

to those who have the pleasure of hearing him. I trust the time will never come when there will not be found consecrated and soberminded young men, willing to give themselves to the noble work of preaching the gospel of Christ.

Our new railroad from Windsor to Truro, is progressing toward completion. At the rate of a mile a day the rails are being laid, and soon the whistle of the engine will be heard in the Konneticook valley. So, brethren, when you come again to an annual meeting at West Gore, you will come by cars to within three miles of your destination.

HIRAM WALLACE.

West Gore, July 12, 1899.

FIRST MANITOBA ANNUAL CONVENTION.

The first convention of the Disciples of Christ of Western Ontario and the North West Territories was held at Portage La Prairie, June 16, 17 and 18th.

John Munro, minister of the church at Portage La Prairie, was the convener of the convention. The other ministers present were Carey E. Morgan, of Minneapolis, Minn., and John K. Hester, of Cincinnati, O., who is at present in charge of the work in Rat Portage.

A number of other delegates, including Sister Caslick, of Rat Portage, were present.

The opening address was delivered by J. K. Hester, his subject being "The Central Truth of Christianity."

Bro. Morgan delivered addresses on "Our Obligations to the Young," "Steadfastness in the Faith," "The Victories of the Cross," and "The Plea for Restoration of the New Testament Church." Bro. Hester spoke on "The Word of the Cross and the Law of Growth."

Reports were read from brethren residing at Swan River, Manitoba, and Winnipeg and from the newly organized church at Rat Portage. The brethren organized for the purpose of carrying on a more effective work through the west.

There were large audiences present at the Lord's day services. One young man confessed Christ at the close of the evening sermon.

The convention was encouraging, and we may now look forward to better work in this portion of the Dominion.

O. B. STOCKFORD.

NEWS FROM P. E. ISLAND.

Since our last report from this place eleven have been baptized—nine of them from Murray Harbor. The prospects are that we shall have another church on the Island before very long.

Our Annual, held with the church in Summerside, was a decided success. A good attendance and those who preached excelled in the work. Money enough was raised in cash and by subscriptions to pay off the debt on the church, and over one hundred dollars toward paying for the services of a preacher. The writer continued the meeting for several nights and baptized six into Christ.

I am now with Bro. Simpson at Melpeque holding a meeting. Our meetings are well attended and the interest is good. We expect to keep the meeting going for some time. It is rather a bad time on account of the beginning of haymaking, but still the house is crowded. It may be difficult to continue there much longer on account of haying, but if the people are willing to attend we shall preach to them.

Bro. R. F. Whiston is settled in Charlottetown and the prospects for a new house of worship are very bright.

The Central Christian Church is small in numbers but mighty in deeds. We may look for good and great things from them.

Bro. A. N. Simpson has accepted a call to labor between New Glasgow and Lot 48. East Point will need a preacher. They are able to keep a young man among them. The church in Summerside is also on the lookout for a suitable man to labor with them in the gospel.

Bro. Crawford, at present writing, is at East Point in the absence of Bro. Simpson, who for the past year labored for them half his time. If we can secure good men to locate at Summerside and East Point, our churches will be in good working order.

The prospects for success on the Island were never brighter than at present.

R. W. STEVENSON.

Original Contributions.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE JUBILEE.

A. McLEAN.

It is now confidently believed that at least ten thousand people will come to Cincinnati, in October next, to participate in the Jubilee convention and to share in the joy of that occasion. Delegates are expected from all parts of the United States and from Canada, from the West Indies, and from Great Britain; India, Japan and China will be represented. What does all this mean? What is there to attract so many people and from so many lands? What reasons are there for joy and rejoicing? Let facts be submitted to a candid world.

Fifty years ago in the same city our organized missionary work had its inception. It was realized on all sides that little could be done in the way of evangelizing the world without co-operation. Experience had demonstrated this. The *Harbinger* confessed and lamented that the existing system was inefficient and inadequate. The truth is, there was no system. Churches were calling for preachers and for financial aid, and there was no way to answer these calls effectively. Wolves in sheep's clothing were making havoc of the flock. Great and effectual doors were opening at home and abroad, but there was no one to enter. One hundred and fifty delegates, from one hundred and twenty churches, met to consider what ought to be done. They resolved that a missionary society, as a means to concentrate and disperse the wealth and benevolence of this reformation, in order to convert the world,

was both expedient and scriptural. These men felt that the time had come to decide whether they were to co-operate and make the truth they held effective, or continue without co-operation and come to naught. One of the strong men of that day said: "Our existence as a people is involved in some general co-operation for the conversion of the world. The present is a momentous crisis." That convention organized the American Christian Missionary Society.

Since that time the American Society has received and disbursed \$760,000. The supplemental funds swell the amount to \$2,300,000. Had it not been for the existence and leadership of the society the greater part of these funds would not have been raised. The figures given do not include \$214,000 raised for church extension; \$69,000 raised for negro education and evangelization; and \$20,000 for ministerial relief. Other results are more significant than the amount of money raised. The agents of the society have baptized nearly, if not quite, one hundred thousand souls, and have organized 2,261 churches.

The different State societies, which are theoretically auxiliary to the American society, report 193,371 baptisms and 101,787 other additions and incomes aggregating over three millions and a half of dollars. So far as can be discovered the whole amount of baptisms reported by the American and State societies is 283,805 and the other additions 127,066, and the whole amount raised is not far from five millions. If to this we add \$672,000, the amount raised by the Christian Woman's Board; and \$1,141,000, the amount raised by the Foreign society, we shall have some conception of what has been done since the organization of our first missionary society.

It is safe to say that nearly one half of our present churches have been organized by the missionary societies. Hundreds of other churches have been fostered and have been saved from discouragement and from dissolution. In times of trouble they have been aided in settling their difficulties. In their weakness they have been helped to secure buildings and to pay off their debts. Preachers have been put to work. Evangelists have been guided and sustained in destitute fields. A missionary atmosphere has been created. The cause of God has been furthered and his name honored.

Our missionary work has been of untold value to us. We have been saved from bickerings and from contention over trifles by the magnitude and the moral grandeur of the task in hand. We have been saved from dogmatism, and from conceit, and from division, and from heart failure, by the efforts we have put forth to plant new churches in the regions beyond, and by our efforts to strengthen those that were weak and ready to die. We have been driven to our knees and to our God for wisdom and for patience and for energy sufficient for the need. Our missionary conventions have been worth many times what they