

And may I not also express the hope that you will yet lend your able advocacy to the Baptist Book and Tract Society? But if you cannot do this it will have to live—as I am sure it will—without you.

I deeply regret the necessity—supplied by yourself—of thus addressing you. I desire to work in harmony with all my brethren—yourself certainly included—and I think the time has come for mighty united effort all along our denominational lines. But when you choose to operate along other lines, or simply on a line of your own, you may expect that others will decline to go with you and will resent unworthy treatment in the pages of the VISITOR for not going.

D. M. WELTON.

MR. HOPPER'S REPLY.

We are not conscious of having in the past given Dr. Welton any ground for the unworthy feelings he displays against us; but it seems he has been cherishing such, and having found a fitting opportunity he relieves his perturbed spirit.

How did this unfortunate altercation between Dr. Welton and myself concerning Book Rooms originate? The facts are these: Mr. Sutcliffe, the agent of the British American Book and Tract Society, was allowed fifteen minutes at the Southern N. B. Association to present the claims of that institution. When through, Dr. Welton was among the first to severely arraign that Society, and the first to bring before the Association the claims of the Halifax Baptist Book Room. He knows that we listened to him, and on that day Wednesday made no reply. On Thursday, Rev. W. E. McIntyre, A.M., introduced a resolution favoring a Dominion Book and Publishing Society. Dr. Welton again rose, but seeing Rev. Mr. Stewart on his feet gave way. When Mr. Stewart finished Mr. Hopper spoke. As a pastor of one of the largest churches in the Association he felt he was not needlessly thrusting himself forward in presenting his views, after so many others on the two occasions had spoken. Mr. Hopper referred to the necessity for union in the matter under discussion, and took occasion to contrast and compare the arguments of Dr. Welton and others, concerning the British A. B. and Tract Society, with those Dr. Welton had presented in favor of the Halifax Baptist Book Room, and the statements of its agent, D. Archibald, Esq., and not the Society. If those contrasts and comparisons were unfavorable, they were grounded in facts as can be shown, and were called forth by Dr. Welton's speech, on the preceding day. Then let it be known that Dr. Welton in this matter was the aggressor, and was only replied to by Mr. Hopper. This he cannot deny, for the Minutes of the Association prove it.

That Dr. Welton felt it his duty to tug Halifax Baptist Book Room into his public utterances, appears from the fact that in the Messenger's report of his educational address at the N. S. Western Association, where, he is reported as sandwiching his speech with an attack upon somebody who was disparaging the Halifax Baptist Book Room and urging union with Toronto. Next, he appears at the Central N. S. Association, and again as the special champion of the Halifax Baptist Book Room, and making, after writing the report, a speech in which the Messenger represents him as characterizing the conduct of someone as "coarse and unmanly," epithets which Dr. Welton now accepts as his own.

That the whole strength of Dr. Welton while among us at these Associations has been given to talking up the Halifax B. B. Room, and talking down the possibility and even desirability of union in this matter in connection with the Standard Publishing Company of Toronto, is undeniable, and will require more special pleading to extenuate than he has yet produced. If Dr. Welton said even a word in favor of the latter plan, no one that we can find has heard it.

As to Dr. Welton taking credit to himself about resisting the passing of the resolution offered by Rev. Mr.

Bartlett, expressing sympathy with the B. A. Book and Tract Society, it is the smallest glory we have ever known a man claim; for there was not a single speech made by any one in favor of the resolution. It only afforded Dr. Welton the opportunity which he was eager to embrace to trot out his little speech in favor of his pet institution, and even this would have called for no reply had not he sounded the changes on the endorsement of it by the Convention and *notens volens*, striven to make the Association accept of his declarations. As to this endorsement, a Nova Scotia pastor who was present at the Convention when it was given, informs us that it was given at the last session of the body when not more than two dozen were present, of whom only a very few were New Brunswickers and that he and others dissented from the action. The President of Convention says also the action was taken after nearly all had left, and only a very few were present at the meeting. This is the endorsement which was honorably obtained, according to Dr. Welton, and which must bind everybody to a new line of action. It may accord with the semi-pretalious views of Dr. Welton, but will not satisfy Baptists who love fairness and honorable methods.

It may be well here to say that in reference to the endorsement of the action of the C. N. S. Association in reference to a proposed Book Room, in the Convention at Hillsborough in 1880, that the writer and the present President of the Convention and others were present and inquired what the endorsement asked meant. They said if it only means an expression of kindly recognition of the action of the N. S. brethren in providing a Book Room for themselves they had no objection to offer, and when the promoters of the resolution said this was only what was meant it passed. No one denies the right of gentlemen in the sister Province to do for themselves and their people what they think for the best. The objection that has been made in New Brunswick is to the attempt of that Society to send an agent into this Province to collect funds while the Society has in no honorable way ever been accepted by Baptists here, and we believe that a great majority of our people will resent any such attempt till the matter is determined in some representative way.

We are glad to see that the Messenger did not incorrectly summarize Dr. Welton's speech at the C. N. S. Association. If it had we would have been bound to apologize and should have done so at once, but Dr. Welton, after wriggling around the phrases "coarse and unmanly," at the end accepts them as his. It is a very bold and honorable course for a man to take, to say things behind another's back that he had not the courage to say to his face. At the proper time we shall be glad to attend to this valiant knight who has made it his special business to misrepresent us at meetings where we were not present, and spread reports which others have caught up that we defy him to substantiate before any proper tribunal. We are prepared to show that Dr. Welton in stating what we said at the Southern Association has essentially misrepresented us. Happily we possess a summary of our address written before hand, and documents which we read at the time, that will make this appear. This, perhaps, is enough to say on the Book Room matter till we can come face to face before the Convention, as Dr. Welton says there the matter will be brought up.

Now we proceed to notice Dr. Welton's remarks about the late Theological Department in Acadia. As to that department the views of brethren in the Maritime Provinces differed widely, a large proportion of Acadia's graduates, perhaps a large majority, never viewing it with any favor. As to the VISITOR, its position was not antagonistic, neither was it the champion of the department. In our somewhat neutral position we had the sympathy of a large majority of our pastors. Dr. Welton must know that he never evoked the sympathy of Acadia's graduates in its favor, and that owing either to his own lack of ability, or indiffer-

ence upon the part of the constituency, or both, it never prospered, and like a wounded snake was dragging its slow length along waiting for something to turn up, which came in its welcomed consolidation with McMaster Hall. Dr. Welton, however, cannot point to any utterances of ours, which were positively antagonistic. As to the anonymous writers, they were graduates of Acadia who gave us their names in confidence, and whom even Dr. Welton cannot be little. Will Dr. Welton tell us the *sin* of writing anonymous letters in the VISITOR about a Theological Department, and the *virtue* of writing anonymous letters to the *Canadian Baptist* about an association in which it is shown in an unfavorable light? As to Dr. Welton's reflection, about our using an improper influence to get students to go to Morgan Park Seminary, instead of the Theological Department at Acadia, we defy him to get the testimony of even one student to sustain his charge. As to Dr. Welton's mean reflection as to our obligation to that Seminary, it is unworthy of a gentleman much less a Theological Professor.

Further as to Dr. Welton's entire statements about our attitude to McMaster Hall, its trustees and the manner of their appointment, we defy him again to point to a single utterance of Mr. Hopper's, or a line he has written, but what was thoroughly hearty in favor of the Institution. All Dr. Welton says on this subject has not even a particle of foundation in fact, and we charge him with bearing false witness against his neighbor in this matter and are prepared to substantiate it.

Dr. Welton has vainly striven in his letter to show himself fair toward his Toronto brethren and their Institutions. He indulges in special pleading to take the edge off his speech concerning Book Rooms and a Publication Society at the Southern Association. His action here was anti-union action in a Dominion Publication Society, and his entire remarks about Mr. Hopper as being somewhat out of sympathy with McMaster Hall is a stab at the *earliest and most persistent advocate* that that institution has had in the Maritime Provinces. If anything such as Dr. Welton refers to ever was seen in the VISITOR columns Mr. Hopper did not write it; and as the VISITOR has an editor for each Province, even if it was there Dr. Welton is not justified to fasten it upon Mr. Hopper personally as he has done. We have very much disliked to characterize Dr. Welton's course and utterances as we have but when he will ask us to print pure falsehoods about ourselves, he must be squarely met. We have no love for this style of writing, but we hope our patrons will bear with us when we say the VISITOR is still open to Dr. Welton in fairness to him for any reply he may wish to make. And further, if the Convention is to have this matter before it let him understand here and now that, Providence permitting, we shall be present and prepared to sustain all we say in this letter.

Our first prompting after reading Dr. Welton's letter was to give it no reply and leave its unworthy reflections and bad spirit to rebound on him, but when we remembered that at every N. S. Association, according to the Messenger's reports, we were assailed in a covert way and that he was the man supplying the inspiration, exciting suspicions against us, we determined to give this first installment of facts.

At the Southern Association when Mr. Hopper called attention to the fact that the Halifax Baptist Book Room was circulating the Landmark documents of Dr. J. R. Graves; and asked Dr. Welton if he endorsed such action. He said *he did not*, and yet the fact is undeniable that through it they have been advertised and circulated to the disadvantage of Baptists; and two or more of the society's officers are reputed to be Landmarkers. Some of the teachings of these documents are that Baptists must in no way recognize Pseudo-baptist churches or ministers—that a minister of another denomination must not be invited into our pulpits to preach or be

recognized in our Associations or Conventions should he be present. That no baptism is valid, even though the subject of it be a believer in Christ and immersed, unless the administrator be a regular Baptist minister. That it is wrong for a member of one regular Baptist Church to commune with another regular Baptist Church, or to put it in Landmark phraseology, "Pulpit Affiliation" is wrong, "Alien Immersion" is wrong, and "Intercommunion" of Baptist churches is wrong.

DR. WELTON says the promoters of the Halifax Baptist Book Room consulted the Standard Publishing Co. and the American Baptist Publication Society, before engaging in work. This was more than was done by the organization in this Province. A prominent Nova Scotia minister informs us that he recommended the promoters of the Halifax Society to confer with the VISITOR Book Room about entering into united action in a Baptist Book Room, and they positively refused to consider the matter. That is, they intended to force their project upon N. B. Baptists, without any reference to an endeavor to amicably adjust a union. That will do for a hierarchy, but not for Baptists.

Our brethren in the Maritime Provinces may rest assured that if they are ready to unite in sustaining a branch of the Standard Publishing Co., that that Company is prepared to consider the matter of locating a branch here.

PERSONAL.

Rev. Dr. Corey, President of Richmond Institute, intends visiting Convention.

Rev. Dr. Day received a telegram late Saturday evening informing him that Mrs. Day was very ill. He left Monday morning for Yarmouth.

An Important Question to be Permanently Settled.

When? At the meeting of the Union Baptist Education Society, to be held in St. John on the 31st inst. What is the question at issue? Simply this: Shall the Union Baptist Seminary about to be erected be located in the City of St. John or in some other section of the Province? This to the people specially interested is a question of momentous import.

I sincerely hope that representative friends, who have this grand educational movement at heart, will rally from east, west, north and south, and let the subject be thoroughly ventilated from the different stand points, so that no one in the future will complain that his view was not properly presented, or considered. After surveying the whole field, and fully comparing notes, then let all personal preferences be laid aside, and all unite heartily in such a decision as will be likely to subserve the best interests of the Institution, and to accomplish the greatest amount of good.

I. E. BILL.
St. Martins, July 21st, 1884.
(Intelligencer please copy.)

Church News.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

St. Andrews. We have reached a crisis in our work. There seems to be a blessing just ready to fall upon us. Will Christians pray that it may descend with refreshing power. C. W. W.

Newcastle, Miramichi. Bro. D. L. Chubbuck and wife commenced labour with us on Sunday last. Three services were conducted, two in the church, and one in the hall at 8 p. m. The Lord was present. Since Sunday the evangelists have held meetings every evening in the church and in the Masonic Hall. The weather has been stormy and roads very bad, but large numbers have flocked to the meetings. A deep impression is being made. Christians are coming up nobly to the work. Several have already decided for Christ, and many are seeking the Lord. To God be the praise. I. E. BILL, Jr.

Piscataway. I have just returned to Pennfield from Piscataway, 36 miles away, after spending a Sabbath there. Spiritual destitution has reigned for a long time in that country. There has been no preaching for many years there, and no church: all was dark and dreary. Two or three of them came too late during the work of



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