally to sustain us in increased efforts to advance the interests of our Master.

A season of prayer was then had, and the presence and blessing of God was enjoyed.

At 10.30 A. M., General Conference was convened, the Moderator, Rev. Wm. Miller, presiding. After singing and prayer the roll was called. Present then and during the sessions, *ministers* 19; *deacons* 12; *delegates* 14. Rev. Edwin Crowell was elected Moderator, and Rev. J. W. Freeman Assistant Moderator. Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us. A Prudential Committee was appointed, consisting of Revs. W. C. Weston, A. Kinney and Deacon William Snow.

*Resolved*, That we appoint three committees of seven members each: (1) A general committee to consider ways and means and all subjects not specified as the special work of the other committees; (2) A Nominating and Arrangement Committee, to make all nominations, arrangements and appointments; and (3) A committee of public questions, resolutions and recommendations.

*Further Resolved*, That the above committees have power to appoint their own chairmen and secretaries. *Resolved*, That Revs. J. W. Freeman, N. S. Royal and Deacon A. R. Durkee be a committee to nominate committees above named.

The Nominating Committee reported as follows: General Committee,—T. H. Siddall, A. R. Durkee, W. C. Weston, William Snow, William Miller, E. Crowell and F. G. Francis; Nominating Committee,—A. Kinney, J. A. Smith, J. I. Porter, J. W. Freeman, B. B. Woodworth, Thomas Smith and S. K. West; Public Questions Committee,—Nelson Corning, E. Crowell, Jeremiah Phillips, Foster Crosby, J. McLeod, S. N. Royal and N. D. McGray. Report adopted.

Adjourned 12.10.

*Reporting Meeting* convened at 2.30. Rev. Jeremiah Phillips, of the Maine Central Yearly Meeting, expressed his pleasure at being present. He spoke of the general work of his Conference, the continued and increasing interest in missions education and temperance. His report was well received and stimulating. He asked for a continuance of the delegation. Rev. Jas. Boyd, gave a short address expressing joy and satisfaction at being able to visit the Province and Conference. Rev. William Richan, delegate from the Western Baptist Association, was then introduced. He said he was glad to be present. He spoke of Bro. A. Kinney's visit to their last Association, and rejoiced that as Baptists they were becoming better acquainted with each other. He believed in the tendency of the age towards union among denominations. He thought, all things considered, it was best just now by fraternal interchange to promote the spirit of union....Rev. Mr. Williams, pastor of the Methodist church at Port la Tour, upon the invitation of the Moderator, gave a spirited and interesting speech....Rev. C. T. Phillips, delegate from N. B. Conference, not being able to be present, reported at another session. He did so in a way that will long be remembered. After giving statistics of his denomination and alluding to general progress all around, he spoke of the question of union, of temperance work and of education. His remarks were exceedingly happy, the vein of quaint humor which is characteristic of Bro. P. running through them. All present greatly enjoyed his racy and wise report....Rev. Jos. McLeod said he was glad to be present. Bro. Philips had so fully reported his Conference that little remained for him to say. He believed the year just closing with them had been a good one in aggressive work. Alluded to the Seminary work and was hopeful that this year good progress would be seen. It was not an experiment, and it is purposed doing all possible to make a strong and vigorous institution....The Secretary of the F. B. Convention, Rev. T. H. Siddall, reported the work done at Fredericton last year....The clerks of Quarterly Meetings reported during the session. Both reports were cheering and spoke of healthy progress. The clerk of Y. and S. Q. M., Rev. J. W. Freeman, with painstaking care reviewed carefully and ably the work of his Quarterly Meeting. In the Harmony Q. M. the membership in 1884 was 633, in 1885 it is 652. Added by baptism 25. In the Y. & S. Q. M. the membership in 1884 was 2,916, in 1885 it is 2,928. Added by baptism 49, and by letter 5, a total of 54. Monies raised $7,001.93. In both Quarterly Meetings progress has been made in all branches of our work. The present membership is 3,580. The monies received for denominational purposes $9,612.00. The Sabbath-school statistics although, not complete, indicate a clear gain. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"This Conference with pleasure greets our brother representing the Nova Scotia Western Baptist Association, and heartily reciprocates the object of his visit and the sentiments of good-will expressed, and trust that by such fraternal exchanges the spirit of union may be strengthened and still closer relations fostered. We hope that both ministers and people will cultivate and foster all means that will develop union in heart and purpose between brethren in all essentials of faith *one*. We cordially thank our visiting brother for his visit and desire him to convey to his Association our expressions of sympathy and good will." Adjourned 5 P. M.

*Evening.*—The annual sermon was preached by Rev. S. N. Royal. There was a large congregation present. It was a good sermon on Christ as the head of His body the Church. A goodly number took part at the close.

*Friday.*—The Elders' Conference met at 8.15 A. M. The subject of the atonement was discussed until 9.30. The time was profitably spent.

General Conference met at 10.30 A. M. A number of committees reported as follows:

The General Committee beg to report,—

1. We recommend that 1,400 copies of Minutes be printed and published, and that the clerk be paid $25.00.

2. That collections be taken up at all preaching services on the Sabbath, and that the collections be devoted to the Ministers' Relief Fund.

3. That as the RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER is the private property of the Rev. Jos. McLeod, and as he has for years, without charge, inserted our denominational notices, we recommend that $40.00 be given to him as an expression of our good will.

4. That the Minutes of the Woman's F. M. Society be published in our Minutes.

5. That should there be no request for the next General Conference, the Executive be a committee to locate the same.

6. That the order of public meetings be rearranged as follows,—Thursday evening, Education meeting; Friday, Temperance meeting; Saturday, Mission meeting; and that the Annual Sermon be preached on Sabbath morning. (The last recommendation as to Annual Sermon was reconsidered at a subsequent session and changed back to Thursday as formerly.)

7. That the Ministers' Relief Fund be re-organized, and a committee of three be appointed to draft a Constitution on a wider basis, so as to include benefit for those who by reason of sickness need help, and that a portion of the surplus funds be invested. That each minister and licentiate be expected to subscribe not less than $1.00 per year to its funds. That a collection be taken up in all our churches once a year for its benefit.

8. That the Treasurer of General Conference present a financial statement each year, and that an auditor be appointed to examine the same and all financial statements coming before General Conference.

9. That a Hand-book be prepared containing treatise of faith, Constitution, Bye-laws of General Conference, act of incorporation, Constitution of all benevolent Societies, funeral and marriage services, and such other matter if important in the working of our denominational interests. That the Executive prepare the same and submit to next General Conference a draft with estimate as to cost of printing.

10. We recommend that the Minutes be revised before publication, and a proof copy be sent to the clerk.

W. C. WESTON,
Chairman.

Report adopted.

Nominating Committee reported,—

1. That Rev. E. Crowell be the delegate to F. C. Baptist Conference, N. B., and that Rev. S. N. Royal be his substitute.

2. That Rev. A. Kinney be delegate to the Maine Central Yearly Meeting, and Rev. S. K. West his substitute.

3. To preach Annual Sermon, Rev. S. K. West, substitute, Rev. T. H. Siddall.

4. Delegates to Western Baptist Association, Revs. T. H. Siddall and J. I. Porter.

5. To be Conference Auditor and Treasurer, Halifax interest, N. D. McGray.

6. That as a member of General Conference Executive, Deacon J. A. Smith be in place of Deacon T. W. Wilson, deceased.

7. President Home Mission Society, W. G. Sims; Secretary, T. H. Siddall. Foreign Mission Society, Rev. A. Kinney, President; Rev. J. W. Freeman, Secretary. Education Society, President, Rev. J. I. Porter; Secretary, Rev. E. Crowell. Temperance League, N. D. McGray, President, T. H. Siddall, Secretary. Sabbath-School Convention, Rev. S. N. Royal, President, Rev. E. Crowell, Secretary. Ministers' Relief Fund, President, Rev. W. C. Weston; Secretary, Rev. J. I. Porter.

Adjourned 12.15.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was held at 2.30 P. M. A good congregation assembled. Mrs. Jas. E. Cushing presided, and gave an admirable address. Mrs. Rufus Crowell read the Report, which did not show so cheering results as last year. It is hoped at once efforts will be made to increase the amount received. Rev. J. Phillips delivered an excellent speech replete with telling facts. He urged the claims of India with an inspiring earnestness. Revs. Jos. McLeod and C. T. Phillips made brief remarks of an encouraging nature. Mrs. Sullivan, of Caledonia, gave with good taste and effect a suitable reading, entitled, "Why stand ye idle." Rev. Jos. McLeod spoke briefly, saying, as a people we cannot afford to neglect this work...At the close the Foreign Missionary Society held its Annual Meeting, Rev. A. Kinney, President, in the chair. The Secretary, Rev. J. W. Freeman, read an interesting Report. Licentiate G. F. Francis, who has determined to devote himself to Foreign Mission work, had been before the Executive, and they have decided to aid him. After the adoption of the Report, a subscription list was opened to aid Bro. Francis to go to St. John Seminary. Both meetings, while not so enthusiastic as some we have attended, were good, and created a desire to do more and see greater results....At 7.30 P. M. the Home Mission Meeting was held. The meeting-house was crowded. The Vice-President, Rev. A. Kinney, presided. The Secretary read the Annual Report and financial statement. The amount received, $259.24; expended, $185.83; balance in hand, $73.41. It has been a year of prosperity and activity....Rev. S. K. West, on moving the adoption of the Report, made an excellent speech, one of the best of the session, full of humour and good sense. Licentiate G. F. Currie seconded it in a good speech. Rev. J. I. Porter moved the adoption of the financial statement. He said our Society has taken new life. Our people have been generous, and are willing to do more for this most important Society. Rev. Jos. McLeod, in seconding the resolution, said the excellent Report had given clear evidence of the good and solid progress we were making. The church must be aggressive. A church that only cares for itself will soon perish. He made an earnest appeal for more help. Deacon B. B. Woodworth made a few remarks. Rev. W. M. Knollin spoke of our need of helping each other as churches. We are dependent one upon the other. Sympathy is a power, and we want more of it. Licentiate G. F. Francis gave his experience in clear and expressive language. It was a trying position to speak under such circumstances. His interest and earnestness are undoubted. Considering the short time he has been engaged in public work he did remarkably well. The speaking was good, perhaps the best, taken all together, for years past. It can be said, as regards Home Missions, we are alive, and seeking greater things.

*Saturday.*—General Conference met at 8.15 A. M. The General Committee reported, recommending that the interest of Yarmouth Church debt be paid by General Conference for one year. That thanks be given to Bro. Royal for his good Annual Sermon; that hearty thanks be given to the friends of Port La Tour for their generous hospitality, also for providing use of temperance hall, and to the choir and organist for their excellent and helpful services. That we heartily commend the RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER as an able exponent of our principles to all our people; and also the *Morning Star* as an able and well conducted religious journal; and the *Missionary Helper* as a real helper in our Missionary work. The Report was adopted. The Treasurer of Halifax interest reported, as did Rev. A. Kinney. After a general discussion it was

*Resolved*, That the trustees of Halifax meeting-house, in conjunction with the General Conference Executive and the Treasurer of Halifax interest, dispose of the same with a view of building another upon a more favorable site.

Adjourned 12.30.

The Society Conference was held at 2 P. M. It was an excellent meeting. The spirit and testimonies were good. All felt it was blessed to be present. Christ was within the doors, and He was crowned Lord of all. Notwithstanding the many changes that takes place each year, it is solid comfort to know,

"The eternal shepherd still survives,
New comfort to impart;
His eye still guides us, and his voice
Still animates our heart."

Led by Him, refreshed by Him, kept by Him, it can be said by each, "It is well with my soul." Such feasts are refreshing, stimulating, and blessed. May the theme of the Conference, *Hope*, be the watchword for the year.

General Conference met at 5 P. M. The committee on public questions reported on Sabbath Schools, Temperance, the Sabbath, absent brethren, Education, state of Denomination, obituary, and missions. Report adopted.... It was recommended that an evangelist be engaged to visit the different churches.... *Resolved*, That the next Conference be held at Beaver River.... *Resolved*, That Revs. W. C. Weston, J. I. Porter, and Deacon B. F. Kenny, be a committee to revise the Constitution of the Ministers' Relief Fund.... The Temperance report strongly condemned the action of the Senate in seeking, last winter, to destroy the Scott Act.... The Sabbath report expressed sorrow at a growing tendency to disregard the obligations of the Sabbath day.... A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Moderator for his services.

At 7.30 P. M., the Education Society meeting was held. The church was crowded to excess. Rev. J. I. Porter presided.... Rev. Jas. Boyd made a good opening speech, urging the claims of education.... Rev. Jos. McLeod briefly explained the work of the Union Seminary, and appealed for continued support....The secretary, Rev. E. Crowell, then gave an interesting annual report. Amount received $71.59; expended, $50; balance in hand, $21.59. Rev. T. H. Siddall moved the adoption of the report, seconded by Rev. S. K. West. A good collection and many donations were made.

As we have several young men who have decided to fit themselves for the Christian ministry, the claims of this Society now become imperative. Could not special collections be made in our churches at least once a year, to aid the funds of this Society?

The Temperance League held its annual meeting at 9.30 P. M., the president, N. D. McGray, Esq., was in the chair. A strange time, some will say, to start a temperance meeting. So thought the speaker of the evening, but "alls well that ends well," and this meeting ended well. The president in introducing Rev. Jos. McLeod, said, although late, he would be able to keep them awake. Bro. McLeod spoke for an hour of the various phrases of Temperance legislation. His address was both eloquent and wise, one of the best he has delivered in Nova Scotia. He held the attention of the large congregation to the close, and all were glad to listen to him. Rev. Jas. Boyd made a few remarks.

*Sabbath.*—At 9 A. M. prayer and social meeting. At 10.30 preaching by Rev. C. T. Philips. Text John i. 38. "Where dwellest thou?" The two central lines of thought developed were where thou dwellest, and where He dwells. He dwells in the heart. The best place. He dwells in the church, His body. In every branch and member in Him. Head sometimes may be wrong yet the heart be orthodox. He dwells for conquest. Good to dwell in a church, but first we must dwell in Him. Church needs all His children, their power and influence. What do we seek in a spiritual home? Position, influence or usefulness? Do we avoid the struggling church for one socially strong? Let us dwell where we can beat feed our souls. Let us seek a live church, a good spiritual atmosphere. Then by sympathy help pastor and people. Pray for your pastor. He needs your sympathy. Why is it he seeks some homes? It is for rest and sympathy, like his Master who found the needed home at Bethany. He dwells in heaven, where we hope to dwell. He always dwells in the best place; shall not we? The best are there, let us seek to dwell with them.....It was an excellent sermon, well arranged and delivered with quiet, effective power. It was practical, timely and helpful. All felt better for it.

At 2 P. M., the Sabbath-school was held. The model lesson was given by Rev. T. H. Siddall as arranged by the Convention. Subject, "Christian Progress." 2 Peter i. 1-11.

At 3 A. M., Rev. Jeremiah Phillips, delegate from the Maine Central, preached. Text, 1 Peter v. 14. "Peace be with you all that are in Christ Jesus." Peace is rest, it is the harmony of our powers. The cessation of hostility towards God. What is it to be in Jesus Christ? Let us illustrate it by three figures. (1) The vine. Here we have the branch resting in the vine—dependence. Fruitfulness the outcome. (2) The Foundation, Christ, a sure resting place. (3) The body, the Church, He is the Head. Head and body go together. Both needed. Glory of the body is the head. We don't speak of the hand doing a thing but the man. So let us give all glory to the head—Christ. It was an able sermon. Full of strong, rich thought, and admirably illustrated.....At the close the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was administered. It was a season rich in Divine blessing.

At 7 P. M., Rev. A. Kinney preached. Text, 2 Peter i. 14 and John xiv. 16. Subject, "The method of Divine grace." It was a sermon full of earnest thought, and given with an earnest purpose....At the close a consecration service was held and a large number gave themselves anew to the Lord. Some who had grown cold made a new start. The day's work was crowned with blessing. ....Rev. Jos. McLeod preached at 10.30 in the Methodist Church; in the same place Rev. C. T. Phillips preached at 7 P. M. In the Methodist Church at Greenhill Rev. E. Crowell preached at 7 P. M. At 2 o'clock in the African Church, Rev. S. K. West. At 7 P. M. in Villagedale Union Church, Rev. Jas. Boyd. At 7 P. M., Barrington Bethel, Rev. Jos. McLeod.

The congregations in Port La Tour were crowded. The preaching all round was good and helpful.... Social and preaching services were held during each day of the session. Rev. Jas. Boyd preached Friday morning, and Bro. G. F. Currie, on Saturday morning. Good congregations attended, and the sermons were highly spoken of. The committee of arrangements at Port La Tour worked well and did all possible to make things agreeable.... The choir and organist rendered efficient services at all the public services and meetings.... The visiting brethren gave us excellent aid and received hearty thanks.

The Conference was good throughout. Harmony and peace prevailed and much good has been done. Quiet thought and earnest steady work characterized the entire Conference work. Christ was exalted and His glory sought. The church has been helped and refreshed. On Monday afternoon, following the close of the session, a blessed social meeting was led by Bro. Freeman. Monday evening Bro. Wm. Miller preached a good sermon. Many anxious ones were almost persuaded. A few rose for prayers. It is hoped that all across our denominational field salvation will be experienced during the year.

T. H. SIDDALL,
Assistant Clerk.

## DENOMINATIONAL NEWS.

### NEW BRUNSWICK.

FROM REV. R. FRENCH,—*Dear Bro. McLeod:* I want to let you know how and what I have been doing during the spring and summer months. I have been travelling about most of the time. My first trip was to Petitcodiac, Butternut Ridge, Corn Ridge and Portage. To these places I was accompanied by Bro. Thompson, who with his wife, showed me kindness. Quite a number of years have passed since I was there last. When I got to the place I thought I would hardly find any person I knew, but I had only been there for a little while when I found old friends and soon became acquainted with new ones. In all these places I was treated with Christian sympathy. I talked to the people, had freedom in speaking and enjoyed myself. Returning to Portland I assisted Bro. Hartley in his absence. I then went up the river to Brown's Flat and held meetings there. There are some good brethren there. I remained there until the Fifth District Meeting, where I saw a great number whom I had not seen for a long time. I was glad to meet them. I met Bro. Noble and was very glad to greet him again. After the District Meeting I went to Tennant's Cove and Kars where I met Bro. Gray. He is working away well. The people would not know what to do without him. He is good company. Thence I went to Lower Hampstead with Bro. Geo. Palmer and assisted Bro. Noble. Bro. N. was very kind. The brethren at Hampstead showed me kindness. In Upper Hampstead I had much liberty in speaking to the people. Bro. John Slipp and his family showed me Christian sympathy, as also did Bro. Charles McAlpine and all the brethren. I returned to Golding's Wharf and went out to Bald Hill and thence to Shannon Settlement. In all these places I had freedom to speak to the people. Thence I went to the Washdemoak Lake, Narrows and Perry's Point, and in all these places I assisted in the Sabbath-schools. At the Narrows they have the largest Sabbath-school, and in the best working order, that I have seen in any country place. Bro. Brown is Superintendent and Bro. Thomas Todd renders valuable assistance. I met with old friends, as Bro. Jenkins, Bro. H. Perry, and T. O'Donnel and wife. To see Bro. O'Donnel and these other brethren seemed like old times. In all of these places the people seem to be endeavoring to do all they can in the cause of Christ. There is no cause for any to be discouraged. The Church at Bald Hill is not large but they keep up their meetings. They are a very industrious and intelligent people....Brethren, it seems sometimes as if I was just beginning to learn. I learn lessons every day from nature, but the most valuable of all from God's Word. I see how necessary for all to keep in their places. I have in some degree understood what the Apostle means by being a debtor to the wise and unwise. I seem to discern each day from God's Word what belongs to Jehovah and what belongs to man. What belongs to Jehovah to do He ever has done and ever will do. If men do their part all will move on right. I thought, too, dear brethren, how needful to remember the admonition of Joseph to his brethren,—"See that you fall not out by the way." I feel thankful to the Author and Giver of all our mercies for what strength I have. When I glance over the past I am a wonder to myself. It seems in these last days that I can see what ought to be done in order that we be in the path that will lead us on safely to the end of the journey. All things work together for good. The clearest discoveries we have now of what is reserved for those that love God is only through a glass darkly; the most perfect knowledge is only in part compared with what awaits the true believer when the work is done. Then he can absolutely say, I am saved to sin no more, and not until then. Things that are small in the beginning by proper care get larger as we advance in the journey. Christianity itself was as a grain of mustard seed in the beginning, has been growing and will ere long accomplish all it was designed to do. I feel that I want the last step I take in life's journey to be right, the last hours I have to live to