

not always on hand, but such as cannot pay cash should arrange with the minister to supply him with such things as he needs and be sure to make it equal to a cash transaction, and if paid in produce, the best that the farm produces and at the lowest cash price.

It is the special business of the deacons to see that the ministers salary is promptly and fully paid. Shun these arrears as you would the bite of a serpent or the sting of an adder, for they are rank poison to the prosperity of the church and to the peace of a minister. Keep your minister paid up in full and then demand of him the devotion of his heart and life to the interests of his great mission. If needful that he should have leave of absence for a time to recuperate wasted strength, or to preach the gospel to the regions beyond, let him go in the name of the Lord, but do not fail to supply the wants of his family in his absence, and to pray that he may return to you in the fellowship of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ.

In conclusion, in all affection and fidelity, we must say that this lack of proper ministerial support rests to-day as a blighting mildew upon the churches of New Brunswick, and we call upon them to arise each and all, and by a wise and Scriptural policy, and by a course of liberal action, wipe away the reproach. Support your ministers generously and the God of your ministers will support you. Provide for your minister, not as a matter of charity to a pauper, but as an act of common justice to the man who "watches for your soul as one that must give an account," and as one whose best thoughts, talents, affections and enquiries are all devoted to the present and eternal welfare of you and yours. Remember the words of the blessed Lord Jesus, "The laborer is worthy of his reward."

MINUTES

OF THE

Eastern New Brunswick Baptist Association.

(Continued.)

FOURTH SESSION.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, July 9.

On motion a Committee was appointed on Systematic Benevolence, to confer with similar Committee appointed by the Western Baptist Association, to report next year on the best method of raising funds for carrying forward our benevolent operations.

The following brethren were appointed: Revs. W. A. Corey, J. H. Hughes, and T. Todd.

Resolved, That this Association sanction the report on the re-distribution of the churches comprised in the Eastern and Western New Brunswick Baptist Associations.

The Committee on Nominations recommended the appointment of the following Committees:

Education.—Revs. J. E. Hopper, I. E. Bill, A. B. McDonald, A. Cohoon, I. Wallace, and Bros. M. Gross, T. H. Hall, W. H. Wortman and J. T. Horsman.

Denominational Literature.—Revs. J. A. Durkee, J. Gammon, E. C. Corey, A. Chipman, A. Cohoon.

Temperance.—Revs. S. W. Kierstead, E. C. Corey, J. E. Gilmour, Bros. Solomon Smith, R. Thorn, J. W. Alward, J. Reid, S. Thorn, W. W. Dundam, F. Bennison, Jas. Strang, George Beckwith.

Obituaries.—Revs. J. M. Curry, J. Coombes, T. Todd, Sabbath Schools.—Revs. E. H. Howe, James Goldrup, Bros. J. F. Alward, G. White, C. K. Harrington, J. Horsman, L. Wheaton.

Circular Letter.—Revs. A. Chipman, Geo. Armstrong, G. E. Good.

To Revise List of Ordained ministers and Licentiate.—Revs. J. Coombs, John Gammon, M. Gross.

Special Business.—Revs. G. F. Miles, E. Hickson, I. Wallace, T. Todd, J. H. Hughes, A. Peck.

Resolved, That the Licentiate be requested to name the churches from which, and the date when they received their License.

Adjourned after prayer by Rev. I. Wallace.

FIFTH SESSION.

WEDNESDAY EV'G. July 9.

The session opened by prayer by Rev. C. B. Welton.

Minutes of the last session read and approved.

On motion it was Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to nominate all other committees of this Association, to report at our next annual meeting on the subjects coming before them.

The following brethren were appointed: Revs. A. B. McDonald, T. Todd, C. B. Welton, and J. E. Hopper.

A number of letters from the churches were read.

On motion Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this Association to prepare and present an address of welcome to H. R. H. Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne on their visit to this Province, to be signed by the officers of this body.

Committee: Revs. I. E. Bill, J. E. Hopper, E. Hickson, T. Todd.

Then followed the Home Missionary Meeting.

Addresses were made by Revs. I. Wallace, A. Cohoon, G. F. Miles, J. A. Durkee, J. E. Hopper.

A Collection was taken at the close amounting to \$23.29.

Resolved, That Brother John Wallace be Auditor of the Treasurer's report.

Adjourned after singing the Doxology.

SIXTH SESSION.

THURSDAY MORNING, July 10.

Association re-assembled at 9 o'clock.

Moderator in the chair.

Prayer was offered by Rev. T. Todd.

Minutes of last session read and approved.

Committee on Denominational Literature reported through Rev. J. A. Durkee.

Spoken to by Revs. S. W. Kierstead, T. Todd, I. E. Bill, J. A. Durkee, A. Cohoon, J. H. Hughes, and J. E. Hopper.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Association the Visitor and Messenger should be united in one journal and that the denomination urge their respective editors to effect such a union.

Resolved, That Revs. W. A. Corey, J. E. Hopper, A. B. McDonald, be appointed a committee to confer with the Western Association in reference to the establishment of a Denominational Book Room.

Adjourned after prayer by Rev. I. Wallace.

SEVENTH SESSION.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON, July 10.

Association re-assembled at 2 o'clock.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. Gammon.

On motion Resolved, That the report of the New Brunswick Home Missionary Society be adopted by this Association.

The Committee on Obituaries read their report. Adopted.

Report on Foreign Missions was presented and laid on the table for discussion.

The Committee on education submitted their report.

Spoken to by Revs. J. E. Hopper, I. E. Bill, G. E. Good, I. Wallace, and others. Adopted.

The Committee to examine the Circular Letter, [reported, recommending that the Letter be read to the Association.

It was then read by the writer, Rev. I. E. Bill.

Resolved, That the Circular Letter be printed in the Minutes and in the Visitor.

The Committee on Revised List of Ordained Ministers and Licentiate reported, which, on motion was adopted.

The Committee on Temperance reported. Adopted.

The Treasurer submitted his report, which was adopted, and ordered to be printed in the Minutes.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this Association be requested to hand the funds now in his possession over to the Treasurer of the different Societies.

On motion Resolved, That Rev. J. E. Hopper print 1,000 copies of the Minutes of this Association.

Adjourned with benediction by the Moderator.

EIGHTH SESSION.

THURSDAY EV'G. July 10.

The Association met at 7 1/2 o'clock.

Prayer by Rev. John Gammon.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

On motion Resolved, That the Minutes be distributed to the churches in proportion to the moneys paid in by them.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. The report was adopted.

Report on Foreign Missions was taken from the table.

Spoken to by Bros. I. E. Bill, Harding, Gammon, Hopper, Todd, and then adopted.

A Collection was taken for Foreign Missions amounting to \$10.92.

On motion Resolved, That this body hereby commend our beloved brother, Rev. R. R. Philips, who is now among us, afflicted with total blindness, to the benevolent sympathy of the churches in this Province, which he purposes to visit during the present summer.

Committee on Nominations finally reported, recommending that Rev. A. B. McDonald preach the next Association sermon, Rev. C. B. Welton to be his alternate. Subject "Regeneration and its outgrowth." That Rev. A. Chipman write the Circular letter, subject, "Baptist Polity and Church Discipline."

That the Committees for 1880 be as follows:

On Home Missions, Revs. Thomas Todd, E. C. Corey, G. E. Good.

On Education, Revs. A. Chipman, T. A. Blackadar, J. C. Steadman.

On Denominational Literature, Revs. A. B. McDonald, E. H. Howe, A. Chipman.

On Foreign Missions, Revs. I. E. Bill, S. N. Kierstead, Bro. A. B. Hayes.

On Sabbath Schools, Revs. W. A. Corey, E. Hopper J. M. Curry.

On Temperance, Revs. C. B. Welton, J. Coombes, J. F. Goldrup.

On Obituaries, Rev. J. H. Hughes, J. Gammon, Bro. Geo. Beckwith.

On motion Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this Association be tendered by a rising vote to the two churches and congregations of Hillsborough for their kind hospitality in entertaining the delegates and visitors in attendance.

On motion Resolved, That the thanks of the Association be tendered to the Railway Companies for their kindness in granting reduced fares to those attending the Association.

On motion Resolved, That Thomas Todd be a Committee to arrange with the Railway authorities for travel next year.

On motion Resolved, That Revs. C. B. Welton and J. M. Curry be a committee to prepare a digest of the Letters for the press.

On motion Resolved, That the blank form of Associational letter, prepared by Rev. T. Todd, be adopted by this body; that 1,000 copies be printed and that T. Todd be a Committee to see after the matter.

The minutes of this session were read and approved.

Prayer was offered by Revs. A. B. McDonald and J. A. Durkee.

On motion Resolved, That this Association adjourn to meet next year with the Second Baptist Church in Sackville.

"The Sweet by and by" was sung after which the benediction was pronounced by the Moderator.

T. A. BLACKADAR, Moderator.

C. B. WELTON } Secretaries.

G. E. GOOD }

The Christian Visitor,

Saint John, N. B. July 23 1879.

Another Word about our Associations.

While the words and work of our Associations are in mind, we wish to say a word about them. We notice in them this year an improvement in two respects. They grappled earnestly with live issues, e. g., the Catechism, the United Paper and Education and Home Mission questions. They made thoughtful preparation, (we refer to the action of the New Brunswick Associations) for the work of next year, by selecting timely subjects for the Associational letters and sermons and by the appointment of standing Committees on denominational subjects. It but remains for the brethren concerned to put the strength and experience of the year into the reports, sermons and letters and we shall have a mass of inspiring and educative thought to enrich our minds and hearts next year. There is another particular in which improvement may still be made. We refer to the work of the important Committee of arrangements. The success of the Association depends largely on this Committee. Instead of its reporting from session to session and hour to hour, as is now frequently done, it should make and report arrangements for all the sessions at the first. Each subject should be given that place and prominence which will produce the best particular and general effect. The speakers upon each topic should be given ample time to prepare and present the best thought. While we deprecate cut and dried arguments, we nevertheless think that nothing that we can wisely foreorder should be left to chance in these matters. By a wise arrangement of subjects and choice of speakers the interest in the Association may be held unbroken and augmented to the very close. Instead of less which few are left to drink, we will have the best wine and highest joy at the last. Another matter also needs attention. All the arrangements should have a distinct reference to the aggregate spiritual effect of the Association on the delegates, and on the people. If in our anxiety to do business we lose sight of this we make a sad mistake. Our Associations are of little worth if they do not secure a higher unity than that expressed in the passage of resolutions; if they do not develop a life that is not fostered merely by intellectual addresses, however able. In your arrangements brethren, give place, therefore, to a few more stirring sermons, a few more fervent social meetings, a few more inspiring spiritual songs.

Commencement.

For some time past nearly every one of our exchanges has contained accounts of graduating exercises. One institution after another has been sending its class of graduates out into the broader arena of life, and its undergraduates and teachers to needed rest and recreation. On the part of honest instructor and industrious student the tension of mind and brain that lasts through Fall and Winter, and increases as the warm days of Spring and Summer, bring on the day of the year, makes rest doubly sweet. We lay aside—or at least we strive to keep down—any feeling of envy, and wish all a happy vacation.

Amongst the reflections indulged in at this season by our contemporaries, we notice the gladness expressed by Zion's Herald at "the beginning of a reform against the long-standing custom of arranging Commencement programmes." The editor says:

"How moral men have for hundreds of years endured sitting out five or six hours listening to the familiar rhetoric of these occasions, we can hardly understand. It may be a pleasure to the individual graduate and his immediate circle of sisters, cousins, and aunts, but it is death to the physical comfort of hundreds of other persons. With rare exceptions, it amounts to little to the graduates themselves who reach the stage. Few reputations of any value have dated from the Commencement oration. They are often the occasions of heart-burnings, of impertinence to College authorities, preceded by a wearisome period of unproductive intellectual effort, and attended by increasing expenses. A rich educational address from an accomplished scholar, with vocal or instrumental music and the announcement of degrees, would be certainly equally appropriate, much more instructive, far less expensive, and more sensible every way."

In our opinion there is something to be

said on both sides. While there is doubtless much that is wearisome in the usual programmes, and more or less "familiar rhetoric," yet we believe that many of our communities would be glad of the continuance of the old custom, and very willing to listen at least with kindly consideration to "our boys and girls," and to treat their productions with only generous criticism. The "impertinence to College authorities" certainly need not, when it does occur, be beyond restraint; and the stimulus to careful reading, continuous and coherent thinking, and polished expression, as well as the necessary training to correct delivery and the conquering of "stage-fright" must be, in general, of great advantage to the student.

The Watchman, in speaking of examinations, deprecates the custom of making them count chiefly in determining the pupils' standing. We fully concur in this, and, indeed, we are not aware that the majority, or even any great number of instructors differ from us on this point. We have no doubt of the value of written and oral examinations—not so much for a means of ascertaining the students' proficiency, as for a part of his training and education. The thoughtful instructor knows their value in the latter respect, while he is, no doubt, often disappointed with their result, if taken as the important factor in determining the pupils' standing. To the teacher every recitation is an examination, and, while special examinations should have their influence, there seems to us little doubt that the average of daily recitations is the surest measure of the students' real progress.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church lately held in Ottawa, Ont., reported through the Chairman of Committee on Sabbath Schools the following changes suggested by the Synod of Toronto and Kingston:

(1) That the International series of lessons be supplemented by a portion of the Shorter Catechism, to be committed with each day's lessons. (2) By adding a portion of Scripture, especially the Psalms to be committed for each Sunday. (3) Proof from Scripture to be required for leading doctrines held and taught by the Presbyterian Church, embracing also our Church polity and the Scriptural significance of the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; and further, that teachers' weekly meetings be held for the study of the lesson; that teachers be members in full communion; that changes in officers and schools and appointments in new schools be subjected to ratification of sessions; that a scheme of giving Normal class lessons be adopted.

The recommendation from the Synod of Hamilton and London was as follows:

"That feeling convinced that much of the literature used in our Sunday Schools is of an unholy character, and recognizing the difficulty of securing proper books, agreed that the General Assembly be memorialized to appoint a Standing Committee, whose duty it shall be to examine books and periodicals prepared by societies and publishers for the use of Schools, and to issue from time to time a list of such books as they may deem suitable for Sunday Schools, and thus aid the sessions and teachers in securing proper materials for this important department of Church work."

The report on Sabbath School Literature recommended—

"That a report of the Sabbath School Committee be presented annually on this subject, and that every book used in schools shall be submitted for examination to responsible persons, with instructions to examine on the following subjects: (1) What is the subject of the book—history, science, biography, narrative, fiction? (2) What is its religious character and tendency? (3) Are its teachings in sympathy with our doctrines and church polity? (4) Are its teachings patriotic? (5) What is its style—whether natural, polished, pretentious, or sensational? (6) Do you approve of the volume as suitable for our schools and homes? (7) If so, for what department—primary, intermediate or senior? The report concluded by stating that any book which appealed to the passions should be rigidly excluded."

There is much in both these reports that may well be pondered on by our Sunday School teachers. The time for making the Sabbath School an hour for pleasant religious recreation has passed, and now there should be a strong effort made to increase the essential efficiency of our schools by the adoption and vigorous working of plans that will give our youth a thorough knowledge of Bible truth and the great