

The Christian Visitor,

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NOTICE.

To Correspondents, Subscribers and Others. Items of Religious Intelligence are solicited from all parts of the world; also, communications upon other subjects of interest, especially educational, social, and industrial topics. Correspondents should write upon only one side of the paper, and make their letters as brief as the facts and circumstances will permit. As a rule, all matter, to ensure being published the week of issue, should reach us not later than Monday noon.

The Visitor is unsurpassed as an advertising medium in the Maritime Provinces.

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The Christian Visitor.

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FIFTY CENTS

To the End of the Year.

For the sake of introducing the Visitor to many homes where it has not gone in the past, we propose to send it till January, 1885, for 50 cents. Please send your names early, with cash, and get the full benefit of the offer.

To all boys and girls sending us clubs of ten for the Visitor at this reduced rate, with the cash, we will send a gold dollar.

We want a thousand new subscribers, and are prepared to treat liberally with persons wishing to canvass. Address, J. E. HOPPER, St. John.

THE THIRTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE BAPTIST CONVENTION.

MONCTON, August 23rd.

The Board of Governors of Acadia College met for the transaction of business in the Baptist church on Thursday, the 21st, at half past 2 o'clock, p. m. The Rev. E. M. Saunders was appointed chairman. This body held two meetings the first day, and three on the following, closing the last one late in the evening. These meetings are not of a strictly private nature, although it is understood they are not open to the ubiquitous reporter. The Board, however, is always willing to give any information that may be deemed interesting to the public. The report of the treasurer of the college was received and adopted. It shows an improved condition of the finances. The deficit is about five hundred dollars; but when certain items are relegated to last year where they belong, the deficiency in current expenses is reduced to a trifle. About ten thousand dollars have been collected from the pledges to pay off the debt. The convention scheme yielded \$2,200, an increase, on last year's amount. From the year's experience, satisfaction was expressed with the transfer of theology to McMaster Hall and the appointment of Dr. Rand to a professorship in Acadia College. The prospect for the coming year in all respects is good.

A satisfactory report of the Academy and Seminary was made. The opening of the seminary in St. John, the efficiency of the public systems of education in the Provinces and the depressed state of "the times" reduced the number in attendance at these schools; but good grounds exist for the belief that the superiority of the advantages of our denominational Academies over those in the public system will tend to increase the number attending the former.

Miss Graves, the Principal of the Ladies' Seminary, on account of ill health, has leave of absence for a

part of the first term. Miss Gourly will take her place.

Professor Tufts, Mr. Sawyer and Mr. Healy make a strong staff for the Academy. The religious influences during the year were most gratifying. A large number professed religion, some of whom united with the church in Wolfville and others were expected to join the churches at their homes.

Measures were adopted to collect in as soon as possible all outstanding pledges, and to increase the endowment by seeking further contributions. The business of the Board was so far completed as to allow the members to be present at the organization of the Convention and to attend its meetings. In this respect this year is unlike former years.

The Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces assembled at Moncton, on the 23rd inst., at 10 o'clock, a. m. The President, John March Esq., called the meeting to order, and, after singing a hymn, Rev. J. E. Hopper led the Convention in prayer. The Secretary, Prof. Kierstead, then read the list of delegates.

The following gentlemen were invited to seats, viz.: Dr. McVicar, Rev. J. Craig, Rev. Geo. Churchill, Rev. G. F. Currie, Rev. T. Bishop, Rev. Dr. McKenzie and others.

The President then in a few well-chosen words referred to the goodness and mercy of God, in preserving the lives of his servants and permitting them under such favorable circumstances to assemble.

The following committee on nominations was appointed: Rev. C. Goodspeed, Bros. H. C. Creed, Arthur Simpson, Revs. J. W. Boncroft, C. C. Burgess, Bros. C. B. Whidder, C. F. Clinch, Rev. D. G. McDonald, Bro. S. C. Wilbur, Rev. H. N. Parry.

The committee on arrangements reported through Rev. G. E. Gates, recommending that the sessions open and close, at the morning sessions 9 and 11.30 o'clock, afternoon sessions 2 and 4.30 o'clock, evening sessions 7 o'clock and close at pleasure. The Foreign Mission Board report this afternoon, and public missionary meeting this evening. The Convention Sermon to be preached Sunday afternoon. Monday morning, Home Mission Report, and public H. M. meeting in the evening. Tuesday morning, Board of Governors of Acadia College, with public educational meeting in the evening. Miscellaneous business Tuesday afternoon.

The Assistant Secretary, Rev. G. E. Gates, read the following communication from the Baptist Union of Canada.

Brantford, August 18, 1884.

To the Baptist Convention meeting at Moncton, N. B.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—At the last session of the Canada Baptist Union meeting in Brantford, Ont., in the month of May of this year, the question of consolidation and organic co-operation in christian work amongst Baptists, was the principal feature of our deliberations. Amongst other resolutions, it was unanimously agreed to seek for more intimate relations with the Baptist brethren of the Maritime Provinces. However, as the Baptists forming the constituency of the Canada Baptist Union, viz., those within the bounds of Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba, are numerically smaller and historically younger than the Baptists of your Convention, it was deemed unfeeling that we should make any suggestions respecting the nature and extent of the union, much less that we should take any step toward securing it, without first consulting your body in convention assembled. This communication is, therefore, for the purpose of indicating our earnest and unanimous desire to co-operate with our brethren in the east, whom we are learning to love more as we know them better, and whose kindness toward us in the west, has made us feel how great a privilege it would be to work with those who have so much of the Master's Spirit in their lives. Already we have become one people in the work of educating our young men for the work of the ministry. The results of this union are exceedingly grateful to our hearts, and the future is opening up with promises far beyond what was anticipated at the time this union was secured. The Foreign Mission Societies of the east and west are now seeking to unite in this same branch of christian work in India, on a basis proposed by all the Canadian Baptist Missionaries in that field. Let us hope that this union may be reached, with results as gratifying in India, as they have been in Canada.

Should you, in your wisdom, indicate any other departments of our general work in which we might co-operate, or any methods by which a greater union could be attained all around, the Baptist Union of the West will be happy to meet your suggestions, with that respectful and cordial consideration which the dear cause of our common Lord demand, and which the love we cherish toward our brethren in the east may prompt.

With great consideration, I am your servant for Jesus' sake. ROBERT CAMERON, Sec'y Baptist Union.

On motion of Rev. A. Cohoon, the following gentlemen were appointed a committee to take into consideration the communication of the Canadian Baptist Union, Rev. A. Cohoon, Rev. J. E. Hopper, Dr. Rand, E. D. King, Rev. Dr. Saunders, Dr. Higgins, Rev. J. W. Manning, Rev. Dr. Bill, Rev. J. A. Gordon, John March, Rev. A. H. Lavers, Rev. F. D. Crowley, Rev. S. B. Kempton, Rev. J. O. Redden, Rev. T. Todd.

The committee on nominations reported Rev. Dr. Sawyer, as President; Vice-Presidents Arthur Simpson, J. S. Trites; Assistant Secretary Rev. J. O. Redden; Treasurer Harry Ayer; Assistant Treasurer C. W. Roscoe.

Rev. Dr. Saunders called attention to the action of this Convention in its session of 1882, concerning the African Baptist Association of N. S., and on motion it was received into the Convention, after which the representative Rev. A. W. Jordan, was welcomed by the President, Dr. Saunders.

The Secretary read a letter from A. C. Robbins, resigning his seat on Board of Governors.

The Secretary read a letter from Senator McMaster, which was referred to the Committee appointed to consider the communication of the Baptist Union of Canada.

The Report of Obituaries, was read by the Chairman, Rev. T. A. Higgins. It referred to the deaths of Rev. S. W. DeBlois, D. D., Rev. E. Clay, M. D., Avar Longley, D. Rupert Eaton and Rev. Mr. Corey. Adjourned with prayer, by Rev. J. E. Gordon.

In the afternoon, John March, Esq., Secretary, read the report of the Foreign Mission Board, of which, we give the part in relation to the Foreign work on our first page.

The report of the Committee on the state of the Denomination, was read by Rev. C. Goodspeed.

A Public Foreign Missionary Meeting was held on Saturday evening. The church was filled to overflowing, and the occasion was one of special interest because of the presence of two returned missionaries—the Rev. John Craig of the Ontario and Quebec Foreign mission, and the Rev. George Churchill of the Maritime Provinces mission to India.

The Scripture was read and prayer offered by the Rev. Henry Cross.

Mr. Churchill was first called upon to address the audience. He referred to the changes which had taken place, during the past eleven years. At the Convention at Windsor, the motto was Siam for Christ; but all knew how in the overrulings of Providence the mission among the Telugus was begun, and had been sustained till now. Time had wrought its changes in all. At first we were without experience in Foreign mission work. Both the people and the missionaries, were more or less carried away with the romance of the enterprise; but now all that has passed away, and the solid reality of the work is realized. The changed circumstances now press themselves upon all engaged in this grand enterprise. There are in connexion with our three stations, one million of souls in the darkness of idolatry.

Mr. Churchill said he had been blamed for presenting so dark a side of the work to be done; but he had only given facts. It was indeed a promised land, but it was difficult to take. It had fenced cities—the high walls of prejudice and superstition, the growth of thousands of years. The Board says funds are short and the missionaries declare the work is vast and difficult. What shall we do? Go forward! Are we accountable for giving the Telugus the gospel? They are not anxious to hear it: but they are our fellow creatures, neighbors and brethren. The cholera is the offspring of the habits of the idolaters. It is coming west. Soon it may be among us. This will show that the heathen are neighbors. Although to feel the burden of giving the gospel to these neighbors. Duty leads us into the heathen world. How much prayer is there at home? How much is given? The Telugus will give us a lesson. As idolaters they give as well as pray; as converts they do the same.

The prophecy read to-night—"Why do the heathen rage, &c."—is fulfilled in India. The heathen rage; but the morning light breaks. If we sustain our responsibilities we shall have success.

The Rev. John Craig was the next speaker. Mr. Craig said, If you are pleased to see me I am pleased to see you. He said he brought the greetings of the Board of the West to the Convention. In India we are united, not organically: but virtually we are one mission. We have a Baptist conference there, composed of both missions. Mutual advice, sympathy and prayers give us mutual strength.

A great number of converts have been given to the American mission South of us. Our Board of the West have more converts than you, but far less than our brethren of the United States. Our members are in proportion to the labour expended. Faithful work will result in converts. We have 1400 and still they come. Your numbers are sure to increase.

At my station, said Mr. Craig, the converts have increased from 300 to a thousand. We believe we shall take the Telugus for Christ. Other denominations are at work. There is plenty of room, and no need of interference in the heathen world. As sure as the seed is sown the blessings will come. As it has been in the Ongole field, so it will be in all the fields. The heathen are dull of hearing. They even forget the name of Christ after hearing it; they find it difficult to pronounce it. We give line upon line. The native preachers do successful work. One brought in fifty converts on one occasion. A native convert, Thomas Gabriel, began the mission. Peter, a native, was awakened by hearing a hymn on future punishment sung. What, he said, if I should be lost. He embraced Christ, Peter's experience would do christians and sinners good. In answer to his prayers his relatives and neighbors have come to Christ. In times of persecution the converts help each other. I, said Mr. Craig, have prayed with Peter and have seen wonderful answers to our prayers. The Spirit has descended as the wind came upon the valley of dry bones. We had a baptism of fifty by moonlight, following special prayers. At our Association last year we had 500 christians. This was an inspiring sight. In some places they will pay for christian teachers; and all the converts take the total abstinence pledge. Self-support is a principle we inculcate. By God's blessing, in a few years, we shall say of the Telugus, "A people whose God is the Lord."

After the singing of a hymn by the choir, Dr. McKenzie, of Boston, gave the third address. His theme was the certainty of the gospel for the whole world. The angel flying through the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach, contained the sentiment of his address. The books, written by Dr. Christlieb, of Germany, and Dr. Pearson, of the United States, were referred to at large, as advocating the duty of the church and the certainty of success in missionary work. Dr. McKenzie's address was earnest and powerful.

The Rev. D. A. Steele was the last speaker. He showed that the Board, of which he was a member, depended upon the Convention and the churches. He entreated the Convention to keep up a sympathetic connection with their Board, while at the same time thorough criticism should be made of all its doings. The work was not upon a few, but upon all. In the foreign work the honour of the entire body is involved. The Board was created to execute the purposes of all the Baptists of these Provinces. The Board depended upon the guidance of God, sought in prayer. He always heard and led them out of their difficulties. United efforts are absolutely indispensable to the success of the work. All criticism made, and explanations asked, and suggestions given, should be open and fair. Such will receive a respectful response. The burdens are heavy. Fault finding is vexatious, and weakens the hands of the Board. The good-will and help of every member of the churches is sought—ministers, deacons, men, women and

children. God's blessing is sought upon the whole work, in granting a constant supply of men and material and recruits for depleted ranks. Will the blessings continue? If we desire, yearn and work and pray, they assuredly will not cease to flow to us freely. This most interesting meeting closed with prayer by Dr. Armstrong.

The following were the services on the Sabbath Day:— Baptist Church, morning, Dr. McKenzie, evening, Rev. Henry Cross; Presbyterian Church, morning, Rev. J. E. Goucher, evening, Rev. S. B. Kempton; Methodist Church, morning, the Rev. D. A. Steele, evening, the Rev. Mr. Swaffield; Free Baptist Church, morning, Rev. I. E. Bill, junior, evening, the Rev. Mr. Ballentine; The Reformed E. Church, morning, Rev. Mr. Camp, evening, the Rev. J. A. Gordon; Shediac, the Rev. F. Beattie; Hillsburg, the Rev. J. W. Blakeney; Sussex, the Rev. Walter Bars.

The Sabbath School was addressed by the Rev. Dr. McVicar, J. W. Bars and Wm. Cumming, Esqs. The Convention sermon was preached at 4 p. m., in the Baptist Church, to an overflowing house. The Rev. C. Goodspeed was the preacher. The parable of the vine was taken for the text. Mr. Goodspeed preached an able sermon, which we shall give entire in the near future to our readers. They will have a rich treat in its perusal. It is not necessary to even indicate the line of thought at this time. Sunday was an exceptionally fine and favourable day. The heat of the two or three previous days abated. The large number of delegates, the boundless hospitality and christian friendliness of the people by the blessing of God made the Sabbath one of much enjoyment.

A preliminary meeting was held on Saturday by the ladies, and steps taken for organic union of their mission societies. We learned that their meeting was most harmonious and enjoyable.

Monday Morning Meeting.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Edward Hickson. The report of the committee of Dr. Cramp's Manuscript History of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, was read by Prof. E. M. Kierstead, chairman. The report recommended that the manuscript be placed for safe keeping in the hands of the Governors of Acadia College, until such times as means can be obtained for its publication. The report was adopted without discussion.

J. W. Bars, Esq., Treasurer of the Ministerial Education Board, then read his report. One important item in this report was, that during the year \$168.39 had been received from the Convention Fund. This report also was adopted without discussion.

The Rev. A. Cohoon, Secretary of the Home Mission Board, followed with the report of that body. It stated that the year began with a lack of money and of laborers; but the year's receipts amounted to \$4,392.00. As it was impossible to secure enough ministers at home to supply the demand, the Board had corresponded with the Rev. John Brown in England, requesting him to recommend ministers for work in our home field. The results so far have been that one has already begun work and another one is expected in September or October. The first, the Rev. Mr. Powell, has been ordained pastor of the church at Port Medway.

The Rev. Isaiah Wallace had labored for the Board, as general missionary during a part of the year. While preaching at New Glasgow, on the 6th July, he was stricken down with paralysis. It was with much difficulty that he was able to reach his home at Granville, he is now slowly recovering, but it is doubtful whether he will ever be able to preach again. The self-denying and arduous labors of this missionary were fully acknowledged, not only in the report, but in the addresses which followed it. It is the purpose of the Board to engage two or three missionaries to labor in the same way that this brother has done. To make the work economical and successful, weak churches have been arranged in groups as fields for the missionaries.

A change has been made in the French mission. The missionary, the Rev. Mr. Normandy, was taken from his field in Nova Scotia, and sent to Kent County, N. B., where he is now employed. The Board is carrying on correspondence with the view to engage the services of a man to succeed Mr. Normandy, in Nova Scotia. The Board has also engaged students from McMaster Hall, Acadia College and the St. John Seminary—four from the first, six from the second, and five from the third.

Three hundred dollars have been given to aid missions in the North West, and \$100.00 to the church at Emerson, during the year.

The Rev. Isaiah Wallace baptized 173 converts. One of the missionaries, the Rev. Mr. Richan, was instrumental in erecting two meeting houses on his field. Forty four missionaries have been employed, 1211 weeks of labor performed, and 375 converts baptized. The appropriations amounted to \$3,849.05. The additions by baptism were greater than in any former year.

On motion of the Rev. I. E. Bill Jr., it was resolved to consider the report clause by clause. The matter of sending to England for missionaries was discussed at some length. Remarks were made by the Revs. Mr. Weeks, H. N. Parry, T. Todd, E. M. Saunders, J. Bancroft, A. Cahoon, and I. E. Bill, Jr. Mr. Bill set forth the importance of home missions as essential to success in all the other enterprises of the Convention. There were fifty tongues and fifty pens employed for the Foreign Missions, but not so many for Home Missions. He believed the Board was right in its purpose to employ three general missionaries. While labouring in the State of Maine, Dr. Ricker was engaged by the Baptists of that state, in such work, at a salary of a thousand dollars a year. Mr. Bill strongly advocated this sort of agency. Speeches were made by Revs. T. Todd, Wm. Robinson, Wm. Cummings Esq., Moses Lowe Esq., Revs. J. A. Gordon, E. J. Grant, D. G. McDonald and H. H. Bligh, Esq. Session closed with prayer by the Rev. Joseph Kempton.

Afternoon Session.

Prayer by the Rev. E. J. Grant. The discussion of the subject was continued. The matter of provincial distinctions had a prominent place in the debate. Dr. Higgins, the Rev. Mr. Coy, Dr. Hopper, J. W. Bars, Esq., Dr. Parker, Dr. Rand, spoke to the subject. The latter moved a resolution that the Convention sermon be published in the denominational papers. The report as a whole, together with that of the treasurer was adopted. The deficit of three hundred dollars was made up at the close of the evening service. The report of the Finance Committee was then received. Adjournment with prayer by Rev. Mr. Bradshaw.

The leaders held a meeting at 2 p. m., on Monday, and organized the Woman's Missionary Union for the Maritime Provinces. Mrs. Williams, of Wolfville, was appointed President, Mrs. Parsons of Halifax, Mrs. Hopper of St. John, and Mrs. — of P. E. I., Vice-Presidents; Mrs. March of St. John, and Mrs. Seldon of Halifax, Secretaries, The Executive Board was appointed and located in St. John.

On Monday evening, the public home missionary meeting was held, at which addresses were given by Revs. J. B. Woodland, Hayward, and A. Cohoon. The audience was large and attentive.

THE FIRST GOLD DOLLAR!

We received the first list of ten new subscribers from Fairville, entitling the sender to a gold dollar, as per our offer in another column. Who will have the next one? Let all our boys and girls go to work at once.

WANTED.

The letter written to a Theological student in which "improper influence" was used to get him to go to Morgan Park; as asserted by Dr. Welton. Address VISITOR Office. Aug. 20, '84.