

Religious Intelligencer.

THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST.—Peter

VOL. XXXIV.—No. 41.

FREDERICTON, N. B., OCTOBER 12, 1887.

WHOLE No. 1755

The Conference.

The report of Conference: proceedings in last week's paper closed with the Saturday morning meeting.

At 2 p. m. the business was begun in the General Conference. The church was filled with an interested congregation. Among the visitors were Revs A. B. McDonald, Thos. Todd and A. Hayward (Baptists), and W. Tippet (Methodist). The Moderator, Rev. G. A. Hartley was in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. Jos. McLeod. After roll-call, the Corresponding Secretary, Rev. G. W. McDonald, submitted his report of the state of the churches.

Bro. Moderator and brethren: At the close of another year of our denominational history allow me to extend to you all Christian greetings, in praise and thanksgiving to our heavenly Father for the abundant manifestation of his love towards us. In our own province, at least, the year has been crowned with his goodness and his paths have dropped fatness. The harvest safely gathered, calls for our heartiest thanksgiving. Elements have existed among the nations threatening disruptions greatly to be dreaded, but the strong hand of omnipotence has held back these forces and the world has seen a year of comparative peace.

The Christian world has given evidence of God moving his people to the speedy conquest of the world. Money is flowing into the treasury of the church, as here and there among the wealthy as well as the poorer classes men are moved by the spirit to consecrate their earthly possessions to the service of him who has bidden us to lay up treasures in heaven. And consecrated men and women are rising up as did the prophet anciently saying, "Here am I, send me," so that from the farm, from business circles, from the colleges and seats of learning come volunteers for service in foreign fields as the hand of providence opens up the way to the hearts of millions who are without God. God is evidently impressing us with the thought that he expects great things of his people and he waits to give them power and ability to accomplish them. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose hearts are perfect towards him." If great things are not accomplished by us it is not because we lack opportunity to work. Millions remain unsaved and many of them at our very doors, in our own congregations, and in many instances in our own homes. How we have met the claims or expectations of the Master cannot be fully told by this report but we may gather, perhaps, some idea of our forgetfulness and thus judge of our nearness to him who has said "without me ye can do nothing." It is a pleasant duty to record that the ranks of our ministry have not been broken by death.

FIRST DISTRICT.

This district held its annual session with the church at Arthurville. It was a session of unusual interest. The Lord's people were greatly composed. Eighteen churches composed this district, nine of which reported at the annual meeting. Rev. T. S. VanWart has been pastor of the church at Perth, Bath, and Brunswick. They report an increasing interest and are looking for a time of refreshing at the distant date. Wicklow enjoys the pastoral care of Rev. G. W. Foster one-fourth of his time. They have received encouragement from the visits of other ministers. Rev. C. F. Rideout has cared for Holmesville and Wright's settlement churches. They are holding fast to the faith and are hopeful. Rev. G. F. Currie spent two months with the churches at Arthurville and Long Island. His labors were highly appreciated. In all these churches prayer and conference meetings are regularly sustained. The visit of Rev. A. Taylor to this district assisted greatly in defining the position of the different churches, many of which are almost extinct and if not aided soon will be lost to us. Eight regular prayer and conference meetings. There has been added by baptism, 1; by letter, 3; less by decrease, 7; net decrease, 3. Moneys paid during the year:

For support of ministry.....\$357 00
Buildings and improvements. 244 00
Current expenses..... 5 00
Total.....\$606 00

SECOND DISTRICT.

Of the 27 churches comprising this district 23 reported at its annual meeting. First church, Woodstock, reports Rev. C. T. Phillips as pastor. Eight have been added by baptism and one by letter. The second and third churches, Woodstock, have been without pastors. Rev. G. T. Hartley, resident minister, has cared for the former church what lay in his power, or opportunity would permit. First Woodstock church has been cared for a part of the time by Rev. G. W. Foster. It has also been pastor of second Woodstock, Rockland and Coldstream churches. Tracey Mills and Knoxford churches have enjoyed the pastoral care of Rev. J. W. Clark. Nine have been baptized and added to the church

at Tracy Mills. Upper Brighton is without a pastor. Seven have been added by baptism. The report does not say by whom, but we suppose the fruit of the labors of Rev. J. W. Young, Baptist. Rev. J. Noble has held the pastoral care of Jacksonville church. The churches at Charleston, Seventh Tier and Presque Isle have been cared for by Rev. G. W. Foster. Two have been added to the church at Seventh Tier by baptism and one by letter. Rev. J. Gravinor has been pastor of Gordonsville and Foreston churches. Rev. W. Kinghorn has been the pastor of Hartland church. Third Tier church has Rev. H. Hart as pastor. Lower Brighton reports no pastor. Two have been added by baptism. Pembroke church has no pastor and neither prayer nor conference meetings. Brookville has no pastor, but they maintain Sabbath morning prayer meeting. The church at Peel reports assistance from Rev. C. F. Rideout and S. W. Shaw. No report was received from Bristol, Palmer Settlement, Second Bridge-water and Knowlesville churches. There have been added by baptism 27, by letter 2. Total additions, 29; less by decrease, 59; net decrease, 30. Eleven churches hold regular weekly prayer meetings, others report prayer meetings on the Sabbath and a number report no prayer meetings. It would seem an evidence of great weakness when a church with regular visits from a pastor does not possess power to sustain a regular monthly prayer meeting. Twenty-one churches report conference meetings. Money received

For support of ministry.....\$2,136 96
Buildings and improvements 597 79
Current expenses..... 504 75
Total.....\$3,239 50

THIRD DISTRICT.

This district reports 16 churches, Marysville and Douglas churches have had the pastoral care of Rev. J. E. Reid, as also the Nashwaak church where two have been added by baptism. Temperance Vale, Mapleton and Lower Southampton churches have been cared for by Rev. G. B. Trafton. Mapleton church. Rev. E. B. Gray has cared for Campbell Settlement and Lower Canterbury churches. One was added by baptism to the latter church. Fredericton church retains its old pastor Rev. Jos. McLeod. D. D. Four have been added by baptism and four by letter. Rev. A. Trafton has been pastor of Coverhill, Millville and Lower Prince William churches. Canterbury church has had the pastoral care of Rev. B. Colpitts and Rev. Wm. Downey—both a part of the time. Bro. Downey has also cared for Lower Queensbury church. Middle South-Queensbury church is without a pastor. Fourteen have been added by baptism and one by letter. Upper Queensbury church is also without a pastor. The church at Northdale is reported as in a flourishing condition. They made application for admission to the district, but the matter was deferred till another year. Sixteen churches report conference meetings and 13 report prayer meetings. Moneys paid:—

For support of ministry.....\$1718 00
Current expenses..... 934 04
Total.....\$2652 04

FOURTH DISTRICT.

This district comprises fifteen churches, thirteen of which send official reports. Blissville, Patterson Settlement, Mill Settlement and Tracy station churches have been under the care of Rev. T. O. DeWitt. One has been added by baptism to Blissville church and some revival was enjoyed at Patterson settlement. Six were baptized. Rev. G. F. Currie is pastor of the church at Fredericton Junction. Rushagornish church has received spiritual quickening under the labors of Rev. J. G. McKenzie. They are walking in fellowship. Wassiss church is reported as in good standing though strange to say they have no pastor and no prayer or conference meetings. An informal report given by the deacon of Lincoln church represents it as low and weak. Oromocto church is without a pastor. They hold Sabbath service in a hall. They earnestly appeal for help. Licentiate Z. B. Grass has given some assistance to Waterville church. Geary church is without a pastor. One has been added by baptism and two by letter, under whose labors is not stated. Victoria church has been blessed with a revival under the labors of Bro. S. B. Scribner. Six have been added by baptism and one by letter. Greenfield has been greatly benefited by the labors of licentiate F. A. Currie. Eleven were added by baptism. Upper Gagetown church has received some care from Bro. Z. B. Grass. Douglas Valley informally reported by Rev. J. G. McKenzie has received some encouragement. Eleven churches of this district sustain conference meetings, and 8 prayer meetings. There have been added by baptism, 24, by letter 23—total 47; less by

decrease 16—net increase 11. Moneys paid:

For support of ministry.....\$714 42
Buildings and improvements..... 419 18
Current expenses..... 121 29
Total.....\$1254 89

FIFTH DISTRICT.

This district reports 16 churches. First church, Greenwich, has also had the pastoral care of licentiate Gideon Swin, who is held in much esteem for his work's sake. Some revival has been enjoyed under his labors. Five were added by baptism and one by letter. This church has erected a new house of worship. Bro. Swin has also cared for second Greenwich. Two were added by baptism. Rev. Jas. Noble has had the pastoral care of the first Hampstead church till last conference. They are now without a pastor. They have been added by Bro. B. N. Nobles, O. N. Mott, A. Taylor and R. French. Bro. Nobles has had the care of second Hampstead church part of the year, but it is now without a pastor. Its prayer and conference meetings have been well attended and the interest good. Third Hampstead church has had the labors of Rev. O. N. Mott. Two were baptized and one added by letter. Bro. Mott also cared for fourth Hampstead church. The stated meetings of this church are well sustained. Licentiate W. H. Perry has cared for first and second Johnston churches. His labors have been largely appreciated. The second church received considerable increase. Eleven were added by baptism and one by letter. Quite a number were baptized who did not join the church. The first church has had the pastoral care of Rev. B. H. Nobles. His labors have been abundantly blessed. Twenty-eight have been added by baptism. They have completed a new house of worship during the year. Bro. Nobles was assisted in revival work by Rev. J. G. McKenzie. Rev. J. A. Robertson has had the care of second church, Kars. The first Wickham has had no pastor but they sustain Sabbath services. Third Wickham church had Rev. E. B. Gray as pastor part of the year. The cause is low and the church weak in numbers. They have had visits from Rev. B. H. Nobles. At present they have no officers. Fourth Wickham reports nothing definite as to its spiritual state. Rev. O. N. Mott is pastor of the fifth Wickham church. One has been added by baptism. The sixth Wickham church has enjoyed some revival under the labors of Rev. B. H. Nobles. Four were added by baptism. Fourteen of these churches have pastors, sixteen report conference meetings and four have weekly prayer meetings. Added by baptism 57, by letter 5; total 62. Less by decrease 92; net decrease 30.

Moneys paid during the year:

For support of ministry.....\$ 807 00
Buildings and improvements. 431 99
Current expenses..... 111 45
Total.....\$1350 44

SIXTH DISTRICT.

This district held its yearly session with the church at Lower Millstream. It was a profitable session. Twenty-six churches reported. Penobscus, Sussex and Apohaqui churches have the regular care of Rev. G. W. McDonald. Two were added at Penobscus by baptism and one by letter; at Apohaqui one by baptism and three by letter; at Sussex one by baptism and two by letter. Rev. S. H. Weyman had the care of Lower Millstream church seven months of the year. Since then Bro. McDonald has been pastor. Three were baptized by Bro. Weyman and five by Bro. McDonald, the fruits no doubt of Bro. Weyman's faithful labors. This church is doing well. Midland and Norton station churches have been fortunate in securing the labors of Rev. W. DeWare. Some revival was experienced at Midland. Eight were added by baptism. Licentiate A. H. McLeod has labored with Taylor Village, Dover, Millstream Mountain, North River No. 1, and North River No. 2, churches. He has also preached at Victoria road, where a church will be organized soon. Rev. A. C. Thompson continues on his old field. Two have been added by baptism at Peticotid and one by letter; at Corn Hill eleven by baptism; also eleven at Rockland. Portage church has received much spiritual strength. Bro. J. A. Porter, a licentiate of St. John church, has cared for Coverdale, Wheaton Settlement and Lutz Mountain churches. Four were baptized at Lutz Mountain. Rev. S. H. Weyman ministered to the church at Upper Millstream seven months of the year. Since this they have been without a pastor. Licentiate W. H. Perry has cared for Snider Mountain church and also given some care to Lower Ridge church. Newtown is without a pastor. One has been added by baptism and one by letter. Dutch Valley church has been helped by the labors of Bro. Allan B. Bannell. Moncton church has had the constant care of Bro. W. B. Wiggins, licentiate of the district. Six have been added by baptism and four by letter. A church at Long Point, organized by Revs. W. J. Halse and J. A. Robertson, became a member of the district. All the churches except Newtown report ministerial care. Twenty-five have

conference meetings and fourteen have stated weekly prayer meetings. There have been added: by baptism 79; by letter 15, total 94, less by decrease 87, net increase 7. Moneys paid:

For support of ministry.....\$2843 00
Buildings and improvements. 1692 00
Current expenses..... 428 72
Total.....\$4963 72

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

This district has a membership of thirteen churches. The church at St. John reports additions of twenty-four by baptism and nine by letter. Rev. J. T. Parsons is pastor. They are in good condition spiritually. Portland church has had the labors of Rev. W. J. Halse. Two were added by letter. Carleton church retains its old pastor, Rev. Geo. A. Hartley. Thirteen have been added by baptism and three by letter. They are steadily advancing. Rev. J. N. Barnes has been pastor of the church at Wilson's Beach. Three have been added by baptism and one by letter. North Roads has had no pastor and no meetings. Beaver Harbor has been cared for by Rev. J. A. Robertson. Six have been added by baptism and one by letter. This church is in a healthy spiritual condition. Rev. F. Babcock has been pastor of Grand Harbor and Seal Cove churches. Bro. Babcock's ill health has prevented him accomplishing all that he desired. Bro. Irvine Harvey has been a great assistance to the church at White Head which has been without a pastor. North Head church has enjoyed a good revival under the labors of its pastor Rev. H. H. Cosman. Its membership has been quickened into an active condition. Sixteen have been added by baptism and four by letter. Bro. F. C. Hartley has spent half of his time with Fair Haven church, and the other half with the church at Chocolate Cove since June 22nd. Two have been added by baptism and one by letter to the latter church. Castalia church sent no report. Twelve churches report conferences and prayer meetings. There have been added by baptism, 64; by letter 21; total, 85. Less by decrease, 82; net increase, 3. Moneys paid:

For support of ministry.....\$3,518 00
Buildings and improvements 816 00
Current expenses..... 1,303 00
Total.....\$5,637 00

There have been added to the various churches of the districts by baptism, 280; by letter, 55; total, 335. Less by decrease, 394; net decrease, 59. Moneys paid:

For support of ministry.....\$12,084 38
Buildings and improvements. 3,961 96
Current expenses..... 3,647 25
Total.....\$19,693 59

This year we report a net decrease—an unusual thing in our history.

Several causes contribute toward this. First, the political agitation during the winter months tended to distract the minds of the people, excluding the religious sentiment and thus uniting the churches for special work. Secondly, many churches have been revising the church books and a number have been struck off their lists. But these causes do not fully account for the lack of prayer, spiritual labor and revival power, clearly manifest to us as we examine reports of the year's work. There is evidently need of self-examination. This lack should be supplied. Bodies like this can only be made to glow and throb with life by contact with Christ, who is the Prince of life. We must more than touch his garment, we must press to his side and live in conscious communion with him. He heals where there is faith. We must have such faith. The branches must know of their connection with the vine that the fruit may be pleasing to the husbandman and our union with one another maintained. He calls us to this, "The unity of the spirit in the bond of peace." "Herein is my Father glorified that ye bear much fruit, so shall ye be my disciples."

SUMMARY.

Rec'd by Bapt. letter. Total. Decrease.

1st Dist. 27 3 30 4 7
2nd " 27 2 29 59
3rd " 28 6 34 51
4th " 24 3 27 16
5th " 57 5 62 92
6th " 79 15 94 87
7th " 64 21 85 82
Totals.....280 55 335 394

MONEYS PAID.

For ministry For buildings & improvements For Current Expenses Total

1st Dist. 357 00 5 00 244 00 606 00
2nd " 2,120 96 597 79 504 75 3,223 50
3rd " 1,718 00 — 934 04 2,652 04
4th " 714 42 419 18 121 29 1,254 89
5th " 807 00 431 99 111 45 1,350 44
6th " 2,843 00 1,692 00 428 72 4,963 72
7th " 3,518 00 816 00 1,303 00 5,637 00
Totals.....\$12,084 38 3,961 96 3,647 25 19,693 59

G. W. McDonald, Sec.

The adoption of the report was moved by Rev. A. C. Thompson and seconded by Rev. J. E. Reid, both of whom spoke appropriately on the subjects suggested by the report.

Revs. C. T. Phillips and Jos. McLeod and G. A. Hartley and Bro. D. McLeod Vince also made remarks and offered suggestions; brother Vince pointing out that since the Conference was last held in Midland, 19 years ago, 8750 persons had been added to the churches by baptism. An average of 460 per year, which he thought was an encouraging showing; besides, much substantial work that cannot be shown in figures has been done.

Rev. W. M. Knollin, delegate from the N. S. Free Baptist Conference spoke of and for that body. He told of their 37 churches, 3800 communicants, and 15000 adherents; spoke of their general work and the progress they are making. They have a well arranged system of pastorates, and are feeling the benefits of having their churches properly cared for by faithful pastors. He referred to the return of Rev. J. J. Barnes to this Province, and said his removal from Nova Scotia is much regretted, for during his two years in that Province he has done good work and the brethren have come to regard him with much favour. He expressed the pleasure he felt in meeting again the brethren of the Conference of which he became a member when he began his ministry, and said many things which touched the hearts of those who listened to him.

The Conference, by vote, welcomed Bro. Knollin, and expressed its joy in the prosperity of its sister Conference.

Rev. J. T. Parsons reported his visit to the last session of the N. S. Conference, and Rev. Jos. McLeod reported his attendance as the Conference delegate, at the Baptist Convention.

The Treasurer of Conference, Bro. Wm. Peters, submitted his report of the Conference fund, showing a balance on hand of \$14,000.

7 p. m., Prayer by Rev. Thos. VanWart. Bro. W. J. Owen, the Clerk pro tem of the second District Meeting and Rev. J. W. Freeman of the N. S. Conference was voted seats in Conference.

The order of business for the evening session was the consideration of Sabbath School interests. The S. S. Secretary, Bro. E. C. Freeze, submitted his report. He had not received as many reports of Sabbath Schools as in some former years, and was therefore unable to present as satisfactory a statement of the character of the schools and the work done in them as he desired. The lack of reports was attributable chiefly, he thought, to the omission from the new form of Church reports of the blanks for Sabbath Schools. He made some good suggestions. He said:

That the schools in our denomination may be more efficient and successful, we require extra labors bestowed upon them. It is true we are called upon to raise considerable means to carry on the varied departments of our work. Still I fail to see the wisdom of withholding financial aid and extra labors from a cause fraught with such advantages to the churches and the denomination as the efficiency and extension of our Sabbath school work. We are spending money annually upon our home and foreign missionary work which is wise and God honoring, but should we fail to lead our little ones to Christ, fail to train them to fear and honor their Creator. How can we reasonably expect the missionary cause in the future to be advanced by us? There is it is true, a Sabbath school convention in the province with its branches of county and parish conventions, which are doubtless doing a good work. These, however, cannot relieve us of our responsibility nor justify the denomination in neglecting its duty in this regard any more than would the fact that the Y. M. C. A. or Salvation Army are at work, justify us in neglecting to preach the word. We have our own duties to perform and we will be held accountable for them irrespective of what others are doing or may do. Therefore I suggest that an amount be placed at the disposal of the S. S. executive to enable them to such agencies as will help to increase the interest in and the efficiency of our Sabbath School work. Means thus expended will strengthen the whole body and increase our ability in the future to raise money for every department of christian labor.

Rev. F. Babcock, moving the adoption of the report, said it has well been said that the nineteenth century is devoted to S. S. work, than which there is no more important branch of Christian service. The time is long past when we are required to discuss the propriety of Sabbath schools or to prove the worth of the work done in them. It is no more necessary than to discuss the necessity of giving food and clothing and education to our chil-

dren. It is a great work. The Sabbath School is one of the strong est barriers to popery, mormonism, infidelity and other destructive systems. To sow the seed of truth in young minds is the best preventive of every form of unbelief and vice. There can be no grander service than training the young for goodness and heaven.

Methods of work are not yet absolutely perfect, but are far in advance of any hitherto employed. The more general interest of the parents in this work is full of promise. The great necessity of the time is strong spiritual life; this is being helped by S. S. work.

Revs. C. T. Phillips, J. T. Parsons, J. E. Reid, G. W. McDonald, G. A. Hartley, and J. H. Erb, and Wm. Peters Esq. also spoke, each adding something to the interest of the discussion of this most important branch of the work we are given to do. The report was adopted, and a collection taken to help the executive in its work.

The Nominating Committee submitted its report as follows:

Home Mission Executive:—Rev. J. E. Reid, corresponding secretary; Rev. G. A. Hartley, treasurer, and Wm. Peters, D. W. Clark, Rev. W. Kinghorn, Rev. A. Taylor and J. Smith.

Foreign Mission Executive:—Rev. Dr. McLeod, corresponding secretary; Wm. Peters, treasurer, and Revs. John Perry and C. T. Phillips, J. A. VanWart, E. C. Freeze, Revs. T. S. VanWart and G. W. McDonald and Hon. G. E. Foster.

Sabbath School Executive:—E. C. Freeze, corresponding secretary; and Major Vines, Revs. J. W. Clark and G. W. Foster, G. McLeod, and Rev. J. Noble.

Executive for the relief of sick and disabled ministers:—R. E. McLeod, treasurer; Rev. W. Kinghorn, G. W. Sharp, W. Peters, G. J. Worden and Albert Palmer, M. P. P.

Committee on absent brethren:—Revs. A. Taylor, J. Gravinor, J. H. Erb and T. Connor and Geo. Draper. Committee on appeals:—Revs. T. Hartley, J. G. McKenzie, G. B. Trafton and S. W. Shaw and Jas. F. Jones.

Committee on collections:—Revs. J. Henderson, J. A. Robertson and R. French, C. VanWart, T. W. Perry. Committee on District Meetings:—Rev. C. F. Rideout, C. White, M. White, Jas. Kenny, Revs. W. Carpenter and A. C. Thompson and E. Savage.

Committee on deceased brethren:—Revs. J. N. Barnes, J. Gunter, O. N. Mott, C. Erb, and S. Johnston.

Committee on correspondence:—Rev. H. Hart, E. Slipp, W. Slipp, S. F. Belyea, and Jonas Taylor.

Committee on Sabbath:—Revs. W. Downey, T. O. Dewitt, G. F. Currie, B. Colpitts, and W. DeWare.

Committee on temperance:—Revs. B. H. Nobles, Elijah Gray, T. Alexander, A. W. Rideout and R. Webb, Jr.

Committee on education:—Revs. J. T. Parsons, F. Babcock, H. H. Cosman, F. C. Bloodworth, and Dr. Burnett.

Board of managers:—D. W. Clark, Revs. G. A. Hartley, R. E. McLeod, J. A. VanWart, G. J. Worden, and B. S. Palmer.

Delegate to F. B. Conference of Nova Scotia:—Rev. T. S. VanWart; substitute, Rev. G. A. Hartley.

The report was adopted. The Conference adjourned till Monday at 9.30 a. m.

SUNDAY.—Much to the disappointment of the people it was raining Sunday morning. Many, living a few miles away, were prevented attending the services of the day; and even some not far away could not venture out to the morning service. There was prayer meeting at 8.30 a. m. At 10.30 the Annual sermon was preached by Rev. J. E. Reid. Rev. F. Babcock read the first hymn, Rev. C. T. Phillips read the Scripture lesson, Rev. A. B. McDonald (Baptist) offered prayer, and Rev. J. T. Parsons read the second hymn. The preacher's text was Phil. 2:5.

Subject—The mind of Christ in the Church. He said, we learn what is His mind by what we are told of His life, His sayings and His work. He spoke of Christ's spirit, and set forth fully His leading doctrines, and said that observance of these is essential to discipleship. He urged Christians to exemplify the mind of Christ in humility, self-denial, love, patience, service. At 3 P. M. Rev. W. M. Knollin preached. His text was Phil. 2:12—13. Subject, God and man in Salvation. After speaking of the wisdom of planting the church in Philippi, and giving some practical counsel suggested thereby, the preacher spoke of salvation (1) what it is, and (2) how effected. He dwelt at some length on God's way of working with and in man; and clearly set

(Continued on fourth page.)