

The Christian Visitor.

Wednesday, August 17, 1881.

Phonographic Report of Convention Proceedings.

We have made arrangements to have the debates and proceedings of the Convention at Yarmouth phonographically reported and shall publish a full verbatim report of important discussions and other matters of interest immediately after the close of the Convention. This report will not be published in the Visitor but will be a separate pamphlet. All persons desirous of obtaining copies will please send us their names with 25 cents in postage stamps or otherwise, and we will mail them a copy postage paid. As we shall be at considerable expense in order to provide this report, and publish it, we trust there may be a large list of orders sent in. We shall only publish one edition and to ensure a copy an early application should be made. Address VISITOR Office, St. John.

FOREIGN MISSION MATTERS.

We give this week another article from Rev. E. M. Saunders in which he still tries to make it appear that all his references to the action of the F. M. Board, and to the denomination in Convention and Associations are in the interests of "harmony." They are in the interests of harmony in the same way that the work of the opponents of a Presidential candidate in raking up all his antecedents and parading them before the public in a colored garb are in the interests of harmony. Whose history may not be so warped and colored as to appear in a false light? The same is true of the history of a Board or Convention, it may be made to appear to disadvantage, but let not the one doing this exhuming and garbling work flatter himself that he can be reckoned a friend to the subject or persons he thus places in a false light. Bro. S. says he gives facts. We deny his so called facts. The Board nor the denomination never pledged themselves to send Bro. Boggs back to India simply on his health being restored. See the conditions in Year Book 1878, page 33.

Bro. S. endeavors to cover up his exhuming work with a passage of Scripture. There are things that ought not to be forgotten we admit. The Psalmist says: "Bless the Lord O my Soul and forget not all his benefits," and the apostle says: "To do good and to communicate, forget not." But he also says: "Forgetting those things that are behind I press forward toward the mark" &c. If Bro. S. had so impressed the brethren, that he recited the past to call up God's benefits, and communicate good we would have been rejoiced, but as they did not so understand him it would have been far wiser for him to have employed his time and talents to urge his brethren to the pressing forward of the great work we have in charge. If there be any dark past, which we deny, a man working in the interests of "harmony" would have let it alone and addressed himself as his other brethren did to giving words of hope and cheer.

If we are to receive Bro. S.'s statement that he spoke in the interests of "harmony," it certainly is a poor comment on his happy use of language that all the brethren, and among them six ministers, whom we have heard from, who were present and heard his speech thought he "reflected" on the Board. Men ought to be careful as to their language when they are working in the interest of "harmony."

We last week insisted that Bro. S. with his charitable intentions should have communicated with the Board. He replies: "I touch not its (the Board's) secrets." How does he know the Board has any secrets? Has he ever asked for any information and been refused, or has any other brother? If any one has we would like

to have his name and the date of his application. We care not in so important a matter as this to be referred to rambling newspaper articles. Has any brother desiring to know the truth as to any real or imagined matter of grievance asked the Board personally or by letter for information and been denied? The meetings of the Board are held in the day light and any Baptist brother working in the interests of "harmony" would be welcomed to listen or to ask questions. The insinuation of Bro. S. about "secrets" is unfortunate and mischievous. The Board will not likely feel that this style of writing is promoted by friendliness to them whether it is to the resigned missionary or in his interests we cannot say.

Bro. S. says the denomination made "a huge mistake" in not sending Bro. Boggs back to India. How does he know it? Bro. Boggs is in India by the purpose of God under the Missionary Union, and he is doing a grand work in the educational department of the Telugu mission. God had that work for him and he is doing it well. Some day God may give us an American Missionary for our field, we know not, but we are not of those who intend to arraign God's providence and measure out wholesale blame to our brethren. Faultfinding requires no great talent. Anybody can tear down and we are sorry to find Bro. S. and our late missionary so fruitful in such work.

The cases of Bro. Boggs and Bro. Armstrong are not parallel. Bro. B. never arraigned the Board, withheld his accounts, kept his brethren up all night listening to the rebuttal of imaginary grievances, promised to withdraw his resignation and go to work, and then did not carry out his engagement, but peremptorily pressed his resignation. It is true as Bro. S. says: Bro. B. in that respect is "an angel". The two cases present striking contrasts, but few parallels.

Bro. S. says if the Armstrongs are not sent back "a sore rent will be made" as the result. How does he know it? Does he wish it. The Baptists of these Provinces know that the Armstrongs have resigned and what has been their response to the claims of the F. M. Board with this resignation known? P. E. Island has raised about one third more for F. M. Missions and New Brunswick has more than doubled its contribution, and we hope to hear as good a report from Nova Scotia. If we don't may we not trace the result to the labors of Bro. S. and a few others working in the interests of "harmony," but their brethren interpreting their words just as P. E. Island Baptists did, as "reflecting" on the Board. If a few brethren press their purposes on the Board and the denomination, "a sore rent may be made, indeed—a rent far wider than they dream, but we fervently and hopefully pray that wisdom and prudence and forbearance may be given and that all may sink their suspicions and prejudices and unitedly and earnestly work not to tear down, but to build up. Let us do right as God shows us the right in answer to prayer for his leading. And to this end, we most heartily endorse the exhortation of our venerable brother, Dr. Cramp, that the brethren who may not go to the Convention as well as those who do, may implore Divine guidance that we may be led to wise conclusions—that men may be lost sight of in the single purpose to glorify God and spread abroad his truth to earth's remotest bounds.

Rev. Dr. CASTLE, the President of Toronto Baptist College is expected to be present at the Convention at Yarmouth. He will doubtless try the pulse as to how Maritime Baptists feel with regard to Union in Theological Work. Of all the suggestions made with regard to Union with Upper Canada Baptists "Union in Theological Seminary Work" is the least open to objection. In fact there is no desire so far as we could detect last year at the Baptist Union Meetings at Toronto for Union with us in Home or Foreign Mission work, or in Collegiate Education. Union in Theological work might lead to farther Union if desirable, but if Baptists in these Provinces would en-

dow for themselves a Theological Seminary even in part it would more largely meet the demands of our own people. The Convention which meets this week ought to define our policy as to this matter, and we hope it may be such as to command the confidence and benevolence of all Baptists. They desire to know distinctly what is our aim. Do we intend as rapidly as possible to provide a thoroughly equipped Theological Seminary, or do we intend to do only what has been done in the past, partial theological work? If the latter we may talk of Union with Toronto. If the former, the matter should not be mooted.

Fifty Years with the Baptist Ministers and Churches of the Maritime Provinces of Canada by Rev. I. E. Bill, D.D. Printed by Barnes & Co., St. John.

This is a work of 788 pages of average mechanical merit bound in cloth boards and gilt lettering. It contains eight lithograph cuts of the following persons. The author, Dr. Crawley, Judge Johnston, Dr. Spurden, Dr. Cramp, Dr. Sawyer, A. F. Randolph and Dr. Tupper. Some of them are very lifelike, and all are more or less correct likenesses. There are also cuts of the old and new Acadia College, which show to good advantage.

The work begins with the ministry of Henry Aline, recounts the founding of our oldest churches, gives the history of our Baptist Associations, the rise of our Educational Institutions, and the struggles connected with their subsequent history. Sketches of the early Fathers and their immediate successors are given, and a condensed history of the Baptist Convention, together with sketches of revival work by living ministers.

A copious index is given by which any recorded event may readily be turned up. We have not been able to examine the book with any thoroughness, but the Baptists of these Provinces will need no word of ours to commend the volume to their earnest perusal. They know the author as a companion in labor and have in the past accorded to him in the pulpit, and through the press a ready hearing. We understand the volume is to be \$5.00 a copy. We will be glad to fill orders at the above rate, and trust that the sale will be such as to entirely compensate our venerable brother for all the toil he has bestowed upon the work.

In the death of Prof. Torrance last week at his old home in Bobcageon, Ont., the Baptists of the Upper Provinces have suffered a great loss. Prof. T. was a fine scholar and accurate theologian. For several years he has been connected with Woodstock Institute in both its literary and theological departments. He had just been appointed Professor of New Testament Exegesis and Polemical Theology in the Toronto Baptist College. His memory will be cherished by many whose minds and hearts were, by him, opened to the reception of truth which blesses for both worlds.

THE Advertisements of Acadia College, Horton Academy and Acadia Seminary appear in this issue. It is simply stating what all unprejudiced persons admit when they see that these Institutions are unsurpassed in the character of the advantages they afford. The College offers a course of instruction more extended than that of any other in the Maritime Provinces. The Horton Academy under Prof. A. W. Armstrong will fully maintain its past good record. The Acadia Seminary in charge of Miss. Graves is doing thorough work, and its splendid equipment ought to bring to it a more generous patronage.

From a private letter just received from Bro. Boggs, Ramapatam India we glean the following welcome news. "I am happy to tell you that with the blessing of God we have passed through our hot weather safely, and we are both in very good health. Things move on prosperously in the Mission. The Seminary opens on July 15th, after a vacation of three months."

PROF. AUSTIN PHELPS, of Andover does not believe that the Calvinistic theory of preaching is dying out. "Somehow," he says in the Congregationalist, "these pulpits gather under their sway docile and believing audiences every Lord's Day, in numbers unequalled by any other weekly gathering at the bidding of the same voice;" and he adds: "Early in the autumn I have heard three or four crickets under the hearth-stone, serenading each other in voices sharp and shrill, which seemed as if they were a thousand strong. They made the whole house ring. But the solid earth moved on its way, the autumn passed into winter, the crickets died and were no more heard. Such a passing racket are the harpings of a few skeptical minds upon this everlasting claim that our faith is defunct, our theology obsolete, our pulpit dead."

REV. J. F. BURDITT, A. B., pastor of the Kingston Baptist Church, Mass., has been accepted by the Missionary Union for service in Ongole India. Bro. B. (who is one of our Province men), was in the City last week and preached for the St. David's Presbyterian Church much to the satisfaction of all. We wish him many pleasant years of useful service with Brethren Clough and Boggs.

REV. DR. CRAWFORD, of Prairie College, Manitoba, gave in Hopewell Corner Baptist church a lecture on: "The Millennium, Second Advent, and Annihilation Doctrines." Dr. C. is well able to discuss the subject, and those who appreciate Scriptural arguments tersely and forcible, put must have enjoyed a rich treat. We hope the Dr. is being successful in his mission.

SOMETIME since we noticed the work of the Woodland Academy, but the compositor made a mistake in the name of the Principal. The advertisement of the School appears on another page. Prof. McVicar offers rare facilities to parents who desire a select boarding school which combines with good educational facilities, the comforts and healthful restraints of a quiet and beautiful country home.

A SERIOUS rupture between the British Government and the House of Lords on the Land Bill seems imminent. Mr. Gladstone it is reported intends to stand by the bill, and if necessary, appeal to the people. Strange to say the Duke of Argyll a former Liberal is fighting the bill.

REV. WILLIAM BLUETT, the Irish Evangelist is holding meetings every evening at Portland Bridge Mission Hall. They are well attended and there are indications of good being done. Next Sunday he will supply the pulpit of the Brussel St. church.

The Journal, published at Perth, the capital of Hungary, reports the baptism of eight persons, four young men and two elderly and two young ladies, in the Danube, May 25th., by Onkel Meyer, the minister and teacher of the Baptist church in that city.

By the will of the late James Stokes of New York, the Missionary Union gets \$10,000, the Home Mission Society \$5,000, and Rochester University \$2,000, besides large sums to Charitable Institutions.

CANNON FARRAR and Dr. Vaughn are spoken of as possible successors of Dean Stanley. The latter is the more evangelical the former the more brilliant.

A PREACHER and three hundred members of the State church of Holland have seceded and joined the Baptists.

THE Rev. C. Goodspeed wishes all correspondents to address him at Marysville, Y. Co., till after the meeting of the Convention.

REV. D. A. STERLE who has been enjoying a holiday in England expects to sail for home on the 18th inst.

THE Canadian Baptist has taken its annual vacation. It has well earned its holiday, and is faithfully setting forth our Baptist faith and practices. We hope its editors and compositors may return from their holiday refreshed.

"If any clergyman," says Lord Selborne, "reads in his church the lessons appointed for the Sunday and other services from the Revised Version, before it has been authorized by some sufficient public authority, he will, I think, incur a serious risk of being held to be an offender against law." Now, therefore, the clergy know their duty, and we trust they will be submissive.

For the Visitor.

ERRATUM.—In last week's VISITOR you make me say in my note with reference to the Academy Calendars, that we have "Elegant advantages." It should have been "Excellent advantages." Yours, ALBERT COLDWELL

Church News.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

HARVEY, A. Co.—The friends of Rev. T. A. Blackadder have presented him with a donation of \$50 on his retirement from the pastorate of the Harvey church.

ST. MARTINS.—The St. Martins Sunday School held their annual picnic on the grounds of Jessie Tabor Esq., Upham. It was largely attended, some six hundred being present. The Church maintains beside the Home School numbering over 200 scholars, two Mission Schools, with some 140 scholars.

DEAR EDITOR,—Thinking your readers may be interested in notes of progress from Nova Scotia, I am induced to write a word in regard to our New Meeting house at Margaretsville. The work is progressing steadily. The outside is nearly finished. We expect to have a Tea Meeting on Wednesday the 31st inst., and hope to be able after that to pay off the debt so far contracted.

The Building Committee tender their sincere thanks to friends in St. John and Musquash for the aid given in cash and lumber. May God reward them. Margaretsville is situated on the Bay of Fundy shore and our vessels make their weekly visits to your city. It has never had a Baptist meeting house and one is greatly needed. A very flourishing Sabbath-school has been started this past Spring. Our outlook is encouraging. Yours, etc., WM. E. HALL.

Correspondence.

DEAR EDITOR,—I have perused with some degree of surprise and grief the letters of your Halifax contributor and have been somewhat amused and slightly disgusted by the assumptions of the brother.

I ask myself, can this would-be leader of the denomination,—this self-appointed Joshua, aspiring to lead back to God and duty the people whom he declares to be wanderers from the Divine One, be the same brother whose course of late years has been so singularly tortuous and vacillating.

Is this the same Mr. Saunders whom we remember to have heard publicly charged, and with no attempted denial on his part, with having on a certain night in Wolfville during the Session of the Convention, met two members of the Foreign Mission Board who reported to him that that Board had concluded to report to the Convention, that they had been most reluctantly brought to the conclusion that at present they could not take the responsibility of sending Mr. and Mrs. Boggs back to India; and upon receiving the information he sternly and bitterly reproached them and the Board in general for not being so decided in pronouncing against Mr. Boggs' re-appointment as to forever settle the question and in such a manner and in such language that Mr. Boggs should understand there was no prospect whatever of his being sent out to India by our Board, and yet not many hours afterwards the same Mr. Saunders was found on the floors of Convention insisting that the Board be instructed to re-appoint Mr. Boggs.

Is this the same Mr. Saunders who in 1876 at the session of the Convention held in Sackville, N. B., was found for two days or more contending both in the Board of Governors and in open Convention for the adoption of such measures as would lead to the affiliation of Acadia College, with the Paper University of Halifax, and after he had vainly used his utmost endeavors to effect

his purposes, he suddenly made leap into the ranks of the opposers of the Paper University Scheme, and actually had the audacity to try to make the Convention believe that the time he had been debating the question, that he did not mean an unfriendliness towards the College but his intentions were of the most laudable character.

Furthermore on the inquiry he put, whether the Convention would feel aggrieved with any of its members if they accepted office in Halifax University, and it answered in the affirmative, yet find that in a short time after, Mr. Saunders, the latest convert, had taken his place in the ranks of the Anti Halifax University party, and actually gazetted as a Senator of the said University.

And is this man,—a peripatetic "hop, skip and jump game,"—this man who assumes that his brethren such fools as to believe that he goes up and down through all the land and under the garb of peaceful intentions, at Associations charging brethren with errors and Missionary with incapacity, and all with attention of showing himself friendly to the Board, and to the Missionary and of demonstrating his ability bring back the erring denomination repentance to the feet of the Divine Shepherd.

I fear that our brother's eyes need to be anointed with eye salve as his vision clarified or else he will prove to be a blind leader of the blind and he and his fellows will fall in the ditch, he has been digging for others.

A LOVER OF CONSISTENCY.

For the Visitor.

FOREIGN MISSION MATTERS.

DEAR EDITOR,—Referring to your editorials in which you notice my letter, I may here say;—that my "wise and your 'reckless' writing 'the dead past,' I never knew before that the past died to Christians. God says: "That which has been is not \* \* \* and God requireth that which is past," Prov. 3:15—my "moderate opinion, my 'equipoise' of mind and your 'amazement' whether I am 'Elijah' or you are Solomon," rebukes, "tremendous somersault," "important revelations," "wet blankets" and things of that sort, may be dismissed, as having had too much attention given them even in their enumeration. You have now from me an outline of my address at the P. E. I. Association to which the account given by the editor of the Christian Messenger perfectly agrees. That is sufficient.

But you say and your correspondents say I reflected on the Board. You are mistaken; they are mistaken. I did nothing of the kind. I simply gave facts well known, public facts—facts gathered from Convention and Association minutes, and from our newspapers. I dealt not in rumors. I hinted not at rumors, although the air is full of them. I confined myself to simple facts, open authenticated facts. You say I should have corresponded with the Board. There was no need of this, I touch not its secrets, I asked not for knowledge ahead of that publicly known. I only dealt with what is known. You and your correspondents seem to infer that I "reflect" on the Board, that I blame the Board. This is your inference and their inference from my reference to well attested undeniable facts. If you and your correspondents make these facts reflect on the Board, or on the denomination, pray do not hold me accountable for it. Blame the facts, blame yourselves for drawing the inferences which you draw. My object in writing and my object in speaking is not to give my opinions of the Board or of the Convention or of E. M. Saunders or of J. E. Hopper. Of them all, I might say, in passing, that they are imperfect and have done many things for which they are blame worthy.

My object is to do my part in restoring harmony and co-operation in the great and sublime work of giving the gospel to the heathen. We are divided. We have confusion. God is not the author of division or confusion. The division began when Brother Boggs was hindered from returning to India. The question is not, as you seem to suppose, whether Brother Boggs and the Board quarrelled or not, but did the denomination do right in not sending him back to India. Did Brother Boggs think the Body and the Board did right? Brother Boggs will not quarrel with any person or any body. He in that respect is an angel. That was a huge mistake. Let it teach us now. Let us not perpetrate another and a greater one, by hindering the Armstrongs from going back. They may hinder themselves. I trust God will save them from so grave a mistake. Let us not stand in their way. In complying with their wishes, let us go just as far as we can; then if they reject our overtures, the responsibility will be on their shoulders.