

Baptist History. See the report of the "American Baptist Historical Society," on our first page. All along the centuries the Baptists have been too indifferent to their own records; consequently, their history in full remains to be written. Interesting sketches have been preserved, such as are found in Jones' Church History, Orchard's Baptist History, Dr. Cramp's recent Baptist History, and in other works of similar mould; but half a century more of patient and earnest research will be required on the part of vigorous minds, before a complete history of the denomination, which took its rise more than eighteen centuries ago in the wilderness of Judea, and in the consecrated waters of the Jordan, can be given to the world. The Society under consideration, is one of the important agencies now in progress to prepare the way for the completion of this great work.

In prosecuting this object, the managers are collecting— 1. Whatever relates to the history and doctrines of Christians of all persuasions, and of every age; but especially whatever relates to Baptists, Methodists, Free-will Baptists, Seventh-day Baptists, German Catholics, and our ancient brethren the Novatians, Donatists, Cathari, Paulicians, Henricans, Albigenses, and Waldenses.

2. Books, Pamphlets, and Manuscripts, by Baptist authors and translators, on every subject. 3. Books and Pamphlets written in defence of the peculiar views of other denominations.

4. Biographies, Likenesses, and Autographs of Baptist ministers and authors, living or dead, and views of Baptist Churches and Institutions. 5. Reports and Periodicals of all religious and benevolent societies; and Speeches, or Sermons delivered before such bodies. Minutes and Reports of Baptist Conventions and Associations, in every part of the United States, Baptist Periodicals, extinct or continued.

Such a library, with its ever-growing treasures of holy truth and its records of God's dealings with his Church, will, if rigorously maintained, be one of the noblest things of earth. To it, students will have recourse, in person or by letter, from every section of the country. In it, will be perpetuated the memories and deeds of our eminent dead, in the most beautiful and effectual manner. It will constitute a bulwark against dangerous doctrines and practices; showing the unstable that the fancy which captivated them has been uttered and exploded perhaps more than of the noblest things of earth. To it, students will have recourse, in person or by letter, from every section of the country. In it, will be perpetuated the memories and deeds of our eminent dead, in the most beautiful and effectual manner. It will constitute a bulwark against dangerous doctrines and practices; showing the unstable that the fancy which captivated them has been uttered and exploded perhaps more than of the noblest things of earth.

The Plymouth Pulpit. Continues its weekly feast of "fat things full of marrow, as wine on the lees well refined." June the 10th furnishes a rich repast founded on the passage in Rom. xv. 2. "Let every one of us please his neighbor for his good to edification." Mr. Beecher expatiates on the pleasures of "friendship and love," in a style of refined and fascinating eloquence. Take the following paragraphs as illustrative of the charms of this matchless writer: "You can not afford to be a friend to any one who leaves alive on you. You can not afford to be the friend of any one who lowers the tone and temper of your conscience. You can not afford to be the friend of any man who, on the whole, breathes malaria into your system. You are to receive from any man who is worthy to be your friend instruction and elevation. If he degrades and lowers you, as you love your soul, break the friendship; for it is foul, pernicious, deadly. And on the other hand no other man can afford to have you for his friend, if the average result of the action of your mind and life on him is not to make him a better man.

"But put it higher—put it in the realm of love. Who are true lovers? They that know the first love fires of inexperienced affection—are they true lovers? Infants they are—mere prattlers. Are they lovers that only know the tides of passion? Beasts are mightier lovers than they. Wee be to the poverty of our language, that we might have no words to express the differences in the realm of love, from the topmost angelic nature to the poorest and basest nature. One single word is to serve various uses, and impotent paraphrases are employed to eke out intermediate meaning. But not they who have the gush of fancy, and still less they that have the wild flush of passion, are true lovers. They are true lovers whose every faculty in one finds a corresponding faculty in the other; where the understanding and the moral sense of one are enriched by the understanding and the moral sense of the other; where the spiritual affinities of one are strengthened by the spiritual affinities of the other; where the sweet and pure social affections are fed and pleased; where they so stand together, that pride in one says, "I am happy in the other;" and love of praise says, "I am perpetually praised in the other." They are lovers whose concordant, concurrent beings are like two parts of music, rising and floating, and twining, and mingling to make one harmonious whole.

"Love is the river of life in this world. Think not that they know it who stand at the little tinkling rill—the first small fountain. Not until you have gone through the rocky gorges, and not lost the stream; not until you have stood at the mountain passes of trouble and conflict; not until you have gone through the meadow, and the stream has widened and deepened until fleets could ride on its bosom; not until beyond the meadow you have come to the unfathomable ocean, and poured your treasures into its depths—not until then can you know what love is. It is something grander than enters into the imaginations of unassubled men that yet all believe, earthy and sensuous. When two souls come together, each seeking to magnify the other; each, in a subordinate sense, worshipping the other; each helping the other; the two flying together so that each wing-beat of the one helps each wing-beat of the other—when two souls come together thus, they are lovers. They who unitedly move themselves away from grossness and from earth, toward the throne crystalline, and the pavement golden, are indeed true lovers.

"Father and mother, do you love each other so? Brother and sister, do you Christian love? Newly come, and newly found, is this your ideal of love? Is it some faint, hazy, but beautiful dream? Is it some romance of imagined excellence? True love carries self-denial, labor-pain for itself. True love pivots on honor and respect—both self-respect and respect for another. True love thinks; true love feels; true love creates in the soul of the one loved a higher life. And so, beginning in this world, and loving life and low, men rise up through intermediate stages, until they touch the higher flights. Old age often sees the flame burned out; but the coals that remain are warmer than all the flames were. There is no loving like that which experience has taught, when that experience is ministered by the instruction and wisdom and purification of the Holy Ghost.

"Let love, then, minister pleasure; but let pleasure minister profit. Please one another for good unto edification."

We would call the attention of those who wish to attend the Baptist Association to be held at Lunenburg, commencing on Thursday, 8th inst., to the Express Line advertised in this issue.

Baptism of the Queen and Prime Minister of Madagascar.

This great Island of the Indian Ocean is generally regarded as pertaining to Africa. The population is estimated as not far short of 5,000,000. Earnest efforts have been made at different times and by various denominations, to establish Christianity among these people. These have been met in the past, for the most part, by the ruling powers in a spirit of deadly hostility. Radama, who was elevated to the throne in 1808, was educated in Great Britain, and during his reign, was a distinguished civilizer. He established schools, and generously encouraged Protestant missionaries. He was on the eve of seeing his grand projects for the civilization of his country crowned with success, when in 1828, he was fatally poisoned by his Queen. She, with her infamous accomplice, succeeded to the throne. Her hatred to the beneficent plans of her late husband, was intense, and she sought to undo all the good which he had done. The schools were closed; and in 1835, the missionaries were driven from the Island. The native Christians that remained, sought to carry forward the good work, but they were subjected to the bitterest type of persecution; and in 1850, many of them suffered martyrdom. But in despite of all opposition, the Gospel of Christ has won glorious victories; and in February last, one of the Christian missionaries proclaimed the joyful intelligence, that the present Queen and her Prime Minister were baptized by Andrianello. A large number of the leading officers were present, and the pleasing event has been made as public as possible. This mighty transformation is supposed to be the springing up of the good seed of the kingdom, that was sown in bitter tears by the faithful missionaries, who had suffered the loss of all things for the sake of Christ and precious souls.

The report says, that no convulsions have attended this mighty movement. No force, nor guile, nor penalties, nor personal influence, have been employed to produce it. The influence has been lofty, pure, Divine. The memory of the faithful dead, the earnest example of the living, the open Bible, the clearest preacher, the power of the spirit, religious freedom—these have done it.

China as a Mission Field

is powerfully arresting the attention of the civilized world. No wonder that it should be so. It is certainly one of the most remarkable countries, in some respects, on the face of the earth. It is composed of eighteen provinces, and contains a population of some 400,000,000. Rev. W. Muirhead, a missionary in China, says, that all these millions are one in respect of race and of lineage, thought and feeling, language and civilization. Their literature is marked by the highest antiquity. Their sacred books have been handed down for thousands of years, and now form the basis of an immense literature, which is being studied by millions of people. There is no spot on earth where learning is more highly prized, or more assiduously cultivated, than in China.

But religiously, these people, so highly favored in some respects, are "without hope, and without God in the world." They have no knowledge of salvation by the Redeemer's blood,—no prospect of an immortality of bliss in heaven. Their great teacher Confucius, knew nothing of the science of human redemption. The old theology recognized the authority of the great Supreme, and proclaimed it in utterances distinct; but now atheism and materialism are largely in the ascendant. Who will go to these perishing millions of immortal souls, with the messages of pardon, reconciliation, and eternal life, by the blood of the cross? Truly the harvest is great, but the laborers are few. Thou God of the harvest multiply, an hundred fold, faithful laborers to scatter the seed, and to gather in the ripening harvest!

Public Schools in Nova Scotia.

We are indebted to T. H. Rand, Esq., the enterprising and efficient Superintendent of Public Education in Nova Scotia, for a copy of his fifth Annual Report of the Common, Superior, Academic, Normal and Model Schools, for the school year ended October 31, 1898. "ANNUAL REPORTS," in most cases, are rather prosy reading, and usually find their way into the waste paper basket without a perusal, or even the removal of the postal wrapper, to incur an inhumanism. But the one now before us has been actually and carefully examined from the beginning to the close. The figures and the facts, both the general and the particular, have engaged our attention, and excited afresh our admiration of that beneficent system of Public Schools, which in a few short years, in fierce conflict with no ordinary amount of deep-rooted hostility, has done so much for the general enlightenment and elevation of our native Province. The men who projected and organized, together with those who are conducting this grand educational enterprise, can well afford to encounter any opposition to their noble efforts, and to smile at any depreciation of their inestimable services by the prejudiced and the penurious among their fellow-citizens, the number of whom, we gratefully record, is rapidly and delightfully diminishing year by year, as the system they depreciate wins its way to greater success, and practically demonstrates its vast superiority over the previous methods of school instruction. On the grand question of Free Schools Nova Scotia has fought the battle and won the victory, while New Brunswick, alas, has yet to wake up out of its deep slumber. Now and then a voice is lifted, as recently by His Excellency, the Governor, at the anniversary exercises of the Fredericton Seminary, calling in stirring accents for awakened energy and a forward movement in the work of common school education, and the appeal is vigorously applauded by a few in earnest sympathy with the question, but anon all is silent again, and we go trudging on "in the way our fathers trod." But this cannot endure, and, if we rightly interpret the signs of the times, it will not be endured by the more intelligent and benevolent sentiment of this Province. What we need first of all, and must have, before we can hope for any change in our present stupid system of school instruction, are men for our Provincial Assembly, whose intellectual culture renders them capable of appreciating the necessity of legislation on the matter of Public Education, and whose moral courage is equal to the task of proposing and pushing forward measures for that end—men who are possessed of that nobility of nature that will make them ready to accept of any personal detriment, or political martyrdom, as a small price to pay for such an inestimable blessing as that of the free school system.

We shall hereafter note for our columns some of the details of Mr. Rand's Report, which is full of interesting facts and figures, with accompanying and practical suggestions relative to measures for still more signal success in the working of their admirable school system.

DEAR BRO. BILL.—The Rev. Nathaniel Cleveland, of Alma, A. C., died yesterday morning, aged 92 years. Funeral to-morrow, at 2 o'clock, p. m. You are probably well acquainted with his history, and will please publish such statements as you think proper respecting him. I believe his piety to have been of a very high order. I have understood that to the close of life, he mourned over the low state of Zion, and prayed for her prosperity.

I am requested to preach his funeral sermon, which I propose to do from Luke ii. 29. Respectfully, W. A. COLLEMAN, Hopedale, July 1899.

Notes of My Trip.

For the Christian Visitor. BY REV. G. M. W. CAREY. NO. III. The author of "Greater Britain" says "it was a grateful change to pass from the gloom of Buffalo, the smoke of Cincinnati, and the dirt of Pittsburgh to Green Michigan." The change to the Michigan prairie was full of relief; "it was Holland after the Rhine, London after Paris." Speaking of the educational system and advancement of the State, he adds that it was "all embraced in a scheme brought into working order within ten years of the time when Michigan was a wilderness, and the college yard an Indian hunting ground." Had he gone to Saginaw and Bay City, he would have been still more astonished to find populous and thriving towns, with an industrious, healthy, and refined people, where, a few years ago, the scattered settlers fled before, and few remained to contend with, the miasma, and fever and ague of the region.

But a great change has taken place. As the country was opened up and drained it became comparatively salubrious, so that now it is as wholesome as most sections of the West. This is shown by the numbers of people, especially from Ontario, the State of New York, and the Atlantic States, that have made a home in the Valley of the Saginaw. The valley lies along the Saginaw River, which empties into Saginaw Bay, setting in from Lake Huron, and taking a large bite out of the eastern shore of the State. In a distance of from fifteen to twenty miles along the river, the following places are situated; and some of them are so near one another, that they may be said to be almost united.

Table with 2 columns: Location and Population. East Saginaw, 15,000 inhabitants; Bay City, 10,000; Saginaw City, 9,000; Port Huron, 8,000 to 9,000; Wenona, 2,000; Bangor, 2,500; Zilwaukee, 1,500; Carrollton, 800; Salina, 800 to 1,000; Salsburg, 800.

Bay City was laid out in 1836, and was known as Lower Saginaw for about twenty years. Now that it enjoys the advantages of railroad connection with the rest of the world, it is growing very rapidly. It is about five miles from the mouth of the river, and has twelve feet of water at its wharves, enough for such vessels as sail on the lakes. The river becomes shallower as you go up to East Saginaw, and this furnishes a pretty clear indication that Bay City must have the pre-eminence in trade, and if in trade, in other respects also. Eight years ago I was told it had only 800 inhabitants, now it has twelve and a half times that number. In addition to this there are the suburbs of Portsmouth, Wenona, and Bangor, which though spoken of as separate are really connected with the city as a commercial centre. The main business street is along the river, and the merchandise sold to customers in the front of the stores is brought in from vessels lying in the river at the rear. On the street is the famous Nicholson pavement, and the horse cars are running constantly. The buildings are chiefly brick, and the large hotel, so far as I could judge, was better than any in St. John.

The chief sources of wealth are lumber and salt. Logs are brought down little streams which flow into the Saginaw River and Bay and manufactured, though some rafts have been towed down to Tonawanda on the Niagara River. The amount last year was over five hundred millions of feet, the greater part of which goes to the Eastern States, Ohio, &c., and only a small portion to Chicago, probably not over fifty millions a year. The Detroit Post says that within five years the price of timbered land has gone up from 700 to 1600 per cent. As for saw logs, saw mills, and lumber, they are perfectly marvellous, though some rafts have been towed down to Tonawanda on the Niagara River. The amount last year was over five hundred millions of feet, the greater part of which goes to the Eastern States, Ohio, &c., and only a small portion to Chicago, probably not over fifty millions a year. The Detroit Post says that within five years the price of timbered land has gone up from 700 to 1600 per cent. As for saw logs, saw mills, and lumber, they are perfectly marvellous, though some rafts have been towed down to Tonawanda on the Niagara River. The amount last year was over five hundred millions of feet, the greater part of which goes to the Eastern States, Ohio, &c., and only a small portion to Chicago, probably not over fifty millions a year.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Value. Lumber, 14,465,990; Laths, 895,000; Shingles, 895,000; Salt, 20,000; Staves, 265,700; Timber, cubic feet, 60,585.

This alone, with a good farming country, would make Bay City a most important place, but superadded to this are the Salt Wells, the flow of which increases by use, the strength remaining uniform. The Salt Basin proper is in the Saginaw Valley. Salt in other places where it is obtained is apparently from the overflow of this basin. Brine is pumped up from the wells and the salt made by evaporation. Last year 540,000 barrels were made bringing \$3 per barrel. It will probably reach 600,000 this year. Saw dust from the lumber mills is used as fuel in the manufacture of the salt. This what was once an intolerable nuisance is converted into a source of profit. It is supposed that the salt of this region is literally inexhaustible. Gracious provision from God. Oh that men would praise Him for his goodness.

With a railroad (and that is now in contemplation) from Detroit direct to Bay City, and thence to the Straits of Mackinac, the northern part of the state will be opened up, its resources developed, and new avenues to wealth discovered and made available.

The schools of Bay City are a credit to the place and certainly worthy of our imitation. They are free to all and are supported by taxation. From the primary school up to the high school they are graded and are under the inspection of a well qualified and able superintendent, Mr. Scovill, who prescribes the course of study for each, and has under his vigilant oversight and efficient management. The principal of the High School, Professor Morley, is a well-trained and thorough teacher. While I was passing through the school the Superintendent heard a class composed chiefly of young ladies in Legendre's Elements of Geometry, to their great instruction and my great delight, and I cannot but think if this is the style of female education in Michigan, the future of the State is sure, and the ballot perfectly safe in the hands of such trained and disciplined women.

From the High School the pupils may pass to the State University, and matriculate there. It has over 1,000 students, and is a most flourishing institution of learning. So far as patronage goes, it is not only a pet of the State Legislature, but also of the people. It has the three departments, arising, as Dilke has it, out of the war, with crime, with sin, and with death, viz, Law, Theology, and Medicine.

Law and order prevail in Bay City. There is, however, no capital punishment in the State; and I was told that the Penitentiary is full of criminals. A murder was committed in a rum-shop a little outside of the city, during my brief sojourn, and the trial of the murderer was going on calmly and with solemn deliberation when I left.

It was pleasing to find so many churches and church-going people, in a place that a short time ago, was a comparative wilderness. There are three German churches—two Lutheran, one Dutch Reformed, and one German Methodist. The Roman Catholics have two—one French, and the other English. There is one Episcopalian, one Methodist, one Presbyterian, one Universalist, and one Baptist—making ten in all. The Baptists, with commendable zeal and activity, have secured a most eligible site on one of the

leading streets, which is fondly called the "Fifth Avenue" of Bay City. It is opposite to the Court House, so that the Law and the Gospel are near each other. Here they are raising a grand church edifice, which when finished, will cost all of \$60,000. One noble Christian woman has given \$10,000—one-sixth of the whole. Others have given \$5,000 apiece. May it be said of each of these, as Jesus said of Mary "She hath done what she could." The church is not large; but what it lacks in numbers, it makes up in the quality of its members. There is a large heartedness among them that is truly grand. For want of this, the cause of Christ languishes in many places, where otherwise it might prosper and rapidly advance. When shall we learn that it is a most unprofitable and dangerous business to rob God. It is no blessing to parents; it is a curse to their children. God's malediction rests on wealth accumulated in such a way.

Throughout the entire valley, there is a high degree of Christian enterprise. In East Saginaw, three costly places of worship—Congregational, Baptist, Methodist—were completed last year. The style of these buildings would do honor to any city. On the respective days of their dedication, the sum of \$32,000 was raised for the Congregational; \$21,000 for the Baptist—in which one of my College friends, Rev. Mr. Morehouse, preaches—and upwards of \$18,000 for the Methodist.

The Baptist church in Bay City, is without a pastor. The Rev. Mr. Patterson—a faithful and gifted minister of the New Testament—has presided over them as an under shepherd, for several years; but now, through bad health, has resigned his pastorate. The Lord be gracious to his servant. The Lord provide for his people, and bless his heritage.

For the Christian Visitor.

The York County Quarterly Meeting took place on Friday, June 25th, at 2 o'clock, p. m. A notice of the meeting had been sent to the Visitor by Bro. Jewett, the clerk of the last Quarterly Meeting, four weeks previous; but the notice did not appear in the Visitor till the day before the meeting. On this account few attended who were not living in the immediate vicinity.

The first sermon was preached by the writer from 2 Peter i. 10, 11. Subject—"The obligation of the Christian to make his calling and election sure, with the benefits resulting therefrom." On Sabbath morning Elder Saunders addressed the people from Ps. cxvi. 12. Subject—"The benefits we receive from the Lord, and what we are required to render to Him for the many blessings we receive." The word preached by God's servant was blessed to the comfort and edification of believers. At 2 o'clock, p. m. Elder Tupper spoke to the people from John v. 34. Subject—"The duty and blessed effects of searching the Scriptures." In the evening Elder Jewett preached from Phil. ii. 12-18. Subject—"The obligation of a Christian to work out the salvation which God works in him."

Monday, at 9 o'clock, a. m., the ministerial conference was held. Ministers present—Elders Saunders, Rigby, Burns, Tupper, B. Jewett, Estabrooks, and Bro. George Jewett. Elder Rigby was called to the Chair. Prayer by Bro. Jewett; after which the following resolutions were passed:—

- 1st. Resolved—That the next York County Quarterly Meeting be held with the church at Upper Queensbury, on the first Saturday in October, at 2 p. m.
2d. Resolved—That Elders Saunders and Rigby be a Committee to frame a Constitution, to present at the next Quarterly Meeting for consideration.
3d. Resolved—That the next Quarterly Meeting be opened by prayer and exhortation.
4th. Resolved—That Bro. Saunders be appointed to preach the introductory sermon. The meeting then adjourned, and Elder Burns preached to the people from Matt. xii. 50. Subject—"The close relationship between Christ and those who do the will of His Father." It was an interesting session. May the good seed sown bear fruit to eternal life. A. ESTABROOKS.

For the Christian Visitor.

Dear Visitor—The Westmorland County Quarterly Meeting was held with the first Baptist Church of Salisbury. Met on Friday evening; preaching by Rev. J. C. Bleakney at 7 p. m.; on Saturday, at 2 p. m., met in Christian Conference. The Spirit of the Lord was with us, causing us to feel it good to meet together in the name of the Lord. Preaching on Saturday evening. On Sabbath, preaching at the following places, viz: Salisbury Corner, at 10 o'clock, by Rev. T. Todd; at Steves' Mountain, by Rev. T. Bleakney, at 8 p. m.; Boundary Creek, by Rev. E. Corey; Salisbury Corner, Rev. J. C. Bleakney, and at 7 p. m., by Rev. Jas. Fillmore. In all these services the gospel of the Son of God was clearly and affectionately set forth, and listened to with marked attention. May God the Spirit seal it upon many hearts, seemed to be the fervent prayer of all His servants present.

On Monday they met and organized as follows:—Rev. W. W. Corey, Pastor, in the Chair. The following appointments were made: Rev. Thos. Bleakney, of Dorchester, Secretary, and Rev. Thos. Todd, of Sackville, Treasurer. The following Resolutions were unanimously passed:—

- Whereas—The Constitution and Rules of this meeting have not been returned by the Committee appointed to revise the same; therefore Resolved—That a Committee be appointed to obtain the former, or to frame a new Constitution, to be presented for adoption at our next meeting; and that Brethren T. Todd, J. C. Bleakney, Jas. Fillmore, and W. W. Corey, be a Committee for that purpose.
2d. Moved by Rev. T. Todd, seconded by Rev. Mr. Harris—That our next Quarterly Meeting be held with the second Baptist Church of Sackville, on the first Friday evening in September next, beginning at seven p. m.
3d. Moved by Bro. Todd, and seconded by J. C. Bleakney—That this Quarterly Meeting recommend the first Baptist Church of Salisbury to institute a careful, impartial, and Christian inquiry into the truth or fallacy of reports in circulation prejudicial to the character of Rev. P. O. Reese, their former pastor.
Collections were then reported for Quarterly Meeting Fund—six dollars and thirty cents—after which, on motion of Deacon Elliott, meeting adjourned, to meet at Sackville, first Friday in September. Prayer by Bro. Todd, and meeting closed, all feeling that our labor were not in vain in the Lord. One thing is worthy of remark. I do not remember to have ever heard more of Jesus Christ preached in the same number of sermons. Surely the Lord will divinely honour. Yours in Gospel fellowship, THOS. BLEAKNEY, Secy.

THE NEW DOMINION MONTHLY, for July, comes to us in a new dress, both as it regards type and cover. We cannot but admire the chaste simplicity of the new cover. Its style seems to us quite equal to anything of the kind we have seen issued by London or New York publishers. The subscription price continues the same as before—\$1 in advance. Good Health, is the title of a Monthly Magazine, published by Alexander Moore, No. 81 Franklin Street, Boston. It abounds with valuable instruction on questions pertaining to the health of body and mind; and is got up in a style admirably adapted to the physical and mental improvement of the family circle.

The Carleton County Quarterly Meeting

Convened on Friday evening, June the 18th. Ministering brethren present: Rev. Dr. Spurgeon, J. G. Harvey, B. N. Hughes, C. Goodspeed, G. Howard, S. Burt and J. C. Bleakney. In the absence of the pastor of the church Rev. J. G. Harvey presided. The preaching, praying, exhortations, &c., were all of an interesting character, and I trust the precious seed of the gospel sown, will produce a rich harvest. The next meeting will be held (D. V.) with the church at Middle Simonds, commencing Friday evening, Oct. 8th, 1899. J. C. BLEAKNEY, Secretary.

Collections for the Union Society.

We presume the churches of the Eastern Association have made their annual collections for the benevolent objects embraced in the Union Society. If any of them have not, surely it is high time to do so; but we call attention to this subject now, for the purpose of reminding the churches of the Western Association, that this is the best season of the year for taking up their collections for the Union Society. Our city churches will do well to send out their collectors at once. We regret to say, that the missionary contributions of the city churches last year, were far below the usual amounts given by them; and so it will be this year, unless the work of collecting is commenced immediately. Upon the pastors, of course, rests the responsibility of summoning their churches to earnest action in this matter. A series of Union Missionary meetings for the churches, would probably be productive of much good. Who will lead the way? Men of Israel, help! What is to be done, should be done quickly. Time hastens, souls are perishing, the Judge is at the door.

OUR EASTERN ASSOCIATION,

which opens at Lunenburg, on Thursday, at 10 a. m., calls for special prayer that the Holy Spirit may descend upon ministers and people. May all come up to the place filled with the Spirit's power. "Paul plants, Apollus waters, God gives the increase."

American Homoeopathic Institute.

Dr. G. M. Gunter, of Natick, Mass., has sent us a full report of the proceedings of a recent meeting in Boston, of the members of this Institute. The fraternity came from divers sections of the Republic, to greet each other in one grand celebration of their favorite theory. They had an address of welcome from the Mayor of Boston, followed by poetry, music, speeches, and feasting, &c., in large measure. The report says, that the Institute numbers among its eminent members, many of the most faithful and able practitioners of the country. Prof. Ludlam's address on the question—Shall woman practice medicine? gave very general satisfaction.

We are glad to hear that our young friend, Gunter, is succeeding well in the practice of homoeopathy, among our American cousins. May his shadow never grow less!

Another Veteran Gone to his Rest.

It will be seen by Brother Coleman's short note, that the veteran Cleveland is among the slain. He was the oldest ordained Baptist minister in these Provinces. Long and faithfully did he serve his beloved Master, and when the message came to him to go to his reward, he could say, "Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation." We have not space for lengthened remarks this week, but at an early day we hope to be able to give an interesting sketch of the life and labors of this eminent servant of God. His son, Deacon Cleveland, will oblige by forwarding such information, concerning the departed, as may be in his possession.

The following circular is sent to our address for publication. We most cordially commend its important objects to the favorable consideration of our ministers and churches generally:—

SAINT JOHN YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

St. John, New Brunswick, June 30, 1899. DEAR SIR—Our Association proposing to hold a Young Men's Convention under its auspices in this City, early in October next, invite you to send as a Delegate to it, one of your most active Christian young men.

The sittings of the Convention will include—Meeting of Welcome, Meeting for Organization, Business Meetings, and Farewell Meeting; these will be held in the various Protestant Churches.

The object of our Association in holding a Convention, is to awaken a deeper interest among young men in matters of religion, to induce them to join our Association, to awaken a like interest and sympathy in our young men throughout the Province, and lead to the formation of kindred Institutions wherever practicable, and also to stir up a more lively interest in the moral and spiritual condition of our young men, among all classes of the community.

With a view to accomplish this object, addresses will be given by eminent Christian men, and subjects of the greatest importance will be brought before the Convention for its consideration. We feel confident that, under the blessing of God, good results will flow abundantly from it.

Arrangements will be made with the Steamboat and Railway Companies in the Lower Provinces to carry Delegates at one rate to and from our city.

Ample accommodations will be made for the Delegates during the sitting of the Convention by the members and friends of the Association.

In order that the Provisional Committee may be able without delay to make all the necessary arrangements for the accommodation of the delegates, and other business in connection with the programme of the Convention, it will be necessary that we should receive a reply as to whether you propose to send a delegate, on or before the 10th of August. Your attention and hearty co-operation is solicited.

Further information to intended delegates will be forwarded in due season. Ministers who propose attending the Convention will receive a cordial welcome, and they will please notify the Provisional Committee of their intention prior to the 10th August.

Yours, in Christian Fellowship, WILLIAM W. EARLE, E. McLEARY, JAMES WOODROW, ROBERT G. QUINN, GEO. BARTELOUX, J. E. IRVING, J. CLAWSON, Secretary.

DESEMINATIONAL GROWTH.—The present numerical strength of the Baptist denomination in the United States, according to the Year-Book, is 1,121,988. This shows an increase over last year of 12,062. The figures, says the National Baptist, would be very materially increased, if the returns from several States were not so imperfect. The Baptists during the year are reported as 60,787—more than 5 for each Church, and over 1,100 for each Sabbath. They were added by experience and restoration, 8,980,—making the total additions \$4,717. The losses were,—by death, 5,211; exclusion, 7,293; errors, 1,651; total, 14,173. This would show the net gain to be, according to the returns, 50,597,—a little more than 4 per cent. during the year. A part of this discrepancy is due to a lamentable fact which even these imperfect returns clearly indicate, and it is mainly to mark the fact that we see this paragraph—The *discipline* by letter are put down as 21,808, while the *additions* by letter are only 16,808. Where are the 6,498, who hold unneeded letters? This is a question for Pastors and Home Missionaries, and for the army of delinquent members.

As stated in our last issue, Rev. J. C. Bleakney has accepted the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Moncton and wishes his letters and papers directed to that place.

The field is one of great interest and of grave responsibility. We pray God that our brother Bleakney may be enabled through grace to cultivate it successfully.

As will be seen by reference to our marriage record, the Rev. George Armstrong, pastor of the Baptist Church at Bridgetown, N. S., was married this morning. All the Baptist ministers of the city, and many other friends, were in attendance. Our esteemed brother and his excellent wife left in the new steamer "May Queen," accompanied by Rev. E. C. Cadby and other friends, to attend the Association at Lunenburg. The newly married couple share largely in our best wishes for their future happiness, and for their increased usefulness in the service and kingdom of the great Redeemer.

Rev. Malcom Ross, of P. E. Island, reports to the Messenger revival influences in several districts, and says, that his own church has been greatly blessed of late. As the result of revival power, on a recent Sabbath, he baptized 16 happy believers. A very large concourse of people present, and the utmost decorum prevailed.

The Christian Messenger of the 30th ult., reports the baptism of thirty-five persons recently at Preston, near Halifax, by Revs. D. Shaw and B. Smithers. It was a highly impressive occasion. Also the baptism of 21 believers on the 27th ult., at the African Baptist Church, Halifax, by Rev. James Thomas. Among the number was a man 80 years of age.

The Pitt Street Baptist Sabbath School Concert, on Tuesday evening, was quite a success. A large attendance, music charming, dialogues, and recitations well received; and those laboring assiduously to build up the school, encouraged by a pleasing expansion of the Library Fund.

We learn that the Portland Baptist Church are expecting to hold a Strawberry Festival, to raise funds for the repair of their house of worship. It will be held in one of the Car-shed buildings in Indiantown, belonging to the Street Railway Company. The room is 35x120 feet. Full meals will be furnished. A large attendance is expected. We wish them great success.

I. E. Bill, Jun., expects to leave in the American boat, for St. Andrews, next Friday morning, and will preach in the Baptist chapel of that place, p. v., at the usual hours of service, on Sabbath, the 11th inst.

N. B. Home Mission Board met in Leinster Street Committee Room, on the 6th inst. Present—Rev. Messrs. McKean, Cadby, Hartley, Spencer, Crandall, Walker, and Munro; and Brethren Steeves, Harding, May, Smith, Hart, Everett, Calhoun, Gorw, Masters.

Father Walker referred to the destitution of the field along the Bay Shore, between St. Martins and Hopewell. On motion, \$10 was appropriated, to enable him to visit the settlements in that locality.

Read Rev. H. Hickson's report of three months labor. On motion, it was received, and amount due voted to be paid.

Read report of six months labor by Rev. Thomas Bleakney. On motion, it was read, and amount due voted to be paid.

Read application for aid for Sabbath School at Fairfield. Voted \$5 from S. S. Fund.

Read application for aid for Sabbath School at Back Bay. Voted \$6 from S. S. Fund.

The Annual Report was submitted, and ordered to be read at the annual meeting of the Society, to be held with the Eastern Association.

After some discussion on the state of the finances, it was—Resolved, That the pastors of the churches in the city and Portland, be a committee to devise means to raise funds.

On motion, adjourned to meet with the Eastern Association at Lunenburg. J. E. MASTERS.

Secular Department.</