

o'clock. That the morning session commence at 9 o'clock. That there be preaching this evening at 7½ o'clock, to be followed by the reading of letters from the churches. That the Introductory Sermon be preached Wednesday at 10 o'clock A. M. That a collection be taken at the close in behalf of Home Missions.

The following Brethren were appointed a Committee to examine and read letters: Revs. G. F. Miles, T. Todd, J. H. Hughes, I. E. Bill.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to examine the blank form of Associational letter, presented by Rev. T. Todd, for the approval of this Association.

Committee, Revs. A. B. McDonald, I. E. Bill, and Bro. J. A. Horsman.

Adjourned with prayer by W. A. Corey.

TUESDAY EVENING.

Opened with singing, and prayer by Rev. G. F. Miles. Minutes of previous session read and approved. An excellent sermon was preached by Rev. R. R. Philip, founded on Hebrews ii. 3.

A collection was then taken for the Board, amounting to \$16.27.

Several of the letters from the churches were read.

The following Committees were then appointed:

On Home Missions. Revs. I. E. Bill, John Coombes, John Gammon, E. Hickson, Brethren Ezra Bishop, Isa Tingley, Jas. Straug, A. B. Hays, M. Gross, and Rufus Reid.

On Foreign Missions. Revs. T. Todd, W. A. Corey, Bros. R. Thorne, Isaac N. Alward, Grafton Ayer, and Minor Cleveland.

The Session closed after prayer by Rev. J. M. Curry.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, July 9.

Prayer was offered by Rev. E. C. Corey.

Minutes of last session read and approved.

Reading of letters from the Churches resumed.

The hour having arrived for the annual sermon of the Association, Rev. T. Todd preached from Titus i. 5.

A collection for Home Missions was then taken amounting to \$12.87.

Resolved, That Rev. Thos. Todd be requested to furnish a copy of his sermon for publication in the CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

Resolved, That we accept the invitation of the 2nd Sackville church to meet at Sackville on our next annual session.

The Committee of Arrangements further reported: That the Association meet this afternoon at 2 o'clock for general business. That there be a public Home Missionary meeting in the evening. That a collection in behalf of Home Missions be taken at the close.

Adjourned with benediction by the Moderator.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, July 9.

After singing, prayer was offered by Rev. J. A. Durkee.

Minutes of previous session read and approved.

Resolved, That the Rev. J. E. Hopper be requested to furnish blank certificates for railway travel to our annual gatherings.

Resolved that Brethren Joseph Calhoun, Gilbert White, W. Stone, J. L. B. Steeves and John Ford, be delegates to the Convention.

Report of Committee on Religious Literature.

Printed thought is now having just power for good and evil. This power should be controlled and directed, as far as possible, by and for the Church of Christ. The spread and use of pernicious literature should be restrained. Literature inculcating God's truth should be spread and studied as widely as may be. Your Committee would suggest the following ways in which these duties may be discharged:

1. By pastors, parents, and guardians endeavoring to banish weakening and debasing reading from the family and from society, and trying to create and satisfy a taste for sound reading.

2. By Sunday-School workers freeing libraries from works of vapid fiction and filling them with books teaching truth alone.

3. By religious families giving special attention to catechetical instruction, which is such a source of strength and permanence to religious bodies.

4. By the denomination giving hearty support to our denominational organ, the CHRISTIAN VISITOR, and aiding its proprietor in his efforts to publish and supply Sunday School papers and Bible Lessons, and the establishment of a Baptist Book Room, through which we can supply the wants of our members, Sunday Schools, and Churches.

Your Committee are of opinion that immediate consideration should be given to three questions:

1st. As to the necessity of the preparation and distribution by denominational influence of a Catechism for use in families and Sunday Schools.

2nd. As to whether it is needful and best that Sunday Schools should make the circulation of books a part of their work.

3rd. As to whether the time has not come when we should, as a denomination, make all legitimate effort to secure union of our denominational organs and the establishment of one able journal for the Maritime Baptists.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. DURKEE, Chairman.

Report on Education.

In these Provinces, Education has, of late years, made rapid advances. Free schools of excellent character now abound. To Baptists belongs much of the credit of their establishment and successful working. In our own Province, the influence of the Baptist Seminary, although it has ceased to exist, is still felt, and the names of Dr. Spurden and E. H. Duval as educators and moulders of our educational methods, will ever be associated with the history of liberal education in this Province.

Our own Acadia, having passed through the fire, has had a resurrection, and now a stately edifice once more adorns College Hill. By its side are Academies, male and female, and these form now an educational centre of which Baptists may be justly proud. Upon these noble structures there remains a debt, and most earnestly do we commend its liquidation as a primal claim upon the benevolence of the denomination.

The proceeds of the sale of our Baptist Seminary are now invested in the name of the Baptist body comprising the Eastern and Western Associations, and are being held for the purpose for which they were given. A hope is entertained that sometime in the future an Academy affiliated to Acadia may be established in this Province, and an effort made to regain the ground already lost.

As to the establishment of a Theological Seminary, we are of opinion that the beginning already made should be fostered and made more efficient. We are further of opinion that its removal to Saint John would be most advantageous to it, and the denomination at large.

J. E. HOPPER, Chairman.

Report on Sabbath Schools.

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools, in presenting their report, would call attention to the important position which the Sabbath School holds in relation to the general work and mission of the Church, on account both of its direct service in sending many from its classes into the membership of the Church, and its indirect service in placing those instructed, who may be brought to Christ by other means, upon a foundation of Scripture truth on which they may build a sounder Christian faith and character than could otherwise be attained. One who in youth has been thoroughly instructed in Christian doctrine will, when converted later in life, prove a more staunch, intelligent, and useful Christian and church member. Thus we see how those churches who either neglect Sabbath School work, or carry it on inefficiently, must suffer as regards both their present and future success.

This idea of the indirect value of Sabbath School labor in general leads your Committee to suggest that Sabbath School work in connection with Baptist Churches may become a source of much indirect service to the Baptist denomination in its more special denominational mission. As those well instructed in general Scripture truth do, when converted, become more reliable and useful Christians, so those to whom are given, in addition, a clear idea of our distinctive beliefs, will when converted, make the best Baptists as well as the best Christians, and will not be liable to be drawn from our ranks. We therefore make a plea for more teaching of a denominational character in our Sabbath Schools. Let us have at least as much attention given to those doctrines in respect to which we differ from other churches, and which will be the chief points of attack, as we devote to truths which all evangelical denominations accept, and in which there is thus really less need of entrenchment. We do not believe we do that at present. And while we teach with a flavor of denominationalism on our lips, we need as well to look with a denominational eye through our Sabbath School literature. We hear of books circulated in Baptist Schools containing as frontispiece a picture of Christ standing in Jordan, while John pours water upon his head from a shell. This is a straw which shows what a breeze of anti-Baptist sentiment blows through much of our Sabbath School literature. We would suggest that our Sabbath Schools overhaul their libraries, and gather thence such works as teach sentiments to which the principles in which we as Baptists believe are opposed, and have a grand, glorious bonfire, such as Paul witnessed at Ephesus. And as the libraries thus diminished must be refilled and enlarged, we would recommend to the confidence and patronage of our Churches the new Book Room, established at the Visitor office, in St. John, as a medium for the circulation of Sabbath School literature of a character consistent with our views of truth. We would also, while on this subject, mention the "Youth's Visitor" published at the same office, as a valuable addition to Sabbath School literature.

We would suggest that the value of the Sabbath School be still further enhanced by the extension of its influence over a larger proportion of those within its reach. We refer not so much to the bringing in of those children whose parents are too regardless of their little ones' interests to send them to the School, as to the formation of adult classes—classes for the young men and women both of the church and congregation—classes also for the fathers and mothers in Israel.

We deprecate the lack of preparation on the part of teachers evident in too many of our Schools. He has an unworthy idea of his work as a teacher who will go before his class without the most thorough study and recourse to the best helps. For this reason we would recommend that the "International Series of Lessons" be more extensively adopted by our Sabbath Schools. Following them the most valuable aids may be obtained, and the word of God studied and taught with the fullest success.

In behalf of the Committee.

E. H. HOWE, Chairman.

Minutes of the N. B. B. H. M. Society.

SURREY, HILLSBORO, July 9, 1879.

The New Brunswick Baptist Home Mission Society held its annual session with the Eastern Association this day.

The President took the chair.

A. Chipman was appointed Secretary *pro tem*.

The Report of the Board was read, received for discussion and adopted.

The Treasurer's Report was read, laid on the table, and afterwards adopted.

Resolved, That this Society now proceed to elect a Board, as on former occasions.

The Society then adjourned till 10 A.M. to-morrow.

THURSDAY, July 10.

Session opened by prayer.

After reading of the minutes, and also the Constitution of the Society, and some desultory discussion, the following Committee to nominate a Board, was appointed:

Brethren, E. Hickson, I. E. Bill, S. W. Kierstead, C. B. Welton, J. Hughes, A. B. McDonald.

Committee reported and their nomination was accepted. The following brethren comprise the Board for 1879-80:

President, T. H. Hall.

Vice President, C. D. Everett.

Corresponding Secretary, Rev. J. E. Hopper.

Recording Secretary, Rev. E. Hickson.

Treasurer, J. H. Harding.

Auditor, T. P. Davies.

Executive Committee, Brethren G. White, W. Alwood, T. Hay, J. F. Marsters, Capt. G. Masters, H. Vaughan, J. J. Bostwick, J. S. May, M. Cowan, W. H. Hall, sr., G. W. Lyon, J. E. Masters.

Resolved, That this meeting adjourn till 1½ o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After prayer and reading of minutes, *Resolved*, That the other names omitted from former Board be added to the present Board.

The following resolutions after discussion were constitutionally carried.

1. That we request the Baptist Convention of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P. E. Island, to appoint a Board of Home Missions for New Brunswick, located in N. B., who shall annually report to the Convention.

2. That in the event of the Convention acceding to our request, we hereby instruct the Board of this Society to hand over their work and trusts committed to it to the New Brunswick Board of the Convention.

3. That the Convention be requested to instruct the Home Mission Board, which they may appoint for New Brunswick to present an annual report, as far as practicable, to the respective Associations in this Province, of their annual work.

Adjourned.

The Christian Visitor,

Saint John, N. B. July 16, 1879.

Eastern Association.

The E. N. B. B. Association has just concluded a deeply interesting session with the Surrey Church, Hillsborough. The attendance was large and representative. The letters showed a large increase in membership. The topic of absorbing interest was the transference of our Home Mission work to the Convention. The discussion was animated, and arguments pro and con were set forth with marked ability. As the discussion proceeded, it became evident that a compromise must be made in order to insure harmonious work. A resolution with this purpose in view was offered and the leaders on both sides accepted it. The Convention is to be asked to appoint a Board of Home Missions for N. B., located in this Province, and to this Board the Home Mission Society is instructed to pass over its trusts and work. This will give N. B. a place in the Convention, in respect to Home Missions, precisely similar to that of N. S. and P. E. I. It will now be incumbent on our pastors and laymen to attend the Convention in greater force, and see that the wisest and best plans are inaugurated to promote this interest, so vital to the extension of Christ's kingdom in our own land.

The Report on Denominational Literature recommended the adoption of a Catechism for Sunday School use, and a Committee was appointed to report thereon. The desire for something of this kind was generally felt and strongly expressed.

The Committee also reported in favor of one Denominational paper for the Maritime Provinces. There is much to be said in its favor, and if it can be effected fairly it will be a great gain. The desire for it, however, needs to become so strong that when a union of papers is effected it will leave no hope for a rival aspirant.

In reference to the Theological Seminary there was a strong desire expressed, not only to continue it, but to increase its efficiency. The belief was generally held that the Seminary would have better hope of prosperity if located by itself, and in a city, where students would have a larger field for exercising their gifts. After a student graduates, the desire is common to remove to some other place to carry on professional study, and nearly all our Theological Seminaries are found to flourish better by themselves than as an appendage to a College.

The Association will long be remembered. Our Hillsborough pastors and brethren were lavish in their hospitality. Few if any pleasanter villages does our Province boast of, and the best of it all is, our Baptist brotherhood forms nearly the entire population.

Col. Ingersoll.

Happily the illogical rhetoric of Col. Ingersoll is but little known in our Provinces. We would scarcely aid in giving publicity to his harangues, but in the address at the grave of his brother, which we give in another column, we may, if anywhere, expect sincerity, and here his mournful utterances show the barrenness of his philosophy.

Did he think how striking an illustration he was himself furnishing of Mr. Wendling's point in answer to "Ingersollism"? Speaking of the comfort to be derived, in trying hours, from Christianity, Mr. W. said, "Imagine the reading of one of Ingersoll's orations at an open grave." How sadly, in the presence of death, has the sarcastic, scoffing infidel acknowledged that he had nothing to offer, nothing in which to have refuge, in place of the consolation afforded by that religion which points the believer to a hereafter beyond the grave.

Editorial Notes.

Dr. Backus, formerly Secretary of the Home Mission Society entered into rest July 3. He was a man of sterling qualities of head and heart. Many will remember his visits to our Convention and the inspiration he gave to Missionary discussions.

R. J. Burdette, the *Hawkeye* man, is expected in the city this week, and will be the guest of the CHRISTIAN VISITOR. He himself is a Christian visitor, as well as a talented humorist, and we trust our bracing air may be so beneficial to him and his invalid wife that they will often return.

The Sunday Afternoon for July is received. Also the *Bibliotheca Sacra* for this month, and will be noticed next week.

The Central Baptist thus disposes of the question which of late has agitated the Presbyterian church, as to the validity of Romish Baptism:

"At present we do not quite see why the Catholic Church, which is authority for the act of sprinkling, cannot sprinkle as Scripturally as any one. The inventor of all others, ought to be able to produce the genuine article."

For the VISITOR.

Ontario Correspondence.

The Associations within the bounds of the Provinces and Quebec have had their usual annual gatherings, which have been characterized by good feeling and much earnestness in reference to denominational progress. The number of baptisms is less than the number reported last year, but on the whole the churches have maintained their ground well, and in some instances very gratifying progress has been made.

The financial pressure has had its effect upon many of our town and village churches, which have suffered by removal to such an extent that they have found it difficult to sustain themselves and contribute liberally as heretofore to Home and Foreign Missions and Ministerial Education. Hence these Societies have been crippled in their operations through lack of funds.

"Money, money," has been the one cry since the Convention, and still it is money. No doubt the stringency of the times has lessened the giving-power of many members of our churches, but the real trouble is that comparatively few give as the Lord hath prospered them. Their gifts are disproportionate to their receipts, and are not given with the grateful sense that it is a privilege to give and not a privation—an enrichment and not an impoverishment. The fact is, we lack money because we lack piety; we are too worldly—too un-Christlike in our spirit and life. More of the spirit of Christ would give us more money, and make us more efficient laborers in the Lord's vineyard. Primarily it is piety and not money that we need. Piety of the apostolic type—piety that rejoices to give and do to the utmost that God may be glorified and souls saved. When this lack is supplied all other need will be met.

There is money enough in our churches if there were only the willing mind to give to carry on without any difficulty the various religious enterprises in which we are engaged. It is a lamentable fact that Christian men, as a rule, fail to increase their contributions to God's cause according to their increase in wealth. Their wealth increases, but their subscription remain stationary.

This is wrong, and grows out of the fact that Christians overlook what Christ demands—that there shall be a continual relation between a man's temporal circumstances and his religious contributions. The more ability and opportunities the Lord gives a Christian to increase his wealth, the more He expects from him. This is the Scriptural law: "Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord thy God, which he hath given thee."

Comparatively few of our churches have adopted the Beneficence Scheme, and some who professedly adopted it have not done so practically. So far as it has been tried the results are such as to make one wish that all our churches would adopt it.

A mass meeting is called to meet in Guelph, on Thursday, 17th, to receive the report of a special Committee appointed at the Semi-Annual Meeting of the Trustees of the Canadian Literary Institute, held at Woodstock in April. That we have reached a crisis in our educational work, is beyond doubt; and the minds of our best men, both lay and clerical, are seriously exercised in reference to our present indebtedness, and the future maintenance of its present state of efficiency, of the Institute. Unfortunately, there is a want of agreement as to the wisdom of continuing the Theological Department at Woodstock. A large number both of ministers and laymen favor the removal of the Theological Department to Toronto. While perhaps, a larger number think otherwise and favor the continuance of things as they are, with such modifications and additions, as may be necessary to adjust the working of the Institute to the new state of things, occasioned by the death of the late Principal. That the Institute in both its departments has attained to a high