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J. E. HOPPER, Publisher.

The Christian Visitor.

Wednesday, August 24, 1881.

MARITIME CONVENTION NOTES.

The place of Meeting of the Convention this year is the most western town in Nova Scotia. Yarmouth has a population of about 6000 persons, and so far as we have been able to judge, with the little leisure we have had on this our first visit here, it presents a remarkably thrifty appearance. Its wealth has largely been gathered by ship-building and owning. Fishing is not now as large an industry as formerly.

Morally and religiously Yarmouth may court comparison with the best. It is a town of churches and a centre of temperance influence.

As early as 1797 Father Harris Harding began his life work here and pursued it with rare zeal and Christian tact until his lamented death in 1854. In early life he taught school and preached, but soon had to give up the teacher's desk for the pulpit, in which he became a Master in Israel. In early life he was what the people called a New Light. He did not believe in or practice immersion. About 1799, his views on baptism and related questions changed and he was baptized with some 20 or 30 of his church, by the Rev. James Manning. Thenceforth, Father Harding was a warm advocate of our peculiar faith and practice. The Baptist cause in Yarmouth and all the adjoining country rapidly increased, and to-day the town has three Baptist Churches, and many in the near vicinity containing much material and spiritual strength.

The first church for a number of years has been efficiently presided over by Rev. Dr. Day. He has resigned his pastorate and now one of our best men is open for service in some new sphere. His ministry has been blessed, and the denomination is under obligations to him for much and efficient service in connection with the management of its Home Mission interests. Rev. J. Clark at the Temple church is, under difficulties, working away hopefully. Rev. J. A. Gordon, the pastor at Milton, is seeing signs of improvement which cheer him in his new home.

FOREIGN MISSION MATTERS.

The chief interest in the Convention centred in Foreign Mission Matters. It is scarcely necessary to say that ever since last Convention at Hillsborough the F. M. Board has been the target for many unkind remarks as to the manner of the conduct of its work. It was clearly understood that the subject would be up for discussion, and it was discussed with great fulness till midnight Saturday and Monday when the resolution expressing "unabated confidence and gratitude," to the Board was passed. We trust that now united action will follow, and that the disturbing influences of the past year will disappear.

We have delayed the publication of the Visitor one day in order to give the decision of the Convention on the Foreign Mission difficulty. That decision we know to nearly all, if not all our readers will be good news, for while it does not reflect on the Moral or Christian character of Bro. Armstrong, it entirely exonerates the F. M. Board from being guilty of the charges preferred against it.

The Convention is attended by over 300 delegates. It is one of the largest meetings of the body, if not the largest that ever assembled.

REV. MR. McLAURIN, of the Ontario and Quebec F. M. Board was present at Convention, and participated in its deliberations. We are always glad to welcome our brethren from the Upper Provinces. We trust in future there will be more interchange.

At considerable expense a short hand report of the proceedings and debates of the Convention is being prepared. All persons wishing copies will please inform us at once that we may know how large an edition to publish. The price of the pamphlet will be 25 cents.

THE Convention sermon was preached by Rev. J. E. Hopper, on Sunday afternoon in the Edifice of the First Baptist Church, to a congregation of at least 1000 persons. The subject was the Foundation, Character and Design of the Church.

MARITIME CONVENTION MINUTES

The thirty sixth annual session of the Convention of the Maritime Provinces was opened in the House of worship of the First Yarmouth Baptist Church, Aug. 20, at 10 o'clock, a. m., A. Longly, Esq., M.P.P., President, for 1880-81, presiding.

The First Session was opened by singing the hymn beginning:

"All hail the power of Jesus' name."

Prayer was offered by Rev. I. E. Bill, D. D., of St. Martins, N. B.

The following brethren were appointed by the President the Committee of Nominations, viz.: Revs. G. E. Day, M. D., A. Cohoon, E. Hickson, J. A. Durkee, W. H. Warren, J. W. Bancroft, J. B. Woodland, Brn. D. R. Eaton, and H. Morse.

The Roll of Members was then called and a number of brethren invited to seats in the Convention.

The Report of the Committee on Nominations was then read by the Chairman, Rev. Dr. Day.

The first clause of the Report proposing T. H. Rand, D. C. L., as President, for the year was on motion of Rev. Dr. Bill, adopted.

Dr. Rand took the chair and addressed the Convention. The remaining clauses of the Report were adopted giving the Convention the following list of officers for 1881-2.

President—T. H. Rand, D. C. L. Fredericton, N. B.

Vice Presidents—Arthur Simpson, Cavendish, P. E. I., and J. W. Barss, Wolfville, N. S.

Secretary—Rev. E. M. Keirstead, Windsor, N. S.

Assistant Secretary—Rev. Geo. O. Gates, Moncton, N. B.

Treasurer—C. W. Saunders, Yarmouth, N. S.

Assistant Treasurer—A. T. Morse, Lawrenceville, N. S.

The report of Committee on Arrangements was read by Dr. Day as follows:

The Committee recommend 1. That the sessions of Convention open at 9 1/2 o'clock, a. m.; 2 1/2 p. m., and 7 1/2 p. m., and close at 12 m. and 5 1/2 p. m.

That a prayer meeting be held from 6.30 to 7.30, each morning and that the morning and afternoon sessions be preceded by devotional exercises for forty-five minutes.

2. That the Reports on Obituaries and the state of Religion in the Denomination be presented this morning.

3. That the Report on Foreign Missions be presented this afternoon.

4. That a Missionary Meeting be held this evening under the direction of the Foreign Mission Board; and that addresses be delivered by Rev. J. McLaurin, Bro. J. R. Hutchinson, Rev. W. F. Armstrong and Rev. Mr. George.

5. That the Convention Sermon be preached on Lord's Day at 3 p. m. That the other appointments for Lord's Day be as follows:

First Yarmouth—10.30 a. m., Rev. Dr. Crawley, 7 p. m., Rev. C. Goodspeed, A. M.

Temple Church—10.30 a. m. Rev. S. W. DeBlois, D.D., 7 p. m., Rev. J. W. Bancroft.

Milton Church—10.30 a. m. Rev. J. B. Woodland, 7 p. m., Rev. D. G. McDonald.

Milton, (Wesleyan),—10.30 a. m., Rev. D. M. Welton, Ph.D.; 7 p. m., Rev. E. Whitman.

St. John's Church, (Presbyterian),—10.30 a. m., Rev. T. A. Higgins, A. M.; 7 p. m., Rev. E. M. Saunders, A. M.

Tabernacle, (Congregational),—10.30 a. m., Rev. J. W. Manning, A. E.; 7 p. m., Rev. G. O. Gates, A. M.

Free Baptist Church, 10.30, a. m., Rev. W. J. Swaffield; Free Baptist Church, 7 p. m., Rev. W. A. Corey.

Preaching at other places by the following ministers: Rev. J. C. Bleakney, Rev. Isa. Wallace, Rev. A. W. Barss, Rev. J. W. Weeks, Rev. Geo. A. Weathers, Rev. E. J. Grant, Rev. G. N. Ballentine, Rev. M. P. Freeman, Rev. F. Beattie, Rev. J. F.

Avery, Rev. D. W. Crandall, Rev. P. Gallaher, Rev. J. F. Kempton, Rev. David Freeman, Rev. A. E. Ingram, Rev. A. Estabrooks, Rev. F. O. Weeks. 6. That the report of Home Mission Board, and report of Board of Management of Ministerial Relief and Aid Fund, be read and discussed on Monday morning.

That Monday afternoon be given to the report of the Finance Committee of the Convention, the report of Ministerial Education Board, and general business.

That a Missionary meeting, under the direction of the Home Mission Board, be held Monday evening.

7. That Tuesday morning be given to consideration of the report of the Board of Governors of Acadia College, Horton Academy and Acadia Seminary.

That Tuesday afternoon be devoted to general and unfinished business. That there be a meeting in the interest of Education, under the direction of the Board of Governors of Acadia College.

8. That collections be taken for the Convention fund at the evening meetings, and at all the services in Baptist churches on the Sabbath.

The report was adopted after some discussion.

The report of Committee on Obituaries was read by Rev. I. E. Bill, D. D., in the absence of the chairman, Rev. S. March. Report adopted.

The report on the State of Religion in the Denomination, in Nova Scotia, was read by Rev. W. H. Warren, A. M. After discussion by J. W. Barss, Revs. A. Cohoon, G. E. Day, E. M. Saunders, W. P. Everett, Bro. H. C. Creed and others, it was resolved to recommend the report to the Committee for revision and completion.

The Secretary read a letter addressed to the Convention by Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D., of Wolfville, N. S. Resolved, that the letter be laid on the table.

The President appointed Rev. J. C. Bleakney, of Berywick, N. S., to conduct the devotional exercises preceding this afternoon's session.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. C. Goodspeed.

Saturday afternoon, after devotional exercises, the Convention was called to order by Dr. Rand, President, at 2.30 p. m.

Prayer was offered by Rev. W. A. Corey of Portland, N. B. Minutes of the first session were read and approved.

The following Resolution was submitted by Rev. A. Cohoon, seconded by Rev. I. E. Bill D. D., and passed by the Convention.

Resolved, That a Committee on which all the Boards shall be fully represented be appointed by the Committee of Nomination, to take into consideration the whole question of the finances of the Body to report on Monday afternoon if practicable.

Resolved, That the order of the day be now taken up.

Rev. W. P. Everett A. M., Secretary of the Foreign Mission Board, read the annual Report of that Board.

On motion of Judge Johnston, seconded by Rev. G. E. Good, it was resolved that the Report be taken up clause by clause.

First clause was read and adopted.

Second clause adopted after discussion by J. W. Barss, H. C. Creed, Rev. W. P. Everett.

Third clause passed without discussion.

Fourth clause was read. After discussion by Rev. J. W. Manning, Dr. Armstrong, Rev. G. E. Good, Wm. Faulkner, Rev. R. B. Porter, B. H. Eaton, Dr. Day, Rev. J. Rowe, Rev. W. P. Everett, C. E. Knapp, Dr. Sawyer, Dr. Crawley, A. Chipman, E. Whitman, A. Longley, D. G. McDonald, Dr. Bill, Prof. Higgins H. C. Creed, the following resolution submitted by Rev. Dr. Sawyer, seconded by Rev. E. M. Saunders, was passed.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to consider this fourth clause of the Report and recommend a course of action in treatment of it at the beginning of this evening's session.

Rev. Dr. Sawyer, Rev. Dr. Crawley, B. H. Eaton, Rev. D. G. McDonald, Rev. A. Chipman were appointed such Committee.

Session closed after prayer by Rev. I. J. Skinner, of Alma, N. B.

Saturday evening session opened at 7.30 p. m. President in the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. F. Avery, of Halifax, N. S.

Minutes of last session were read and approved.

Rev. Dr. Sawyer submitted the Report of the Committee appointed this afternoon on fourth clause of F. M. Report.

It was discussed by Rev. G. E. Good, A. Longley, Revs. W. F. Armstrong, G. E. Day, Dr. Bill, Bro. John March, Rev. G. N. Ballentine, Bro. C. E. Knapp.

On motion of A. W. Masters it was resolved to postpone the further consideration of this Report for one hour to resume the order of business of the day.

Addresses on Foreign Missions were then given by Rev. J. McLaurin, Bro. J. R. Hutchinson, missionary

elect. Rev. W. F. Armstrong, Rev. Wm. George. A collection was taken.

On motion resolved that members of the Women's Aid Societies be invited to remain during the session.

On motion of Rev. E. Hickson, the public were invited to remain during the Session.

Moved by Rev. E. M. Keirstead, seconded by Rev. A. Cohoon and resolved that Rev. W. F. Armstrong be requested to submit to this Convention in writing, a statement of the reasons which have led him to resign his connection with this Convention as its missionary.

Discussion preceded this motion by several brethren.

Rev. W. F. Armstrong was then called on to give the required statement. After some hesitation he read from a paper until 11.58 p. m. when Session closed with prayer by Rev. W. George, it having been resolved to continue hearing the paper Monday at 9.30 a. m.

Monday morning, Rev. W. F. Armstrong resumed the presentation of his charge against the F. M. Board, continuing for over an hour. The F. M. Board then presented its reply through the Secretary, Rev. W. P. Everett, till noon. In the afternoon, Bro. Everett and Bro. March continued to present the case of the Board, and when they concluded Bro. Armstrong made a reply continuing till 6 o'clock.

Monday evening session opened at 7.30 by President. Prayer by Rev. J. D. Eaton, Paradise, N. S. Minutes read and confirmed.

Rev. W. F. Armstrong then resumed his reply to statements of the F. M. Board and continued his address till 10 o'clock. At the conclusion of his address Rev. W. H. Warren made the following resolution which was seconded by A. Longly.

Resolved, That having heard the grave charges preferred by Rev. W. F. Armstrong, returned missionary regarding the spirit and policy of our Foreign Missionary Board, and the evidence connected with these charges, and having heard in reply the explanations and detailed statements of our Board respecting these charges, this Convention, whilst sincerely sympathizing with the missionary and his family in any financial or other difficulties through which they may have passed owing to circumstances, which however unfortunate, did not evidently arise on account of any carelessness on the part of our Board, are satisfied that the charges made by Bro. Armstrong against our Foreign Mission Board are not sustained and that our Board have shown themselves to be entitled to the unabated confidence and gratitude of this Convention.

It was discussed by Revs. W. H. Warren, G. E. Good, J. Rowe, Bro. C. E. Knapp, Rev. C. Goodspeed, Bro. E. W. Elliott, Revs. D. Freeman, John Gammon, Bro. C. B. Whidden, Rev. A. Estabrooks, Bro. Wm. Falkner, H. Levett, Dr. Crawley, H. C. Creed, A. Longley, J. S. Trites, Dr. Day.

Rev. Dr. Day moved Rev. Dr. Bill seconded and Rev. J. E. Hopper supported the following resolution.

Resolved, That this Convention deeply sympathizes with our Brother and Sister Armstrong in their cares and toils and sincerely hopes that the time may speedily arrive when such an agreement shall be made by the F. M. Board and Bro. Armstrong as will lead to the return of Bro. and Sister Armstrong to the Mission Station in Chicago.

This resolution was passed and the Convention adjourned at 12 o'clock.

LESSON STORY.

Suppose a man were in a family entertained by a friend, and he did not pay for his board. It is expected that such a one should not be ready to find fault with everything in the house. If such a one should be discontented if a cup should not be filled for him as he would have it, this we would account a great evil. So it is with us; we are at God's table every day, and it is upon free cost whatever we may have. Now when we are at the table of God, and at free cost, for us to be finding fault and to be discontented is a very great sin.—Borroughs.

THE SUN.—All the industries of the world hang upon the sun. All life is maintained by it; all force is wielded by it; all motion incited by it, and all health and beauty dependent upon it. How fitly, therefore, is Christ called "the Sun,"—"the sun of Righteousness." He does, in the spiritual world—i. e., in the world of our highest nature—what the sun in the heavens does in the material universe. He is the Source of all spiritual life and motion; all growth and power, all health and beauty! And like His symbol in the heavens, He casts all our shadows behind us as we walk toward Him.

"God takes men's hearty desires and will, instead of the deed, when they have not power to fulfil it; but he never took the bare deed instead of the will."—R. Baxter.

"Do not act as if thou wert to live ten thousand years. Death hangs over thee. While thou livest, while it is in thy power, be good."—Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, born in Rome, A.D., 121.

Correspondence.

For the Visitor.

NOTES FROM THE NORTH-WEST.

THE SEASON.

This has been quite an unfavorable season for the farmers here. In the early part of the summer the rains were very heavy and did much damage to the corn crops; and now what the rains had left the heat has destroyed. Travelling through the country you may see large corn-fields without any ears of corn, and with no possibility of seeing any this year. The pastures are entirely parched and stock have been taken up and fed.

Already there is quite an advance in the price of farm produce, and, at most, no more than half a crop is expected.

GREAT ANXIETY.

The anxiety that has been felt here over the condition of President Garfield has been intense. Crowds flock to read each new bulletin, though the impression that each of them is, to use an old expression "as false as a bulletin." Quite an amount of dissatisfaction is expressed with the attending physicians on account of the vagaries of their announcements.

Whatever the issue may be, we shall be thankful that the President has survived it so long, thus giving the nation time to prepare for so sad an event as his death must be. The amount of Christian fortitude and heroism displayed at the White House will long be remembered in connection with this sad event. To endure is always greater than to dare.

With respect to the assassin only one opinion is expressed. It is strongly felt that he should not have the public trial which he desires, but should be visited with severe and rapid punishment with as little ceremony as possible. Is it not a morbid, sentimental, even dangerous feeling which leads people to attempt to extenuate such villainy as is threatening the stability of our nation?

RELIGIOUS.

Nothing of very special interest has been transpiring in the churches in Chicago during the summer. The pastors have mostly all held their posts and kept their congregations together. Many of your readers, doubtless, will sympathize very deeply with Rev. J. T. Burhoe, of the University Place church in his great loss. Mrs. Burhoe, as you are aware, died among her friends at Dundas, P. E. I. on the twenty-ninth of July. Her health has been very poor, since coming to Chicago, and yet her illness was patiently borne in the interest of the cause here. There are many martyrs besides those who were burnt by the inquisition.

Perhaps the most interesting feature in connection with Baptist work in Chicago, is the rebuilding of the Michigan Avenue church, hereafter to be known as Immanuel church. Dr. Lorimer will deserve great thanks from the denomination if he succeeds in re-establishing this interest in Michigan Avenue. The work of rebuilding is being rapidly pushed now. Some difficulty will be had in finding a man to fill the Dr's place in the pulpit of the First Church. Dr. Henson has been talked of; but it appears that Philadelphia cannot spare him. The First Church is now in a good financial condition, however, and it will probably be equal to the occasion.

Dr. Hulbert, the popular pastor of the Fourth Church, has received an invitation to fill the chair of Church history in the Seminary of Morgan Park, made vacant by the removal of T. J. Morgan, D.D., to Potsdam, New York. Should Dr. H. accept the position he will be a worthy addition to the staff of instruction in the Seminary.

EDUCATIONAL.

Morgan Park is fast becoming the centre of attraction for the Baptists of the Northwest. Out of reach of the noise and smoke of the city this delightful suburb is likely to become a favorite resort, for Baptists at least. The chief attraction there this summer is the study of Hebrew. Of course that is easily supposed to be attractive. Dr. Harper has had three classes to work all the summer with very satisfactory results. His method of teaching is strictly original and quite peculiar, but more of this another time. The three classes were arranged as follows. First, there was a class for beginners. This class commenced at the first of Genesis, and read several chapters, committed the Hebrew of chapter 1st and also learned the meaning of about three-hundred Hebrew roots. The second class was composed of some students and several pastors who came here to spend their vacation. This class read extempore upwards of half of the Old Testament. This kind of work proves to be especially beneficial in familiarizing the students with the words of the original, and enlarging his vocabulary of the Hebrew language.

A third class was organized into translation committee, and read critically the book of Malachi. The Hebrew text was carefully examined and the variations of the Septuagint and the Vulgate and the Chaldee Bible compared with it. The results of the work of this class will be published in pamphlet form at an early day. This class also did work of Hebrew syntax, using a condensed form of Davis' Hebrew Grammar published by Prof. Harper. Prof. H. corresponding class in Hebrew is now over 800 in number and is fast increasing still. He has in it many of the most prominent ministers in the denomination both from the East and West. This movement has already assumed such proportions as we never anticipated, and still promises to grow at a more rapid rate. It causes a revival in the study of Hebrew Bible in our Seminaries will be a great work of the times. person who had spent two years another of our Seminaries inform the writer that he has learned more about the principles of the Hebrew language from the corresponding lessons already than he did in the two years of his Seminary study.

Already arrangements have been made for the Hebrew class next summer. It will probably be undertaken by the Board of Trustees, and will be managed by Prof. Harper. The room in the Seminary building will be thrown open to members of the class and the boarding will be under charge of a steward. Should any of our provincial friends in the pastorate wish to spend a pleasant and profitable vacation in the Great West, know of no better way than to take advantage of such an opportunity will be thus afforded. It would seem flat to say that Prof. H. was a successful teacher. It is simply marvelous the amount of work he is capable of performing, and of getting students to perform.

The junior class in the Seminary promises to be large this year. At least 80 are expected and they most college graduates. We have now much larger share of these than any other Seminary of our denomination and the present senior class number a larger amount of graduates than have ever been in a Baptist Seminary before. There is a special preparatory class for undergraduates, which has always a goodly number in The professors at Morgan Park are all teachers by profession, and specialists in their distinctive branches. Since the resignation of General Morgan we have no professor who has ever been a settled pastor. The new commentary on Galatians by I. Boise, is unique in its kind, following the method used in his class-room which is the strictly critical method. This commentary will be very useful to students who wish to get the exact meaning of Greek, independently of preconceived Theological views. The Dr. has designed it for private circulation. Dr. L. standing as a Greek scholar needs compliments from me: indeed such would not be becoming. I shall be glad, however, of having had the privilege of sitting under his instruction, and having the benefit of ripe scholarship. Each of the classes is required to read the New Testament through in the original with such examination as shall make one thoroughly familiar with New Testament Greek.

But I must leave other matters another time, as I have already written too long.

Very truly yours,

ABOQUEEN
Morgan Park, Aug. 17th '81.

For the Visitor.

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT

REV. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

On Wednesday, July 27th, one New York's oldest Baptist past passed to his reward. Mr. Adams was born at Marlborough, N. Y., was 65 years old at the time of death. He had been pastor of different churches in New York besides others in the immediate vicinity. His last charge was the Beech church in New York city, which resigned in order to give place to Mr. Judson for his contemplated missionary enterprise in lower New York. He preached his farewell sermon Sabbath before his death, and gratulated the church upon what appeared to be the token of a great useful future. He leaves a blessed memory.

VACATIONS.

During the months of July August few of our city pastors main with their churches, being generally granted a vacation to rest, gather strength and fresh vigor for the fall work. Although this is the case the churches are not all closed but are supplied by other preachers from different parts of the country. It would seem as though there must be some plan devised by which and country pastors might exult with each other, thus affording the benefits of a change, and at the same time keep the sanctuary on the Lord's day.