

TERMS, NOTES, 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.

Communications for publication should be written on only one side of the paper, and business matters and those for insertion should be written separately. Observance of this rule will prevent much copying and needless confusion and mistakes.

All communications, etc., should be addressed RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, Box 37, Fredericton, N. B.

Religious Intelligencer.

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1888.

—FOR THE WINTER. Mr. Moody is to spend the winter in California, and Mr. Sankey is to go to England to help Mr. Spurgeon and others.

—THE SEMINARY. On our first page is an engraving of the Union Baptist Seminary Building. For the description accompanying it we are indebted to Progress.

To-morrow (Thursday) the school will be opened. There will, we are led to believe, be a good number of pupils to begin with, and we are sure that as the work goes on and the character of the institution becomes better known, the number anxious to avail themselves of the advantages it affords will rapidly and greatly increase.

We have again to commend it to the favourable consideration of all our people in these Provinces. It is their school, and to it they should send those of their children whom they send from home for the higher education.

—SYMPATHY. The whole country is sympathizing with Jacksonville, Florida, which is suffering so seriously from the Yellow Fever scourge. Ready and generous responses to appeals for help are being made by Northern Cities. Physicians, nurses, medicines, provisions, &c. are going forward to the help of the sorely stricken town.

—“SELF-DENIAL.” Gen. Booth, of the Salvation Army, wants more money for his work, and has, therefore, issued an order for a week of self-denial by all the members of the Army in every part of the world. The money saved by the self-denial is to be forwarded to head quarters. It will, of course, be a large sum. The self-denial week begins Oct. 3rd.

—IN 1889. And now, according to certain “Adventists,” the end of all things is to be in 1889. Notwithstanding the failure of former very positive predictions about the end, they are quite sure that this time they have made no mistake.

To make such predictions is not only foolish, but wrong. There is nothing upon which to have them. They have no good effect, and may, in many cases, cause much harm. It is better to be diligent in the use of our powers and opportunities in the service of our Lord, having in mind His admonition, “Be ye ready, for in such a day and hour as ye know not the Son of Man cometh.”

—HOW LIKE THEM. The Wesleyan has a communication from Newfoundland showing the inaccuracy and injustice of the reports made by salvation Army Officers. From a place which has been regularly supplied with preaching and all the means of grace for many years, and where nearly all the people have professed conversion, the Salvation Army, which recently began work there, reports that the people “have only now seen the light.” That is about the way they report from every place. All their followers are reported as saved from a life of sin, even though the great majority may have been members of Christian churches long before they had heard of the Army.

We know some other people whose methods of counting and reporting is quite similar.

—DRAWING NEARER. There has been more or less talk about the union sometimes of the Presbyterian and Methodists. Dr. Douglas, one of the most prominent men in the Methodist church of Canada, in a speech at Winnipeg the other day expressed the belief that the two bodies are coming nearer together. He said:

It is my deliberate judgment that the differences between the Presbyterian Church and the Methodist Church are constantly diminishing. The emotional life of original Methodism is becoming sobered as its intellectual culture advances. The frigidity and cold intellectualism which obtained a century ago in the Presbyterian Church is largely giving place to an emotional warmth and sympathy with the evangelical revival movement that has been hitherto characteristic of the Methodist Church.

—A SENSIBLE VIEW. While many United States papers, like the windy congress-men, have been indulging in a good deal of bluster about what they would do with Canada, it is refreshing to find here and there a paper which takes a common sense and honest view of the situation. For instance, the N. Y. Observer says:

“We simply want what is right and just, and nothing more. The question is one for diplomats and statesmen to settle, and not for politicians and partisans. The latter are chiefly responsible for all the confusion and unseemly squabbling that has accompanied the discussion of the fishery troubles in this country. For want of other political capital, they have seized upon this question, and by a course of wilful misrepresentation and persistent falsehood have at last worked a great many people up to the belief that there is really a very serious difference of opinion existing on the subject. The condition to which affairs have now been brought is humiliating and disheartening to every unprejudiced and self-respecting American citizen. We are free to say that the retaliatory policy seems to us a crude, harsh and barbarous resort. It is a policy unworthy of an enlightened and Christian nation. Its enforcement can only result in arousing a feeling of bitterness and enmity between us and our Canadian neighbors. It is a movement of unfriendly and hostile intent, and it carries danger with it. We hope that Congress will at the last rise above the plane of narrow and petty partisanship, and devise some wiser and more dignified method for the settlement of this difficulty.”

The St. John Globe and Mr. Laurier, and a few others, who are showing themselves unworthy their country and the positions they occupy, might take a hint from the foregoing.

—THE LATEST RETALIATION.—The following letter was received by the St. Stephen's Bank, and the Bank officers handed it to the St. Stephen Courier for publication. It is too good of its kind—to keep from the public, so we help to pass it around:

St. Stephen, N. B., Sept. 17, 1888.

To the President and Directors of the Saint Stephen's Bank.

Gentlemen.—I am instructed by my clients, as follows: That there emanates from the servant of ‘The Saint Stephen's Bank,’ instructions and directions to prosecute supposed Liquor Traders in The Town of Saint Stephen. That the chairman (your servant) of the Police committee of said Town, is largely responsible for a great deal of mischief in that behalf. Therefore it has been RESOLVED that should any more prosecutions be instituted, emanating from or inspired by the majority member of said Police committee at least ten merchants in said Town, will PLACARD on their shop windows, to the effect, That after full investigation it has been DECIDED that the proprietors of said shops, will not receive ‘Saint Stephen Bank’ bills, save at a discount of 60 cents on a dollar. Any further institution of prosecutions as aforesaid, will involve severe retribution by action. That no compromise can be effected to prevent amply carrying out said resolution in detail. That GOLD will be demanded for all Saint Stephen Bank bills immediately on receipt of such bills, to the extent at least of retaliatory punishment.

Respectfully,

M. Macmonagle.

It is a precious document surely, so thoroughly characteristic of the rum trade in every respect—in spirit, in silliness and in composition. What a good laugh the Bank people must have had. The man, whose name is signed to it, is the lawyer of the crowd. He is the same who, a year or two ago was presented with a gold watch by the rum-sellers for his championship of their cause. Great are the rum men of the border town especially great in retaliation.

To or three items that should have appeared last week failed to get insertion on account of the Editor's absence.

Chastening.

Sorrow, trouble, tribulation of any kind is hard to bear. This is true in the case of Christians as of other people. The Bible admits it. “Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous.” Neither our Lord nor the Apostles give the temporary and superficial comfort of attempting to alter our view of the real character of chastisement. It is hard to bear. Under its infliction the flesh often must cry out. The patient need not say, cannot say, that the knife is not keen, that it does not cut to the bone, that it does not cause severe pain. Our comfort in trouble is not in denying that it hurts. The stoical spirit is not the Christian spirit. Nor does any true comfort come from such denial or spirit. Chastisement is really and undeniably sore and grievous. But to the Christian, our Lord, in the midst of it, gives true comfort—the comfort of His helping presence, and the promise of resulting good some time. “Nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruits of righteousness to them that are exercised thereby.” The knife is sharp, but it cuts out the tumour. The chastisement is grievous, but it yields peaceable fruit. Let those who are undergoing the chastising of the Lord, endure in the meekness and patience of faith that whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and that, sooner or later, they shall have and enjoy its blessed fruits.

Notes on the N. S. Conference.

To get to the N. S. Conference was easier for New Brunswickers this year than usual. To Yarmouth is not a long trip, and, whatever it may be some times, it was not at all unpleasant this time. Leaving St. John in the evening, going to sleep at the proper time, one wakes in the morning to find himself in sight of his destination.

The Str. “Alpha,” which plies on this route, has for its master Capt. Robert Blauvelt, who has a fine reputation for carefulness and faithfulness. He has been sailing out of Yarmouth for twenty years, and there are no serious mishaps in his record. The steward of the Steamer, Mr. Hopkins, and the purser, Mr. Robbins, were also very thoughtful and obliging.

The weather during part of the Conference session was not the most pleasant. But Saturday and the Sabbath the two days when there is the largest attendance, were clear and bright.

New Brunswick was represented in the Conference by Rev. G. A. Hartley, Rev. G. F. Currie and the writer were also present as visitors. The United States had three representatives, Rev. J. B. Jordan, Rev. F. L. Hayes and Rev. E. N. Fernald. To all these a hearty welcome was given.

The official report of proceedings, the first instalment of which is given on this page, will inform our readers of the work done. The spirit of the Conference was excellent; even in matters that might have been expected to excite warmth of feeling there was manifest most admirable Christian love and patience.

The gains by the year's work were quite encouraging.

The hospitality of the Yarmouth congregation, though well taxed, was fully equal to the demands on it. The entertainment of the Conference and visitors was done with a heartiness that made it enjoyable. So far as the writer was concerned, the lines fell to him in a very pleasant place; he cannot soon forget the warm Christian hospitality of Capt. B. Whitehouse and his large hearted household.

The session was somewhat longer than usual. The N. B. contingent had to leave Monday evening, and the business was not then completed. We have not yet heard when the end was reached, but suppose it was either that night or the next morning.

All the public meetings were largely attended, and were of more than ordinary interest. The pulpits of the churches in the town and vicinity were supplied by the Conference.

The pastor Rev. E. Crowell, and his efficient helpers, were uniting in their attentions to the members of Conference.

The Yarmouth Church is a very neat edifice, in every way suitable for the purposes of the congregation. We are glad to know that the work of the church is steadily prospering. The pastor occupies an excellent position in the town, being highly esteemed both for his abilities and his devotion to Christian work.

The Conference made a new departure in the election of a layman to the chair of the moderator. The gentleman chosen—A. Gayton M. P.—fully justified the action of Conference.

The brethren look forward to another year with hope and courage. They are determined to prosecute

their work with increased vigour. May they have much of Divine blessing, and be privileged to rejoice in great prosperity.

Nova Scotia Free Baptist General Conference.

The twenty third annual Conference was, for the first time, held with the church in Yarmouth. It has been thus far an unqualified success. In coming together this year, there was more than ordinary anxiety but early we experienced in answer to many prayers God's gracious and ever helpful presence.

ELDER'S CONFERENCE assembled on Wednesday, Sept. 12th at 2.15 p. m. All the ministers were present, except Father Swim, now in his 88th year, who was too infirm to be present. During the sessions Rev. G. A. Hartley, delegate from the N. B. Conference, and Revs. Jos. McLeod, D. D. and G. F. Currie as visitors, were present. Rev. J. B. Jordan, delegate from the Maine Central Yearly meeting of F. W. B., Rev. F. L. Hayes of the Massachusetts F. W. B. Association, Rev. E. N. Fernald, of the F. W. B. publishing house Boston, and Rev. L. A. Lang of Halifax were also present.

Rev. E. Crowell was elected chairman and Rev. C. B. Atwood, assistant chairman of Elders' Conference.

Resolved That the articles of our faith be read. They were read in part, and discussed, and a profitable conversation enjoyed.

Resolved That we have the utmost confidence in our doctrines and practices, which was passed unanimously.

The following resolution was carefully considered and harmoniously discussed:

(a) Whereas the word of God, and the interests of our denomination demand that we should, as Elders, be in harmony as to our teachings and practices;

(b) And whereas there has been a difference of view as to the doctrine of Sanctification;

(c) And whereas we believe that Sanctification is progressive;

(d) Therefore Resolved that we pledge ourselves to be loyal to our articles of faith, covenant and usages, and to the government and rules of our denomination; also to each other in the Lord, and promote the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace.

The clauses marked a, b, were carried unanimously. On clause marked c, nine voted for and two against.

Resolved The report be adopted as a whole, nine voted for and two against.

Resolved That a committee of five be appointed to consider our present relations and circumstances, as to the resolution above named, and make such recommendations as they deem fit and wise, and report at a future session of this conference. Committee: Revs. E. Crowell, T. H. Siddall, G. E. Sturgiss, Wm. Millar and W. M. Knollin.

At another session the above committee reported, the report being signed by four of the members, and after several sessions and much prayerful considerations it was moved and seconded that the report be adopted. Eight for, one against.

Resolved That we request Revs. G. A. Hartley and J. B. Jordan, to draw up a report as to their impressions of the spirit and efforts made to adjust matters of difficulty in this Conference. Both reports will be given in the General Conference proceedings.

The work of this Elders' Conference was again long and perplexing. A good spirit prevailed and an earnest desire to adjust, if possible, the trying difficulties. The seriousness and perplexity of our position caused a sensible realization of the need of Divine help and guidance. God's helpful and blessed spirit, was manifest in a marked degree, and hearts bowed under the gracious influence.

A WELCOME MEETING was held on Wednesday evening. This new established custom of having a meeting to greet and welcome each other, was this year of unusual interest. A good congregation was present in the neat and well appointed church. Rev. E. Crowell—the pastor—gave, in the name of the church and congregation, a hearty welcome to the members of the General Conference. He said that they were glad that they could now invite and entertain the conference, and trusted that a rich and abundant blessing would be granted to this annual gathering. Rev. J. M. Fisher (Methodist) on behalf of the ministers of the town extended to the members a most cordial welcome. Revs. C. B. Atwood and J. I. Porter on behalf of the conference responded in appropriate and happy addresses. Rev. F. L. Hayes, who is a spiritual and effective speaker, then made a taking and excellent speech. Rev. J. B. Jordan of the Maine Central Yearly meeting and Rev. G. A. Hartley of N. B., both made admirable addresses. It was a grand meeting. The choir gave some choice and acceptable music, adding much to the pleasure of the meeting.

GENERAL CONFERENCE opened on Thursday at 10 a. m. The opening exercises were conducted by the Moderator, Rev. C. B. Atwood. There were present at this and subsequent sessions, all the elders except

Father Swim. None of the Licentiate were present. There were fifteen Deacons, and thirteen Delegates. In addition to the visitors above mentioned, Rev. J. A. Gordon, Superintendent of the Union Baptist Seminary at St. Martins, and Mr. G. A. Downey, B. A. one of the teachers of the Seminary were present. The corresponding delegates and visitors numbered thirteen, making a total of fifty. A. Gayton Esq., M. P. P. was elected Moderator and Rev. W. E. Weston, Assistant Moderator. The retiring Moderator, who had filled the position with tact and ability, made a few remarks expressive of his pleasure in the support he had received and believed the same would be given to the Moderator-elect. Mr. Gayton, in accepting the position, said he did so with hesitation, knowing the character of the office to which he had so cordially been appointed. I am, he said, as I have ever been deeply interested in the people of my choice and all that concerns us. I will do the best I can, and trust we shall have a good conference.

The following committees, recommended by the executive of General Conference, were appointed: On Nominations,—Revs. J. W. Freeman, D. T. Porter, G. E. Sturgiss, S. K. West, and Bros. Wm. Wilson, B. F. Kenny and B. Hines. On Public Questions,—Revs. C. B. Atwood, W. C. Weston, Wm. Millar, and S. N. Royal, and Bros. A. Gayton, B. B. Woodworth and Nelson Corning. On General Work,—Revs. T. H. Siddall, W. M. Knollin, J. I. Porter, L. A. Lang and D. T. Porter, and Bros. Wm. Snow and Byron Sims.

Resolved That in future the annual sermon be preached on Sabbath morning. Adjourned at noon.

THE REPORTING MEETING was at 2.30 p. m. The clerk of the Yarmouth and Shelburne Quarterly Meeting presented a well prepared and really interesting report, full of encouragement. It recorded blessings and gains. There were added to the churches by baptism 158, by letter 26, total 184. Number of churches 30; present membership 3253; monies raised \$6,099.00; Sabbath schools 28, teachers 211, scholars 1571; monies raised by schools \$448.81.

Rev. S. N. Royal, Clerk of Harmony quarterly meeting, read a report of much interest. Added 11, present membership 587. Total membership of the two Q. Meetings 3840. Gain in the year's work 123, notwithstanding revision of church rolls.

Rev. G. A. Hartley, corresponding delegate from the F. C. B. of N. B., in reporting his Conference expressed his pleasure at being able again to visit Nova Scotia. He said that as a people they were making quiet and steady progress. In Temperance, Sabbath School work and Missions they were active and deeply interested. He called special attention to the Union Baptist Seminary at St. Martins as being one that reflected great credit upon those united in the good work. He also explained the position of the Baptist Union question and the action of his conference. He hoped that the Nova Scotia conference would be able to send a committee, to co-operate with them and continue the work begun. Present membership 11,500. His report was well received.

Rev. J. B. Jordan, of the Maine Central Yearly Meeting, who is the pastor of the F. W. B. church of Augusta, Me., reported his yearly meeting. He spoke of his joy at being able this year to be present. Last year, he said, I was appointed to visit you, but was unable to do so. We have greatly enjoyed the correspondence in the past and request you will continue it. He gave a general survey of the work of his yearly meeting, naming many items denoting steady progress. Special attention in his report was given to the “Society of Christian Fidelity” of the grand results coming from these organizations, also to the wisdom of organizing such societies. Bro. Jordan, made a full statement. He is a ready speaker.

Rev. F. L. Hayes, delegate from the Massachusetts Association of F. W. B., made a most interesting report. He said his association felt that they ought to be represented at our General Conference, because so many of our people were in the churches of their Association. In his own church, on Shawmut Ave., Boston, no less than 75 persons were connected with it and the congregation belonged to the province, most of them from this province. He desired to get acquainted with the friends of his friends, and also to express the interest of his Association in our work. He hoped that a delegate would be sent to their Association.

Rev. Dr. McLeod, on being called upon, said he was glad again to be present. He felt a deep interest in the work in this province, and trusted this conference would be one of great blessedness.

At the close of these cheering stimulating addresses it was:

Resolved That this meeting heartily appreciates the excellent addresses of the messengers from other bodies and the visiting brethren.

THE HOME MISSION MEETING held Thursday at 7.30 p. m. Dr. B. F. Kenny presided. There was a large congregation. Prayer by Rev. A. Kinney. The Secretary, Rev. H. Siddall, read the annual report which were moved and seconded. Revs. S. K. West, and G. E. Sturgiss in speeches of interest.

A Gayton Esq., M. P. P., in moving the election of officers, said he believed that more Home Mission work needed, and a deeper interest being stirred up in our local churches. It should be more systematic in giving. It is a needful work. We can do more and should do more.

Rev. J. I. Porter, in a brief speech expressed his continued interest in the work of the society. He desired to see greater efforts to build up needy interests, which to become strong must be helped by this society.

Rev. G. A. Hartley, in a stirring speech, exhorted the great necessity of first making the centre strong, if the circumference is to be made strong. It pays to give. “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” I am, he said, a denominational man; I claim it is our bounden duty to do all we can for our own spiritual home. A good collection was the crown of a good meeting.

Friday. General Conference resumed business at 10.30 a. m. Resolved That a committee of three or five be appointed to consider the question of Rev. A. Kinney's exact relationship to the Beaver River church and the pastoral committee. Brethren B. Hines, E. E. Ring, B. F. Kenny, Nelson Corning and Elizabeth Pinkney were appointed the committee.

Resolved That the Moderator be requested to represent this conference at the Temperance Picnic to be held this day at Milton, Yarmouth County, and that Dr. McLeod be asked to go with him.

The committee on Temperance made a thorough going report. They pressed upon the voters of the denomination the urgent need of supporting for representative positions only such men as are known to be thoroughly sound on the Temperance question, and who are pledged to use their utmost endeavours to secure the enactment of a prohibitory law. Adjourned.

The committee reported as follows:—Your committee appointed to consider the clause in the Q. M. report in reference to Bro. Kinney being employed as supply to the Beaver River and Sandford churches, beg leave to report that the said clause be struck out and the report of the clerk of the Beaver River church, be accepted. They recommended that the churches on the Beaver River and Sandford pastorate, as well as those of all the pastorates, be recommended to employ pastors in the future through a constituted ministerial committee. The clerk of the Beaver River church reported that Rev. A. Kinney was not employed by the ministerial committee of that church. The report was adopted.

Resolved Rev. A. D. McLeod, (Methodist) be invited to a seat with us. Moved and seconded That the relation of Rev. A. Kinney to the Beaver River pastorate be allowed to remain as at present until the end of the year. Moved and seconded in amendment That it lay on the table. Amendment carried. Adjourned 6.15 p. m.

THE FOREIGN MISSION MEETING held at 7.30 p. m. The Woman's Aid Society and the General Foreign Mission Society have amalgamated for a year. This was the annual meeting of the united society. Mrs. James E. Cushing presided. Prayer by Rev. L. A. Lang. Then followed a responsive scripture reading led by the President. Rev. J. W. Freeman, Secretary, read an interesting and instructive report. Rev. E. Crowell moved its adoption. He pointed out the great value of missionary work. He said that the visit of Dr. Bachelor to this Province had done much to stimulate interest. There is a great demand for increased activity. He called attention to the late missionary gathering in London, G. B., and expected from it great results.

Rev. G. F. Currie, seconded the adoption of the report. The command, said the speaker, “Go ye into all the world etc.” was obligatory. It is our privilege and duty to send the gospel to those for whom Christ died. The report was adopted. Miss Emeline Swaine read the annual report of the Secretary of the Woman's Aid Society. It was pointed, pithy and practical, just what was needed. Mrs. J. W. Freeman read the Treasurer's report. On motion of Miss Minnie Knollin, seconded by Mrs. C. B. Atwood, the reports were adopted.

The president in a brief speech called attention to the many blessings