

CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

HINTS TO SUBSCRIBERS:

- 1.—Letters and Articles intended for the next number of this paper should be in the hands of the Editor not later than Friday morning.
2.—Post Office Money Orders or registered letters at our risk. Money mailed in unregistered letters will be at risk of the sender.
3.—Orders to discontinue the paper must be accompanied by the amount due, or the paper will not be stopped. Subscribers are responsible until full payment is made.
4.—In changing the Address it is necessary to send the old as well as the new address. The change cannot be made unless this is done.
5.—No communication will receive attention unless the name of the writer accompanies it, or is given in confidence.
6.—Correspondents will please write only on one side of the paper.

The Christian Visitor.

ST. JOHN, N. B., JUNE 26, 1878.

Editorial Notes.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOKS.—English and American Sunday School Books can now be supplied at the VISITOR Book Room at rates as low as elsewhere.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PAPERS can be furnished through the VISITOR Book Room as cheaply as they can be procured from the United States. See advertisement.

Pastors of churches, and all others interested in the welfare of our churches, are earnestly requested to send us all items of news, in respect to religious matters, in their neighbourhood. Generally, news can be so condensed as not to fill more than a postal card. We make this request and urge it in the interest of all concerned.

In the observations of half a century, we do not recollect a single specimen of an earnest, consistent, and fruitful Christian unconnected with a church.—Religious Herald, Richmond. This goes to prove that it is far better for churches to do their own work, and bring the converts beneath their fostering care. The irresponsible evangelistic method, in a few years, shows poor results as a general rule.

The Pittsburgh Association, by a vote of 51 to 19, withdrew the hand of fellowship from the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church of that city, claiming that the retention in the Baptist ministry of a man with such a record as Dr. Pearson has, as a professing Christian and minister of the Gospel, is a grave offense against Baptist principles, and evangelical Christianity.

In this action the Association has done itself credit, in withdrawing from one whose record in England, Canada and the United States, is all of a piece. We wonder how the Fourth Church can cling longer to him.

Neither the church nor the ministry is entirely free from responsibility for the state of things which makes possibly the frequent and startling revelations of moral and spiritual decay in professing Christian men.—Congregationalist.

If our churches rung out the unpleasant tones of truth as well as the dulcet ones, then men of doubtful integrity and morality would become uncomfortable, and either leave, or mend their ways. What we plead for is a proportional presentation of truth, and a sense of personal and church responsibility, concerning its declaration.

The brethren who have kindly consented to act as local agents for the Building Fund, are requested to collect and remit to the Treasurer, as soon as possible, the first instalment of all subscriptions. The work of rebuilding is being vigorously pushed forward. Let the money flow in freely, so that the Board may be in a position to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

By order of the Executive Committee.

D. F. HIGGINS Secretary.

Wolfville, June 15, 1878.

Association at St. Martins.

Persons travelling to the Eastern Association at Saint Martins by the Intercolonial Railway, can do so from any of the Stations on the line at half fare. Pay full fare going, and return on free ticket, by presenting a certificate of attendance, signed by the Moderator, to the ticket agent.

THOS. TODD.

Moncton, N. B., 22d June, 1878.

The E. N. B. Baptist Association is expected to meet with the First Baptist Church, St. Martins, Tuesday, July 9, at 2 o'clock p. m. Delegates coming via St. John will have to come by carriage. This they can do by the payment of one dollar each way, (or two dollars in all) providing they will let us know in time. Those intending to come by this or any other route had better notify us by postal card immediately, and we will make arrangements accordingly. We take it for granted that railways and steamboats will give the usual accommodation. Will brethren Todd, of Moncton, and Dickinson, of Carleton, please see that is done?

The invitation when given was cordial; the greetings will be equally so.

I. E. BILL, Pastor.

All kinds of Job Printing neatly executed at this office, 84 Germain Street.

Whether from design, or otherwise, a solemn and suggestive lesson was given by one of our City papers on Saturday last. It gives an account of the execution of Vaughan for the murder of Mrs. Quinn, and gives also Vaughan's confession of the crime, and that he committed the diabolical deed under the influence and excitement of intoxicating drink; and wished that the execution might be public in order that he might, from the scaffold, warn all to shun the damning bowl.

Side by side with these solemn utterances is placed the announcement that a prominent liquor dealer has gone to Europe to personally select and purchase wines and other liquors, to replace the stock destroyed by the great fire of June last.

It seems to us very fitting and significant that a business which produces so much misery in the world, and leads many directly or indirectly to death, and some to the lowest degradation, or to the gallows itself, should be announced in close proximity with the dark and dismal record of crime incited and perpetrated under the influence of strong drink.

Would that the warning were heeded, and that both the vendors and patrons of intoxicants would turn in abhorrence from a traffic and course which multiplies victims for prisons, penitentiaries, insane asylums, for the grave, or even the gallows!

The United Presbyterian thus champions our cause, and shows it is not of the jelly-fish order:

"The periodical attack upon churches which do not practise 'open communion' is now in progress, and the 'selfish,' 'bigoted,' 'unchristian' behavior of those who dare to follow their own way is freely and caustically exhibited. This time the assault is chiefly upon the Baptists, many of whom do not seem to have grace enough to let it go on without defending themselves. The discussion is as sure as the returning seasons, and is made so in great part by the fact that they who are blamed for their convictions and practices feel compelled to answer the criticisms of those who inflict so many wounds in proof of their friendly fidelity. Fundamental questions aside, the fact that the Lord's table is talked about with so much rancor is proof that the churches are not yet ready for open communion. It is during the reign of perfect love that such a consummation is practicable."

Western Association, Nova Scotia.

The 28th anniversary of this body commenced in the Pine Grove Baptist Church, Middleton, Annapolis County, Saturday, the 15th inst., at 10 o'clock, a. m. After devotional exercises, Rev. W. H. Richan, the Moderator of last year presiding, the Association proceeded to elect a Moderator for the present year, and selected Rev. W. E. Hall for the important position, and chose Revs. G. O. Gates and G. B. Titus to act as Secretaries, and J. C. Anderson, Esq., Treasurer.

The representation from the churches were large,—the letters gave interesting information as to their spiritual condition, and expressed sympathy with the great objects the Association aims to carry forward. The number baptized into the churches during the year exceeds five hundred. The amount contributed for missionary and other benevolent objects over \$1200, is not quite equal to that of last year. Most of the business on Saturday was of a routine character.

On reference to the delicate condition of Rev. G. D. Cox's health, Rev. Dr. Tupper, at request of the Moderator, offered earnest prayer for divine support and comfort to our brother in his affliction.

On Sabbath, Rev. W. B. Boggs preached in the church at Pine Grove, at 10 o'clock, a. m., Rev. J. W. Bancroft at 2.30 p. m., and Rev. Dr. Day at 7.30 p. m. We heard that these discourses were very interesting, edifying, and practical.

In more than twenty other places in the County the Gospel was preached this day by ministers attending the Association.

In the absence of Rev. T. A. Higgins and his alternate, the Rev. Dr. Tupper preached the anniversary sermon, at 10 o'clock, a. m., Monday, from 1st Sam. xii. 24, the subject being,—Consideration of the great things God has accomplished for us as a people, a strong argument and incentive to serve Him faithfully. This discourse of the venerable preacher is highly spoken of, and by request of the Association, will appear in the Christian Messenger and CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

The reading of the Circular Letter, prepared by the Rev. J. H. Saunders, followed. This document was approved, and is to be published in the Denominational organs. The subject discussed in the Letter is,—The Lord's money,—how can it be reclaimed from the service of the devil? A problem difficult of solution, we apprehend, and one with which, we fear, a large proportion of even Christian professors are very unwilling to grapple and solve practically for themselves. But a solution should be pressed till it is seen by both the church

and the world that Christ requires to be served with our substance as well as by personal consecration and effort.

In the afternoon of Monday, the subjects that engaged the attention of the meeting were Questions in Letters and Missions.

In the evening an interesting missionary meeting was held, in which spirited addresses on the Foreign, Home, and French Missions were given by Revs. W. B. Boggs, George Armstrong, A. Cahoon, Dr. Day, W. H. Warren, John Rowe, and M. Normandy.

On Tuesday morning, Prof. Tufts presented the Report on Education, and sustained it in a clear and able speech, giving the reasons which led to locating the Seminary on College Hill. Earnest addresses on Education followed by Revs. J. H. Saunders, A. Cahoon, and John Brown. Prof. Tufts pointed out the necessity of sending in money for the erection of the College and Seminary buildings now under contract, to be completed by July 1879. Mr. Saunders referred to the arrangements proposed for Theological education, under the direction of Revs. Dr. Crawley and Prof. D. M. Welton, and said that to secure Theological training for the rising ministry was the principal aim of the fathers in founding our Educational Institutions. Mr. Cahoon spoke in decided approval of the location of the Seminary. Mr. Brown expressed himself as strongly opposed to the reception of all State aid towards Denominational education or objects, and earnestly recommended the project to give Theological training at home to young men looking to the ministry in these Provinces.

In the afternoon the Committee on Religious and Denominational Literature reported, and therein expressed the opinion that one Denominational organ for the Maritime Provinces would be better in itself, and also serve the interests of the Denomination than two, as at present. The views of all did not accord with this, nevertheless the Report passed. The matter is surrounded with difficulties that cannot be removed by mere votes of Associations or Conventions, however potent these may be; still they may be helpful in bringing about a union of the two papers. Perhaps time will effect the best solution of the matter.

The Report on Temperance, presented through the Chairman, W. Gates, was sustained by earnest speeches from Revs. John Rowe, E. O. Read, F. Beattie, Wm. H. Warren, W. B. Boggs, and W. Gates.

A Resolution against the use of tobacco, and recommending its total abandonment as highly beneficial to individual health and enjoyment, and helpful to the cause of Christian beneficence, was moved by Rev. W. H. Warren, and ably sustained by Avar Longley, Esq., and passed without expressed opposition.

Rev. John Brown read the Report on Sabbath Schools, which was adopted without discussion.

Professor Spinney, of Wilmot, aided by his son, now twelve years old, and his daughter, nine years of age, sang some delightful Christian melodies, accompanied by an organ. This Service of Song included some stirring pieces, such as the "Ninety and Nine," "Who is on the Lord's Side," "What shall the Harvest be," &c. After prayer by the Rev. Geo. Armstrong, the Association adjourned, to hold its next anniversary with the church at Hebron, Yarmouth County.

In the evening, one of the best social religions meetings we have attended for some time, was held in the Pine Grove church, Rev. W. G. Parker, the pastor, presiding, Rev. J. C. Bleakney led in earnest prayer, and Prof. Spinney and his children led in the delightful service of song. The meeting continued with increasing interest for more than two hours,—solemn, touching addresses were given, the truth and the Holy Spirit were evidently felt by many, and there were earnest yearnings for spiritual good and for the salvation of sinners.

Ere the meetings closed, it was announced by the pastor that on the following evening the Rev. J. C. Bleakney would preach there, and Prof. Spinney and children would lead in spiritual songs. We trust the seed sown during the meetings will result in great spiritual good to the multitudes who attended them.

Weighty and Recent Testimony on Baptism.

As everybody knows who is at all conversant with the best religious literature, the scholarship of the world has long since conceded that baptism is immersion. Still there are a few, by no means educated men, who try by pulpit and press to create an impression that baptism may be something else than immersion. They do this to serve a purpose. It is, however, otherwise with such men as Dr. Ellicott, Bishop of Glou-

cester and Bristol, and Dr. Plumptre, Professor of Exegesis in King's College, London. They make, in a commentary prepared by the latter, under the general editorship of the former, just issued, the following clear statements:—

"The baptism was, as the name implied, an immersion, and commonly, though not necessarily, in running water." (On Matt. iii. 1.)

"The Greek verb (that for wash) differs from that in the previous verse, and implies the washing or immersion (the verb is that from which our word 'baptize' comes to us) of the whole body, as the former does of part." (On Mark vii. 4.)

"Here the word 'washed' (literally, though of course not in the technical sense, baptized) implies actual immersion, or, at least, a process that took in the whole body. Mark vii. 4, shows that this was the Pharisaic standard of ceremonial purity." (On Luke xi. 38.)

"In the comments on Matt. xx. 22, Dr. Plumptre says the word baptize means to 'plunge into the deep'; and on Luke xii. 50, he writes:—'The baptism of which our Lord now speaks is that of one who is come into deep waters, so that the floods passed over him, over whose head have passed and are passing the waves and billows of many and great sorrows.'"

"Of the baptism with the Holy Ghost," he says, commenting on Matt. iii. 11:—"As heard and understood at the time, the baptism with the Holy Ghost would imply that the souls thus baptized would be plunged, as it were, in that creative and informing Spirit which was the sound of life and holiness and wisdom."

Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Union.

This Society held its sixth annual meeting at Upper Canard on June 21st, commencing at 10 a. m., Vice-President Rev. W. G. Parker in the chair, Rev. G. N. Ballentine and Bro. Albert Caldwell sec'ys. Opened with prayer by Rev. F. Beattie.

The corresponding sec'y, Rev. W. H. Warren, read the annual report, showing the number of missionaries employed and the amount of money expended. The following is a summary of the report:—

During the year fourteen missionaries were employed at a cost of \$3,120.00, of which sum \$984.40 was collected on the fields. These missionaries spent 283 1/2 weeks in regular service, travelled 12,711 miles, preached 734 sermons, attended 341 other meetings, made 2,532 family visits, distributed 1867 tracts, and baptized 176 converts. Subsidies amounting to \$1,588.71 have been granted in aid of 20 pastors, who have spent 576 weeks on their respective fields, travelled 2,440 miles, preached 1546 sermons, attended 1186 other meetings, made 5731 family visits, distributed 5630 tracts, baptized 101 persons, and organized 2 schools and 1 church.

The Treasurers report summarized gives the following figures:—

Table with 2 columns: Receipts and Expended during the last fiscal year in. Rows include Nova Scotia, P. E. Island, French Mission, Book dep., and Total.

The reading and discussion of this report occupied the morning and afternoon sessions; and Friday evening was devoted to the French Mission.

The claims and prospects of this Mission were thoroughly discussed, and the discouraging features of it clearly brought out. It was finally decided to continue the Mission, and the Board were recommended to adopt measures for increasing its efficiency.

The officers for the ensuing year had not been elected when this report closed.

Victoria County Appeal.

It affords me much pleasure to note weekly the various improvements in the paper, and I have no hesitation in saying that the VISITOR should be more generally sustained by the Denomination than it has been in the past. The times demand decided and outspoken teaching in these days of running after strange and pleasing theories of man's speculation, and the heads of every Baptist family should see that pure reading matter on religious subjects is furnished their families.

There are four Baptist churches in this County now that are without preaching. Our late pastor—Rev. Isaac R. Skinner—has deemed it prudent to resign his charge for financial reasons, he not seeing his way clear to remain. We were well satisfied with and anxious to retain him, but we could not see that any more could be done in regard to raising money for the present year than for the last, so we reluctantly had to let him go, with the best wishes for his future success.

There is no doubt but what an unmarried man, with some outside support, would be engaged to labour part of his time in these several churches. We call for help in this County. We hope that this communication may meet the eye of some one that may be rightly directed this way.

There is no apparent reason why the Baptist cause should not grow and become more extended in this fine County. The field is here, all we want is the workmen to reap. VICTORIA.

Personal.

Rev. T. A. Higgins, after four years' labor in this town, took leave of his congregation last Sunday evening for a tour to Europe. He will visit the Paris exhibition on his round of travel. We learn that he intends to be absent three months.—Anna-polis Journal.

THE WOMEN'S HOME MISSION SOCIETY held its first annual meeting on Wednesday, of anniversary week, Mrs. Cronse of Chicago, presiding.

Mrs. C. Swift, of Chicago, Corresponding Secretary, read the first annual report, in which the origin, objects and organization of the Society were given. The field is divided into three parts: 1. Our immediate surroundings; 2. The colored race of 5,000,000 in the South; and 3. The Indian women of the far West, and the semi-pagans of Mexico. There are now nine missionaries on the field—four in New-Orleans, one in Columbia, S. C., and four native missionaries among the Indians. Four of these are missionaries of the American Baptist Home Mission Society. The reports of special work were full of encouragement, warranting its being prosecuted with greater zeal and earnestness. The report was accepted, and spoken to by Mrs. Cheney, Mrs. Bishop, and Dr. Nathan Bishop of New York, who in the course of his remarks, said—Men's societies are good, but they employ missionaries which require a salary on which they and their family may live; \$10,000 handled by women will do more good than \$15,000 handled by men.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we accept the sympathy and co-operation extended to us, and instruct our Executive Committee to adopt the suggestions and work in harmony with the aim and plans of the Baptist Home Mission Society.

Several ladies made addresses, and Dr. Evans of Chicago, and Dr. Anderson of Rochester being present, expressed their warm sympathy with this new departure, and looked for the best results to flow from it. On motion the Society adjourned.

New Sabbath School at Butternut Ridge.

On Sunday, May 26th, the residents of the head of Butternut Ridge met in the Alward School House, for the purpose of organizing a Sabbath School. This project had been suggested at different times before, but no positive understanding had been arrived at, partially on account of not having, until late, ample accommodation for such a work, and partially that there were two Sabbath Schools not far away, both of which quite a number of our people attended. And now that a suitable and commodious building was at our disposal, and all prospects for such a grand work seemed to demand support and influence, we deemed it necessary and advisable to avail ourselves of this very favorable opportunity, and a meeting was convened for the purpose. The School was organized at 2 p. m., and is to be known as the Ridge Baptist Sabbath School. Deacon William Beckwith was chosen as Superintendent—a very good choice, a man in whom we have every confidence, both as a Christian and a man of an enterprising spirit—and who we believe will do his best to make the School entertaining, pleasant, and instructive. Deacon Howard Hicks was appointed assistant Superintendent; Abram Alward, Esq., Secretary and teacher; Isaac M. Alward, Librarian; Mrs. Abram Alward, Treasurer; B. N. Keith, F. A. Powell, and Belle Keith, Teachers. Now that our School was fully instituted, and our officers carefully selected, it remained for us to place our attention upon those the children whom it is our aim in all this to instruct. The need of a library was the first to suggest itself, and a Committee composed of Miss F. A. Powell and Miss Belle Keith was then appointed to call upon generous, liberal friends, to solicit their aid in this enterprise. When at a later date the Committee were enabled to report, it was plainly shown that a hearty response was given, a sufficient amount had been raised to procure a library sufficient for our School, which, for a time, will not be very large. The library has been procured from the CHRISTIAN VISITOR office, and suits well; and it is sincerely hoped that all parties will continue to take an active interest in this work that has marked their course thus far, remembering that it is a cause well worthy the hearty support of all Christian workers, and those who desire to see the youths of our land trained up in the way they should walk. The School is progressing finely.

The Sunday School is a place where the principles of Christianity should be taught, and many of us can refer to the time when precious and lasting truths were taught us in the Sunday School. The Scripture texts which we have been requested to commit to memory are still fresh, and afford many seasons of comfort and consolation. This being the case, we should endeavor to place such opportunities before the children of our land while in our power, for soon our part will be acted on the great and wonderful theatre of the world, and we will pass away to be forgotten. Then let