

Religious Intelligencer.

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

VOL. XXXV.—No. 40.

FREDERICTON, N. B., OCTOBER 3, 1888.

WHOLE No. 1806

Nova Scotia Free Baptist General Conference.

(Continued.)

Conference met on Saturday 8.30 A. M. The committee on Sabbath observance reported.

The seventh day is the "Sabbath of the Lord thy God." It is of perpetual obligation to be kept and observed, as of the Lord. Greater care is demanded in observing the Lord's day. Our pulpits should strongly show the evils of Sabbath fishing, travel, and visiting. An honored Sabbath is a blessing. Revd. E. N. Fernald of the Free Will Baptist publishing house, Boston, being present, was invited to a seat with us. The Moderator reported his attendance by request of Conference, with Dr. McLeod, at the temperance picnic held the previous day at Milton. They were heartily received and had a good time. Bro. McLeod's speech created a grand impression and was greatly commended. Resolved that our thanks be given to Hon. A. Gayton, M. P. P. and Revd. Dr. McLeod, for their appreciated services. The Committee on Neurology devoutly thanked God that the ranks of the ministry had not been broken by death, during the year. God, in His all-wise providence, had taken up higher the following active workers, and standard-bearers, —Deacon Charles Cushing, of Caledonia, Queens County; and Brethren N. D. and M. D. McGray, of Cape Island. These were men who had served faithfully their own generation, and were greatly esteemed. To the bereaved, heart-felt sympathy was expressed in their and our great loss, and the prayer made that all might be comforted by the God of all grace. The Committee on Education reported. They called for a deeper appreciation of the importance and value of education. The Gospel ministry should be thoroughly equipped for the great work committed to those called to preach and teach "the unsearchable riches of Christ." A sound education and religious instruction should be more and more cherished by all parents. The Committee on Sabbath Schools were glad to report a deeper interest in Sabbath School work. The value and preciousness of youth were never more realized than to-day. In our work we should use our own lesson papers and periodicals. The Sabbath school, as the nursery to the church, should be of the church and with the church in aim and purpose. Revd. J. W. Freeman, reported his visit of the previous year to the Maine Central Yearly Meeting, as did Revd. C. B. Atwood, his visit this year. Both spoke of the cordial welcome they received, and the interest our brethren have in our work. Revd. W. M. Knollin, delegate last year to the N. B. Conference said he was well received and had a pleasant and most satisfactory visit. He was glad he went and thanked the brethren for the honor bestowed upon him. Resolved that Bros. Jas. E. Cushing and Byron Sims be a committee to nominate a General Conference pastorate committee. They named Bros. E. Crowell, J. W. Freeman, Nelson Corning, R. A. Sims and Charles Robbins. Report adopted. Halifax Church interest was considered. Revd. L. A. Lang and Deacon Wm. Wilson explained the position and work of that church. After a general conversation the following were appointed a committee to consider and report on the subject, Bros. A. Gayton, J. E. Cushing, B. F. Kenney, E. Crowell and R. A. Sims. The report of the General Conference executive was read and adopted. The Minister's Relief Society made a report. A collection was taken for Father Swim, and \$16.00 obtained. The request of the N. B. Conference for a committee to meet with the committees appointed by them and the Baptist Convention, to further consider the question of union was considered. A committee was appointed to take the whole matter into consideration and report. Owing to the pressure of work the committee were unable to meet. It was then resolved that the request be given to the General Conference Executive to consider and take action thereon. Resolved that we express to Sister Sullivan, the widow of the late Rev. E. Sullivan, of precious memory, our sincere sympathy in her affliction, in

the loss of a beloved daughter, and pray that she may be sustained and helped of the Lord by the rich comforts of His grace and presence. Revd. F. C. Hayes, of Boston, having visited us for the first time, and being the first delegate from the F. W. B. Mass. Association, a resolution expressing appreciation of the interest of the Association, and desire that the correspondence should be continued, was passed. Revd. Dr. McLeod, editor of INTELLIGENCER our denominational organ, having in so many ways helped us, and often at much sacrifice, it was thought well at this time, when his fidelity to our denominational interests is made the occasion of more or less loss to him, to strive not only to manifest our interest in his work by kind and appreciative words but in a practical way by a heartier interest in the INTELLIGENCER. Resolved, That, as pastors and people we pledge ourselves to urge with greater zeal the claims of the INTELLIGENCER, and do all possible to increase its circulation. With pleasure and great heartiness the resolution was passed. To give effect to it, cannot each pastor go to work at once; we can help ourselves by having it in all Free Baptist families. The Committee on General Questions reported: THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, the recognized organ of the denomination, is highly appreciated by our people, and is constantly increasing in favor amongst them. Believing it to be an important means by which the interests of our denomination are advanced; we request that special effort be made on the part of all interested to increase the circulation of this valuable publication. We also commend again the Morning Star, and the Missionary Helper, two excellent publications worthy of our interest and support. The Report on Missions expressed the hope that the positive need of systematic giving would this year be more clearly seen and better carried out. The SOCIAL CONFERENCE was held Saturday at 2.30 p. m. This meeting, which is always the spiritual feast of the Conference, was indeed "a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined." The Master, was present by the grace of His spirit, and joy filled the house, and great gladness. It was a heavenly sitting together in Christ Jesus. In the King's House, where His beauty, "in full glory shines," at the King's bounteous table. His children shared a feast of overflowing grace. Revd. S. N. Royal presided, and one and all said "our hearts have been made glad, and we have been refreshed in the way." "Hallowed moments rich in blessing, fragrant with the dews of Heaven." THE EDUCATION MEETING commenced at 7.30 p. m. Revd. J. W. Freeman presided. The church was crowded by an interested congregation. The secretary Revd. E. Crowell, read a well written and suggestive report. The donations and contributions received during the year amounted to \$111.38. Expenditure less than \$100.00. Balance in hand \$25.67. The report pressed upon us the necessity of systematic giving, and the divine call of faithfulness to our obligations. Revd. E. N. Fernald, said I came to speak of our publications. For several years I have purposed to be with you, but circumstances have prevented me. I am glad to be here. I am interested in education. Some think our colleagues for the purpose of making ministers. The Lord makes men, and endows them with gifts. We train and prepare men whom the Lord has made and called. If the gift is not there we cannot make it. As a people we have our own work to do. I am a denominational man, and believe in denominations. They are of God, and with a due regard to others, can and should do the work committed to them as they are. The time will probably never come when they will cease to be. By apt illustration, and cogent reasoning he made clear that statement. Speaking of the work of the F. W. B. Publishing house, said it was begun 52 years ago at Dover, N. H. The "Star" represents the 82,486 members of F. W. B. churches in the U. S. There are other Free Baptist papers, but the "Star" is the leading denominational paper in the States. Since it was established \$80,000.00 have been paid by the management into the treasuries of the denominational benevolent societies, from the profits of the business. We have now a large and good variety of Free Baptist publications. The Sabbath school lessons and papers are carefully prepared, and are second to none published in the States. Their circulation is steadily increasing. To encourage Sabbath schools, to take our own quarterly and lesson papers, he will send one quarter's on trial to any S. school, free of charge upon application. We believe in our own people patronising their own publications. We are one with you of the same principles and faith, and are called by the same name. I take great interest in your denominational organ the INTELLIGENCER. I trust you are doing your best for it and Bro. McLeod. If we are to hold our own people we must train them when young, and see to it that they are provided with our own periodicals. Bro. Fernald, was a ready and clear speaker. He sees straight, thinks straight, speaks what he thinks

and is active, earnest, in his Master's service. Revd. J. A. Gordon, Superintendent of the Union Baptist Seminary at St. Martins N. B. expressed his pleasure in being able once more to address a Yarmouth audience. In this town I spent some of my happiest years. The friendships formed, and pleasant associations of those years, are very precious to me. I am also glad to be able to convey to you the greetings of 45,000 Free Baptists, as free as the air we breathe, and to represent 100,000 Baptists, and also your membership as the representative of the Seminary. An educated Ministry is a necessity. I am glad by the report to learn of your efforts and position as to the value and importance of education. We believe with you in an all round and complete education. The demand for it grows year by year. My visit to you is specially in the interest of the Seminary I have the honor to represent. After a full and concise explanation as to the history of the Seminary, and the excellencies of the new building in its internal arrangement and he said we have the finest educational buildings in the Dominion of Canada. They have cost \$35,000.00 and of that sum \$27,000.00 have been paid, and the balance secured. The location can scarce be surpassed for health and comfort and the excellence of instruction will be all that accomplished and painstaking teachers can make it. It is our purpose to make the Seminary second to none in the Dominion, an excellent school, and a good religious home. The officers, teachers and pupils will live and board together. There will be one table—a home board. The teachers, Revd. Mr. Simpson M. A. principal, and Mr. A. G. Downey, B. A. assistant come to us with highest recommendations. The other members of staff of instruction have equal high standing. In every relation and every department our one aim is to have the best. Well, you will ask, what is to be the cost? For board \$3.00 per week; for the regular course of instruction \$8.00 per term; extra studies are provided for at a most reasonable scale. We have already a list of 60 pupils for the opening or soon after, and more are expected. Our prospects are cheering and the outlook most encouraging. It was a carefully arranged and effectively delivered address. Bro. Gordon, is an able, pleasing and convincing speaker. The writer briefly addressed the meeting on the value and advantages of an educated ministry. Mr. G. A. Downey, one of the teachers of the Seminary, in a brief address explained the course of studies to be pursued. He said he felt it to be a great honor to be the representative of the Free Baptists. This is a practical age, with very practical aims. The spirit of the age has greatly influenced and in many particulars changed our educational methods. Our aim is to provide a sound and thoroughly practical course of education, an all round education for the active service of every day life. The arrangements made and being made were such that we can have the utmost confidence in the character and conduct of the Seminary. He hoped all would do what they could to further this desirable and good work. Bro. Downey has been a most successful teacher, and received from the trustees and friends of his last school, high commendation. By the teaching fraternity who are acquainted with his work he is held in esteem as a skillful and successful instructor. Revd. G. A. Hartley, in a crisp and forcible speech, called attention to the need of culture of both head and heart. Education to-day is a need in all departments of life. I am interested in this good work, it is God's work. Our aim should be to do what we can to advance and promote, every agency that will help forward the cause of God. Skill is called for and we should aid those who are to continue the work we are engaged in. The choir favored the meeting with some excellent and pleasing selections. There was a good collection. SABBATH. The day opened bright and fine, and all were glad. At 9 a. m. prayer meeting. At 10.30 a. m. the Annual sermon was preached by the Revd. Wm. Miller. Text Acts 26: 16-18. Theme, The ministry and witness of Paul. The triumph of the Gospel is the most notable fact in the history of the world, a witness to its truth and an evidence of its undoubted power. In Paul's commission, given him by our Saviour, we may read the estimate the Apostle put upon the Gospel, and it is to the Apostles and their teachings we are to look for systematic theology. I. We have the Apostle's call to the ministry. It was a ministry of the word. A ministry of faith. To declare, "the unsearchable riches of Christ." It was not to please the ear of the multitude, but to tell the truth as in Jesus. The call rung in his heart, and "woe is me if I preach not the Gospel," was the inward conviction of his soul. Unless there be the same realised sense, he who goes forth in the name of Christ is an intruder. II. The extent of his call. It was to his own people, but also beyond them to the Gentiles—to the world. All are lost, all can be saved, for Christ died for all. We have a work to do for our own people, to look after our own household, but we are not to stop at that, but go beyond to all whom we can influence.

III. His ministry and charge. His ministry was a witness of Divine love, Divine power and willingness to save. For all and to all. We have not to offer a sacrifice, but to point to one, one which is perfect and complete. IV. The state of mankind. Hopeless, and lost. Deaf, but we could hear by the spirit's grace. Christ had come. Blind, but Christ has come to give sight. In bondage, but the deliver has come to set the captive free, to turn the feet out of the broad way that leads to death, and into the narrow way that leads to eternal life. A part in this work of grace belongs to all who would be saved. It is repent, turn, believe, receive "the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." This reception gives freedom and deliverance, adoption, and inheritance with the just made perfect by the grace of Christ. We have the same call as ministers of Christ. The same charge, and the same witness to set forth. Having the same things to offer as Paul and the fathers we honor, "let us be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." It was a good sermon and greatly enjoyed. It was the word for the hour, and God blessed it. At 2.30 p. m. Revd. J. B. Jordan, of Augusta Me. preached. Text, Acts xxvii: 23. Theme, "The Christian's relationship and service." We have in this short sentence two prominent and very important truths. (1) A true conception of the relationship which exists between Christ and the believers; (2) The condition of living which eventuates from the relationship thus conceived. It was because Paul realized that he belonged to Christ, that he served him. Notice first the truth taught that the Christian is not his own, but another's. And, secondly, the service, "whom I serve." In studying the elements of Paul's service, we find the most exalted example for us to imitate. I. It was a service that was inspired and controlled by one prevailing, absorbing purpose. This purpose was dual in its nature but a unite in its ultimate object. It divides into first a continuous striving for a more complete Christian experience and that his perfected life might be for the glory of his master in the salvation of men, and the advancement of the Kingdom of God in the earth. The personal experience. 2. Pressing toward perfection of life. The great ultimate purpose was not his own personal happiness but that the cause might be built up. II. It was a service marked by humility and complete self-abnegation. III. It was a service pervaded by great earnestness and consecration, and by this earnestness was begotten the assurance that the gospel he preached was to ultimately prevail. IV. The apostle did not lose sight of the reward offered. Not that this was what he was seeking, but in his great soul there came again and again foregleams of that light and joy which was to follow his earnest life. Finally—This service is but the prelude to another and a more exalted service where everything of tumult and disappointment shall be forever past. What that heavenly service will be, we must leave until its purposes are unfolded to us. Toward that day we hasten. Its glories will, at the latest, soon dawn upon us. "Be thou faithful unto death." Hear from the lips of the Master, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." O let all the soul within you For the truth's sake go abroad, Strike! let every nerve and sinew Tell on ages, tell for God. We are living—we are dwelling In a grand and awful time, In an age on ages telling, To be living is to sublimely. It is not possible to give the many admirable features of this sermon, given with great fluency, grace and directness. At the close the Lord's Supper was administered. The Master was within the doors. A very large number took part, and a gracious spirit pervaded the place. At 7 p. m. Rev. G. A. Hartley preached. Text, John 14: 6. Theme, "Christ the way." Christ is the one way; there is no other. He not only spoke of the way, but He Himself was the way. His truth was Himself. He declared and set forth the way. I. He is the way to be saved. There is salvation in no other. It is a great thing to be saved, to be delivered from condemnation, justified by grace, and to dwell in Christ. The only way we can be saved is by Him, "who came to seek and save the lost." Thomas said, "I know not the way," and the answer of Christ is, "I am the way." Believe in me, receive me. He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. His mission was and is to save. He "ever liveth to make intercession for us." The cross attests that we are worth saving, and declares to all we can be saved. II. He is the way into holiness. Much is said about it, and we hear much as to this theory and that. The one thing is to possess it. But what is it? It is character. "Christ formed in us." It is a nature and spirit imparted to us through belief of the

truth, by the grace of the Holy Spirit. We accept Christ as our Redeemer and Saviour, and are made at one with Him. Then, by abiding in Him, we become like Him and "grow in grace." "We are changed into the same image from glory to glory." On our part it is reception, and on His part bestowment. Thus "He is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification." "In Christ" we are holy, because He is our Saviour, and "as He is so are we in this present world," being at one with Him. Towards Christ as our standard of perfection, we are ever to reach forth and press toward the mark. Conscience sinning is one thing, and sinless perfection another. We may be "wholly sanctified," set apart, consecrated, but is that the "stature of Christ?" We must wholly surrender all for Christ, and keep nought for self, but can we say we are perfect? Perfect towards Christ as our only standard of perfection? Complete we are, "in Christ." He is both Saviour, and our righteousness. We receive Him as a gift, and appropriate Him as our life of holiness, and become "partakers of the Divine Nature." We love and become like Him. We obey and know His doctrine. Not for our own joy alone, do we receive the gift and grace of His Spirit, but for service. Christ is more to us than we realise. He is "all in all." III. He is the way into heaven. Through Him we learn of Heaven; by Him we partake here of heavenly joys; in Him we pass "through the valley and shadow of death" into the Goodman's home and rest—heaven. Yes! He is the way, for He came "to open up a way of life and salvation." A way of grace to glory, a safe, sure way to the "rest that remaineth" for those who overcome through the blood of the Lamb. Not to the gates of the City of our God, but into "the City whose builder and maker is God, to be kings and priests unto God." Let us do the will of God, and there need be no fear about our place in the home, of many mansions. Let us holdfast and hold on until we behold, "the King in His beauty." The above is a very meagre outline of a powerful sermon, delivered with characteristic conviction, clearness, and zeal. It held the attention of the crowded congregation, and made a deep impression. It will live for many a day. Bro. Jordan, at the close of the sermon, by request, explained the Young People's Society, The advocates of Christian Fidelity, which seeks to enlist the services of the young under the control of the church in the work of Christ. During the service Miss Hitchens gave a solo, "Consider the lilies," with exquisite taste, skill, and effect. Thus ended a day crowded with good things and long to be held in remembrance. The preaching was like the Master's seamless robe, all of a piece. Part was so admirably fitted to part, that the day's services made one complete whole of well-spoken words, and timely utterance. It was strong, solid, and helpful truth, which will not fail to live enriching and blessing. The other services of the Sabbath were as follows: Temple Baptist Church 10.30, Revd. D. T. Porter; Presbyterian Church 10.30 Revd. G. A. Hartley; Baptist Church, Milton, 10.30 Revd. C. B. Atwood; Wesley Church, Milton, 10.30 Revd. T. H. Siddall; Rockville F. B. Church, 3 p. m. Revd. F. L. Hayes; Cheggoggin F. B. Church, 3 p. m. Revd. F. G. Currie; First Baptist Church, 7 p. m. Dr. McLeod; Providence Methodist Church, 7 p. m. Revd. F. L. Hayes; Tabernacle Church (Congregational) Church, 7 p. m. Revd. T. H. Siddall; Acadia Baptist Church, 7 p. m. Revd. S. N. Royal; Tusket F. B. Church, 7 p. m. Revd. L. A. Lang; Plymouth F. B. Church, 10.30 a. m. Revd. G. F. Currie; The impressions made in these various services are reported as highly satisfactory. Conference resumed business Monday at 9 a. m. The morning session was occupied with a report from Elders' Conference, which will be given separately. Adjourned at 12 m. Met again at 2.30 p. m. The committee on the Halifax interest reported recommend Conference to assume for the present year the interest on \$1400 of debt due on the Star St. Church, property, as an encouragement to our brethren, hoping in the meanwhile opportunities will occur for the sale of that property in accordance with the resolutions of last year. The following appointments of delegates to other bodies were made:—F. C. B. Conference of N. B. Revd. W. C. Weston; his substitute, Revd. Wm. Miller. Bro. Weston, being unable to go, Bro. Miller will be present. Maine Central F. W. B. Y. Meeting, Revd. S. K. West; his substitute Revd. T. H. Siddall, Mass. F. W. B. Association, Revd. E. Crowell; his substitute Revd. D. T. Porter. Resolved, That we accord to Bro. Miller our hearty thanks for his good annual sermon. Resolved, That we commend to all our pastors and people the wisdom and benefit of at once organizing in connection with each church a society of "The advocates of Christian Fidelity" for the benefit of our young people. Resolved, That the committee appointed last year to report on the reorganization of our Quarterly Meetings be continued. The following were appointed the

executive of General Conference, —Hon. A. Gayton (moderator), Revd. W. C. Weston, J. I. Porter, T. H. Siddall, Wm. Miller, C. B. Atwood, and E. Crowell, and Deacon J. A. Smith, and Bro. Nelson Corning junr. Revd. C. B. Atwood was appointed to preach the next annual sermon; his substitute Revd. Dr. Sturges. Resolved, That our sincere thanks be given to the pastor and people for the very hearty way they were entertained and cared for this General Conference; also to the organist and choir for their valuable services. Resolved, That we tender to the Steamboat and Railway Companies thanks for reduced fares to members and others attending Conference; also to the friends, other than those of the Yarmouth Church and Congregation, who have so kindly afforded entertainment during this Conference. Resolved, That we express our joy at the quickened interest in the Halifax Church, and trust it will continue and grow, and that soon the present building may be disposed of and our brethren be able to start anew in a more suitable location. Resolved, That we express to the moderator hearty thanks for his efficient services during the season. The moderator expressed the satisfaction he had experienced in being present, and was glad if in any way his services had been of help in furthering the interests of our beloved denomination, adjourned at 5.45 p. m. THE SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION was held at 2.30 p. m. Revd. S. N. Royal presided. After routine business, Bro. G. A. Downey made a most interesting speech, Bro. Wm. Snow of Port la Tour addressed the meeting. He said he had been Superintendent of one school 52 years and still loved his work. He was neither weary in it, nor of it. Revd. E. N. Fernald explained the Sabbath School helps published at the "Star" office. Revd. J. B. Jordan and Miss Elinore Swaine spoke briefly. Revd. Mr. Macintosh (Congregational) said he was glad the Conference had been held here. He felt that as Christian denominations Free Baptists and Congregationalists are very near to each other. The difference between us, he thought is very slight. It was a profitable meeting. A TEMPERANCE MEETING was held at 7.30 p. m. A good congregation was present. Revd. E. Crowell presided. The moderator read the vote of thanks passed to pastor and people of Yarmouth Church for their care of the members and friends of the Conference. In doing so he expressed, in few words, his continued and growing interest in the great temperance reform. Bro. Gayton is a true and sturdy temperance worker, unflinching in his fidelity to his principles. He has rendered valued service, and is deservedly held in honor, for his zeal and devotion to the cause of temperance. The following made each a seven minutes speech: Revd. J. B. Jordan, F. L. Hayes, S. K. West, E. N. Fernald, D. T. Porter, G. E. Sturges, Wm. Miller T. H. Siddall, J. I. Porter, L. A. Lang, and the S. N. Royal. They were sensible as well as short speeches. It was a pleasant meeting and could not fail to do good. Over fifty signed a temperance pledge. CONFERENCE resumed business at 9.45 p. m. Resolved, That we recommend the H. M. S. executive, and the Education Society executive to meet together at once, and consider the question of education as related to our licentiates. Resolved, That we record and express to the delegates from other bodies, and the visiting brethren our high appreciation of their presence and valued services. Brethren Jordan, and Hayes heartily responded expressing their delight with the Spirit and character of the Conference; they told how greatly they enjoyed the generous and cordial hospitality they had received. The Conference had been one of pleasure and great satisfaction to them. A hearty vote of thanks was given to assistant moderator, for his helpful service. Resolved, we adjourn as per constitution. On Tuesday evening Revd. J. B. Jordan, F. L. Hayes, E. N. Fernald, and the pastor, Revd. E. Crowell, had a blessed religious service. At the close nine young persons came forward for prayers. The Conference was a long and arduous one. The spirit manifested was excellent. A deep sense of dependence upon "our helper God" ruled heart and mind. A strong desire revealed itself through the sessions, to do more and better work for our master; to give to our distinctive principles that prominence which their place in our affections and there worth and effectiveness warrant; to "go forward" on the lines bequeathed to us by the father of the sainted and precious memory; to strive to excel in fidelity to our God-given heritage, in our freedom in the truth and in grace and holiness; to husband wisely and faithfully the precious interests committed to us, doing our own work, in our own way, with love to God and man, and so be blessed and a blessing in our day and generation. So doing those "In the ages waiting to be born," shall say of us, "they had light in their dwellings." T. H. SIDDALL, Assistant Clerk.