

TERMS, NOTICES, ETC.

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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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ALL COMMUNICATIONS, etc., should be addressed RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, Box 375, Fredericton, N. B.

Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLEOD, D. D., EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28, 1887.

HOLY LIVING. A holy life has a voice. It speaks when the tongue is silent, and is either a constant attraction or a continual reproach.

MOODY. Evangelist Moody is to begin a series of meetings in Montreal next Sunday. We hope to hear of great good being done.

PAY NOW. Those of our subscribers who are in arrears will greatly oblige us by promptly remitting the amounts due. We need the money. Send it along at once, please.

SENATOR McMASTER. The death of Hon. Mr. McMaster of Toronto is announced. He was taken ill while speaking at a College Meeting on Wednesday, and died next morning. He was 76 years old, and had been a member of the Senate of Canada for over twenty years. He was known more widely by his benefactions. The Baptist College of Toronto (known as McMaster Hall) was built by him at a cost of over \$100,000. He was a good man, and did much good.

By his will he leaves about \$800,000 to the McMaster College above what he had given in his life-time.

BRAINS WITH PIETY.—Not many, if any, will question the correctness of the statement of a contemporary that "brains need to be mixed with piety," but the other truth needs to be quite as strongly emphasized, that piety needs to be mixed with brains.

GOOD RESULTS. When Mr. Moody was last in London doing evangelistic work, a number of young men were commissioned to keep watch of the converts to see how many of them remained true to their professions. They did so. Two of the committee were at the Bible School at Northfield, and made the statement that they got the names of 45,000 who were converted during that work in London.

THE C. T. A. Heretofore it has been allowable to bring on a vote for repeal of the C. T. Act at any time, even long before the expiration of the three years of the law's continuance. An order in Council has just been passed which changes this. Hereafter no elections for the repeal of the Canada Temperance Act in any county, city or town shall be authorized to take place earlier than fifteen days before the expiration of three years after the act has been brought into force in such municipality.

AN ASSISTANT. Dr. Talmage's church has engaged an assistant pastor. He will devote himself chiefly to pastoral visiting, a part of the church's work which has been much neglected. Dr. Talmage's friends say that while many have been received into the church they have been largely left without organization, development, or pastoral watch-care. For work of this kind Dr. Talmage has neither time nor taste. He is a preacher simply.

A GOOD WORK. Lady Dufferin, wife of the Viceroy of India is in various ways showing great interest in the women of that country, and her interest takes very practical forms. There has recently been established in Calcutta under her auspices, "A Society of Women's Friendly Society," the object of which is to teach young women useful arts, with a view to enabling them to earn an independent livelihood. An industrial workshop for women has been already established, where practical instruction is given in polishing, upholstering, die-stamping, marking, picture-framing, dressmaking and machine-sewing. Other useful arts—such as gilding, painting, carving, printing, book-binding, electroplating, etc.—will also be taught as opportunities offer. All employers of female artisans have been publicly invited to place themselves in communication with the superintendent of the workshop. The institution is superintended by an influential ladies' committee, in which are the wives of many well-known men. There can be no two opinions with regard to the usefulness of such an institution.

SELF-DENIAL. The statement is made that recently the Salvation Army wishing \$25,000 for some special work raised it by what they called "a week of self-denial." During a week they abstained from everything but what was absolutely necessary to life, and so raised the money. Referring to this statement the *Canada Presbyterian* well says: "While we are not much in love with the 'lingo' and some of the methods of the Army, we are strongly of the opinion that this is a much better way to raise money than some of the methods adopted by many congregations. A week's self-denial would do congregations much more good than some tea-meetings we have seen. It is quite possible that a week's or a month's self-denial for some good purpose would help a congregation much more than a week of so-called revival meetings, at which sensuous excitement may easily pass as the work of the Divine Spirit. A dozen men in each congregation leading consecrated and self-denying lives would soon make a revolution in the Church."

A NEW DODGE. A rum-seller is always equal to a trick, and the meaner it is the more he is likely to chuckle over it. A charge was the other day brought against the Barker House for violation of the C. T. Act. It was clearly enough established that there had been rum-selling. The defence was that Coleman, the proprietor, had nothing to do with the sale. He went on the stand and swore that he had some time ago leased the bar to a fellow in St. John named O'Brien, and that he now has no interest whatever in it beyond the rent. The magistrate, thereupon dismissed the charge against Coleman. One feature of this case is interesting and suggestive. Coleman had been convicted of a second offence against the law; if convicted again he must go to jail; he evidently appreciated the danger of the situation and so leased the premises. If, as the rum men are fond of claiming, the law has no effect and cannot be enforced. Why was Coleman so fearful of another charge against him that he must dodge it under cover of a lease to another party? It is an acknowledgment of a fear that he would find himself in jail if he continued to violate the law. Will our friends please make a note of this for use when next they are told that no attention is paid to the law.

Whether the lease to the St. John fellow is good or bad we do not know. But the matter should be tested at once. Our own opinion is that Coleman is liable for having rented his premises for an illegal purpose, and that O'Brien is liable for carrying on the sale. A charge should be brought against each, so that the question may be determined once for all. These dodges only show how hardly pressed the rum-men are, and to what straits they are driven. They can be driven out of the business and they will be.

The Conference.

The fifty-fifth annual session of the Free Baptist Conference of New Brunswick will meet on Saturday of this week in Midland, Kings Co. On Friday will be held the Elders' Conference, when all the ministers of the denomination are expected to be present. The Elders' Conference has to do especially with matters affecting the ministry, and with questions of doctrine and modes of work, and seeks to harmonize differences when any exist. There may be something in this way to do this year; if so, we hope it may be easily and satisfactorily done.

General Conference has to do with a great variety of questions, more, we sometimes think, than it ought to have, at any rate more than it can give proper attention to, in the limited time of a session. It would be well, we believe, if the plan had in contemplation a few years ago of a Convention of Free Baptists of the Maritime Provinces were carried out. Certain of general importance could

be given up to the Convention, and the Conferences would have more time to attend to questions more immediately affecting the internal life and the local operations of the churches. This is a matter, to which the brethren may feel disposed to give some consideration; it is certainly worth considering.

What the reports of the churches will show of work done during the year we can only conjecture. In some things we anticipate very favourable reports; in some others we fear the showing will not be as good as might be. There will, of course, be facts calling for grateful acknowledgement of God's goodness; there will also, we fear, be facts that will sadden the hearts of the lovers of Zion. It will be good if these so humble us all that we will at once and always be more devoted to our Lord and more zealous in the high service to which He has called us.

Among the questions that should have the careful attention of Conference in our Foreign Mission work. The showing of the year will, we think, be fairly good. The people are glad to have their own representatives in the foreign field, and have contributed to their support with a good degree of readiness and liberality. There is, however, not nearly so much done in this work as should be, and as might be if there were better management. The chief lack just now is a well arranged system of regular contributions, a system that may be easily applied to every church. When the claims of the work are kept before the people and they have opportunity to conveniently contribute, there is not a church in the denomination but will do its part and enjoy doing it. We trust the Conference will set itself to make provision for better carrying on this work.

For several years less Home Mission work has been done than formerly. The denomination cannot afford to neglect this work. There are many churches which must have aid or suffer; indeed not a few are now suffering because the needed assistance has not been given them. Then there are fields wholly uncared for by any Christian body where churches of our faith might be planted if judicious labour were expended. Besides supplementing what weak churches can themselves raise towards the support of the ministry amongst them, there is work enough in new fields to keep two or three missionaries constantly busy. If we would not only hold our own but make the progress which it is the will of God we should make as a Christian body, more evangelistic work must be done. We have the money. True, it is not in the treasury of the H. M. Society, but it is in the possession of our members, and it ought to be secured for this work. We hope the conference will see the importance of undertaking larger things in the home field.

The denomination's Educational work needs attention. Our interests are now in the Union Baptist Education Society, and we must not fail to do our full share in support of the society's undertakings. The Seminary, now in course of construction, will, when completed, be one of the finest educational buildings in the Maritime Provinces. The denominations concerned in the work will, we think, have reason to be proud of the institution. There is yet need of considerable funds to complete and furnish the building. We are anxious that Free Baptists should not fall short in their contributions. A statement by the Conference concerning the Society's work and its importance to us would, doubtless, have the effect of increasing the interest in it.

Larger provision for the Licentiate Students needs to be made. The fund is, we fear, quite exhausted. Since it is of interest to all the churches that the young men, who will in a few years be their pastors, be thoroughly equipped for their work they all ought to be asked to contribute regularly to the Student's Aid Fund. The Conference should arrange a plan of regular contributions.

Perhaps the most momentous question that will engage the attention of Conference is that of Baptist Union. The committee appointed last year to confer with a committee of the Baptist Convention will report the results of their deliberations. The Basis of Union agreed upon by the joint committee will be submitted to the Conference, and will, we presume, be either approved, amended or rejected, or possibly definite action on it may be deferred. The Baptist Convention has already voted approval of it, and the action of the Conference is awaited, not only by our Baptist brethren and our own people but also by the public at large, with a good deal of interest. That the question of union presents difficulties there is no doubt. The joint committee fully appreciated

them, and sought to arrange a platform, not involving the sacrifice of any principle by either party, and that would be as nearly as possible satisfactory to both parties. We listened to the discussion of the Basis by the Baptist Convention; with a few exceptions it was discussed in a broad Christian spirit. We trust it may receive like treatment by the conference. That there will be differences of opinion is certain; it would be passing strange if there were not. Some, perhaps, do not think union desirable; some who think it desirable, may not be able readily to see its feasibility; while others think it might be effected with but little difficulty.

That is a rare document which is wholly free from defects; some one can always see that the insertion of a word here, or the erasure of a word there, or the addition of a sentence in another place, or any one of a dozen or more slight alterations would quite change, or make clearer, the meaning, and so make it satisfactory. But we would suggest that where the desired change is merely verbal and does not touch any vital principle it is better to not contend for it; when contention arises over the phraseology of a statement the truth involved is often lost sight of and the end sought to be accomplished is defeated. Whatever differences of view there may be either as to the main question or as to the form of the Basis presented by the committee, we are hoping that the whole subject may be looked at from the stand-point of what is best for the two bodies concerned and will most promote the Christian work committed to them, and he considered in a broad and true Christian spirit. And every one who has any interest in the matter, whether in favour of union or opposed to it, should earnestly pray that the Conference be divinely directed. If it be the will of God that the two Baptist bodies become one we all ought to be glad to have it so; but if it be His will that they remain as now no one ought to attempt to unite them. Let us all seek to know what is His will, and be ready to do it.

The members of Conference will go to the session of this year with anxious hearts; equal anxiety will be felt by many remaining at home. Loving the church with which they are connected, they are concerned for its prosperity. If this anxiety but moves us all to go to God in prayer for light and leading it will be well. Grave questions demand consideration and action. That divine direction may be given is our earnest prayer. "If Thy presence go not with us, carry us up hence." In all the churches and homes of the denomination there should be constant and fervent prayer that the Conference may be under God's control, and that those things, and only those things, may be done which will promote His purposes.

How Much Canada Drinks.

In the course of his speech at the prohibitory convention in Toronto, Mayor Howland gave figures showing the decrease in the consumption of liquor in proportion to the ratio of restriction. According to the Dominion government's reports the quantity of liquor consumed in Canada during 1885-6 was three gallons per head. British Columbia, with comparatively no restrictions, consumed 7½ gallons per head. In Ontario, with a good license law and one county under the Scott act, the consumption was 4½ gallons. Quebec, which has a larger number of parishes, under partial prohibition consumed 3½ gallons. In Manitoba and the North-west territories, the latter being under prohibition, the consumption was 2½ gallons per head. New Brunswick, having 10 out of 18 counties under the Scott act, only consumed 1½ gallons. Nova Scotia, with a larger proportion of Scott-act counties, 1½ gallons per head, and in Prince Edward Island, which is altogether under the Scott act, less than ½ of a gallon was consumed per head. The figures showed that the consumption of liquor decreased in the same ratio as the Scott act was adopted. Those who say more whiskey is drunk lie, and these figures prove it. Taking the convictions for drunkenness in the counties in which the Scott act went into force on May 1st, his worship showed that they numbered about 200, while there were 500 convictions for the same offence in 1884. This proved there was less drunkenness. The convictions where the Scott act was not adopted showed an increase. In 1884 there were 22,048 convictions in these places, while in 1886 there were 23,014.

GENERAL RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—Portugal, like Spain, is Roman Catholic, but is not entirely barred to Gospel influences. In Lisbon four evangelists are laboring under the leadership of Canon Pepe, of the Episcopal Church. The Scotch Kirk

has in Senor Carvalho an active agent in the capital and neighborhood. The Methodist evangelist, Ventura, has his headquarters at Oporto.

—A Bible conference is to be held in Philadelphia, November 15-20, of which George C. Needham, the Evangelist, is the prime mover. It has the endorsement and co-operation of some prominent men of different denominations. Special emphasis is to be given in this meeting to the infallible inspiration of the Bible.

—The society of Christian Endeavor has concluded the seventeenth year of its existence. The number of societies is 2,314, with 140,000 members. These societies are found all over the United States, in Great Britain, China and Japan. During the past year 14,000 have united with the church from these organizations. The receipts for the year have been \$481,995, and the expenditures \$466,637.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS.

FOURTH DISTRICT MEETING.—The Fourth District Meeting convened with the church at Fredericton Junction at 10 a. m. Saturday 10th inst. The ministers present were, Revs. G. A. Hartley, J. G. McKenzie, T. O. DeWitt, J. H. Erb and G. F. Currie pastor of the church. The pastor conducted the annual conference meeting. The ministers present and a good number of others spoke of the goodness of God and the redeeming love of Christ.

At 2 P. M. the chairman, Rev. T. O. DeWitt, opened the reporting meeting. To the ministers present in the morning were added, Rev. J. Gunter and Licentiate Currier. Reports were read from thirteen churches, twelve of which sent delegates, one a letter from the clerk, one was reported verbally, and one had no representative there. The reports show a small increase in membership, some revival having been experienced in several churches especially Greenfield church whose numbers were nearly doubled under the labors of Licentiate Currier and others. Nearly all the churches have received some pastoral care from either Elders Gunter, McKenzie, T. O. DeWitt, G. F. Currie and Bro's Grass, Scribner and Currier. Some are in a low state and need help. The amount of money collected for support of the ministry averaged about one dollar per resident member, and about as much more for all other purposes combined. The Sabbath Schools were not reported, there being no headings in the new forms for that purpose. The F. B. Sabbath Schools number fourteen, being a majority of all the S. Schools in the district, the delegates present were principally School workers, and as this part of the work is deemed of much importance even where churches are in a low state, considerable disappointment was evinced at the absence of reports. The Elders and a few others spoke encouragingly and hopefully, and on motion the reports were adopted.

In the evening the annual meeting of the Woman's F. M. Auxiliary Aid Society was held, Dr. Second in the chair. Mrs. Thos. Alexander, Secretary, read a report showing a good year's work. The ministers and a few others made appropriate and cheering addresses, and a number of selections were excellently rendered by the choir, Miss A. B. Hoyt presiding at the organ. The audience was large and apparently well pleased. The Sabbath's services commenced with a good prayer meeting. At 9 A. M., Rev. G. A. Hartley preached from John Sch. 4 and 5 verse to a crowded house, many having to stand up. The sermon was generally pronounced eloquent and of the quality seldom listened to by the congregation. The Sabbath-School was held at 2 p. m. At 3 p. m. Rev. T. O. DeWitt preached from 45th psalm, 17th verse. The speaker eloquently presented that "name above every other name" given to our Redeemer, in a manner to warm up the hearts of his followers, and encouraged many to commemorate his sacrifice for us in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper administered at the close of the preaching service. At 7.30 Rev. J. G. McKenzie occupied the pulpit and selected Rev. 14th 13 verse for his text. He encouraged those who had died been born again to follow closely the precepts and example of Jesus through life, and at their death they would be among the blessed who die in the Lord. A large number took part in the meeting after the sermon at Blaisville. Rev. G. F. Currie preached at 10.30 a. m. and Rev. G. A. Hartley at 7.30 p. m. At Tracy Station Rev. J. G. McKenzie at 10.30 and Licentiate Currier at 7. Collections in aid of ministers Relief Fund were taken at all the preaching services.

At 8 o'clock Monday morning the business of the district was resumed. Rev. G. F. Currie was elected chairman. Delegates were appointed to Gen. Conference. The unanimous thanks of the meeting was tendered to the people of the Junction for their hospitality, and all other business completed before the meeting was dissolved.

On recommendation of a committee of the whole a licence was granted to Bro. Frank A. Currier of Upper Gagetown Church for one year, and the application of Bro. Z. B. Grass for a renewal of his licence, was referred to a special committee with power to grant or withhold. On motion meeting adjourned to meet with Rusagornish Church the second Saturday in September 1888.

MARTIN EMERSON, Clerk.

REV. JOHN PERRY passed through this city last week. He intended to spend last Sabbath at Washedemoak, his old home, and then go on to conference.

SHAG HARBOUR, N. S.—A good work of grace is in progress at Shag Harbour. The pastor, Rev. Wm. Miller, has baptized ten converts.

GREENWICH, K. Co.—The spiritual condition of the first and second Greenwich churches is very good. I have endeavored during the nine months I have laboured here to care for the interests of our churches, and to sow good seed. We have been made glad in the conversion of sinners. Next Sabbath (the 25th) closes my present engagement with the people here. After prayerful consideration I have determined to labour elsewhere in the Lord's vineyard. I am glad to have the best wishes and prayers of the friends I have ministered to.

GIDEON SWIM.

Sept. 20th.

WOMAN'S MISSION SOCIETY.—The first Annual Meeting of W. F. M. Society of the Fourth District was held Saturday evening Sept. 10th at Fredericton Junction. In the absence of the President, Mrs. Z. B. Grass, Dr. E. Secord took the chair, meeting opened by singing "From Greenland's Icy Mountains" reading Scripture and prayers by Rev. G. A. Hartley. The Secretary presented her report. She had the pleasure of reporting all the auxiliaries in the district, namely,—Blissville, Fredericton Junction, Wassiss, Rusagornish, Geary, Patterson Settlement and Waterville. The adoption of the report was moved by Miss Perley seconded by Mrs. T. L. Alexander. Speeches were made by Rev. G. A. Hartley, Rev. J. G. McKenzie, Rev. G. F. Currie and Bros. David H. Smith and James Gardner, all encouraging us in the work. A collection was taken amounting to \$17.74. The officers for the ensuing year are Mrs. Thos. McMullin President, and Mrs. Thos. Alexander Secretary, Treasurer. I feel greatly encouraged to go on. The Lord is prospering us by increasing our numbers. Let each Sister in the district feel that she has something to do in this important Christian work. And next year we hope to have a more cheering report.

MRS. THOS. ALEXANDER.

Sec.

FROM REV. A. C. THOMPSON.—It affords me pleasure to inform you Bro. Editor, that since your visit to this circuit the brethren at Corn Hill stimulated by that earnest exhortation of yours relative to the condition and appearance of their church building have taken hold with willing hearts and hands and have thoroughly repaired and renovated the edifice. The change made is so marked that it must be seen to be fully appreciated. A new roof has been put on, and paint has been effectively applied to both inside and outside the walls and ceiling have been nicely kalsomined, two new 3 lamp chandeliers have been put in, a new pulpit on an elevated platform has taken the place of the old, the pulpit platform and aisles have been nicely carpeted, and a fine new stove has been put in. The efficient committee who had this work in charge were Bros. John Duffield, John Branscomb and James Burlock, who succeeded in performing the task assigned them in a very creditable manner, and what was still better at an expenditure very much below the estimate. Danl. Crandall of Salisbury was engaged by the committee to do the painting, which was done in an expeditious and satisfactory manner; he also, being what is termed a very handy man, built the nice new pulpit etc. The house was reopened for worship on Sunday Sept. 4th. I was desirous of securing the assistance of some of my brother ministers on that occasion, but the committee, who had the whole matter in charge, thought otherwise, and after some complimentary remarks as to their pastor's ability, they insisted that I should attend to that duty; being too good natured to refuse, I did the best I could. The day was fine, the house was full, and God's presence was manifested. They have extended me a call to labour with them for another year, and, after seeking direction from Him whose I am and whom I serve, I have concluded that such is the will of the Lord.

They are having a good work of grace at Havelock Corner. Eighteen were baptized last Sabbath, and 23 a fortnight previously. The church itself a very much helped. Among the heads of families who have thus far professed religion, we were very glad to see Councillor C. I. Keith, who was baptized a fortnight ago and last Sunday evening was ordained a deacon of the Havelock Baptist Church; he will doubtless be a strong pillar to the church.

At Salem, 4 miles back of Havelock, the Baptists and Free Baptists are building a neat and commodious church. Associate last Monday netted them \$38.00 to go towards furnishing the church. In the evening I gave them my lecture on "Army Life," which they all seemed to appreciate.

We were very sorry that Bro. Taylor could not pay us that contemplated visit before Conference, but shall expect him some time after Conference, the Lord willing.

A. C. THOMPSON.

Petitcodiac, Sept. 21st 1887.

THIRD DISTRICT MEETING.—The annual session of the Third District Meeting was held in Lower Prince William on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. The social Conference