

From Edmonton, Alberta.

Just a few lines for your... inform you many readers interest... this great opening field, of the... of the north. Left Grafton, on... March 14th, expecting to find... points in both North and Edm... on the following Lord's day the... 19th, but a snow-storm hit... and the Lord's day was spent w... Calgary brethren, assisting good... E. Wise, who is doing a good... that interesting field. Monday... Edmonton was reached, and imm... the survey and the work begun... pioneer missionary has now been... weeks on the field, and the situ... fully taken in and the conclusi... arrived at is that seldom a more i... ing and more promising field w... entered by any missionary. I... church of nineteen members to... with; ten or twelve to be b... by letter, and nearly as many mo... by baptism. Our people are dai... through here to different point... many more settling between the... Calgary south of us. We beg... with two services each Lord's d... on the south side in the morn... one on the north in the evening... healthy, flourishing Sunday-s... held on the north side attende... people from both sides of the r... the south side of the river, wher... is rapidly springing up, we m... union-built, but Methodist-dece... of worship, with large and in... congregations in attendance. n... north side of the river, in old... town, where there is a population... 800 or 1,000, we meet in a la... used on week evenings for... and theatrical performances. V... ly and well attended prayer m... are held on the north and sou... respectively, Wednesdays and... Last week we had twenty-five p... the Friday, and the week prev... had 26 at the Wednesday meeti... The prime necessity now is... central commodious place of wor... the north side of the river, wher... lot has been secured to build... hope our friends west and east... many friends "down by the se... liberally respond to a call for h... to be made, and that we may... work here soon in good order... gress.

The other four denominations... established with comfortable p... worship; but there is always... any considerable town for a liv... gation of those who "keep the... ances as they were delivered,"... have here as choice and united... of baptized believers to begin th... as you can easily find between... oceans; but they need my m... assistance. Men of Israel, help...

ORDINATION.—In response to... tation given by the North-west... home Bay church to sister chu... send delegates to sit with them... to consider the advantages of... daining Bro. J. W. Rutledge to... of the gospel ministry, the c... churches responded by sending G... Chester—Rev. N. A. McNeill, E... negar; Bridgewater—Rev. J. W... Deacon Solomon Baker; New... —Rev. G. P. Raymond, Deacon... Bars, Bro. A. DeLong; New... —Deacons S. Hallamore and... Springfield—Rev. S. Langille, B... burg Town—Rev. E. N. Archib... ons Parker and Dimock; T... Rev. W. L. Parker, Deacons... and Wilson; Nictaux—Deaco... and wife; North-west and Lan... —Deacons Frail, Jodrey, Mal... Hurtle and Bro. N. Langille. E... E. Gullison, pastor of Beaver... Port Maitland church; Rev. A... man, pastor of New Ross chu... invited to a seat in the coun... council was organized. Bando... ment of Rev. E. N. Archibald... ator, and A. F. Baker, clerk... circumstances which led to the... the council having been state... Hamm, church clerk, and g... given that suitable provision... made for his support. The ab... then gave a brief and very s... account of his conversion and... Christian ministry. He nex... terrogated respecting his view... tian doctrine and church poli... ing in a highly pleasing and... manner. It was then moved b... L. Parker and seconded by B... McNeill, and unanimously p... the council recommend the... proceed with Bro. Rutledge's... The following programme wa... ranged for: Ordination sermo... A. McNeill; ordaining praye... L. Parker; hand of fellowshi... P. Raymond; charge to candi... E. N. Archibald; charge to... Rev. S. Langille. The abov... successfully carried out in th... at Mahone Bay in the pres... crowded house. A. F. Baker...

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—Permi... knowledge a good kind of v... visit of some of the Port City... and also of Barrington, on th... A good time was enjoyed, an... and pantry left better off. M... Lord bless them abundantly... them to do so again. T. M... P. S.—I have conversed to... the people in this region a l... and hope to enjoy a visit thi... time from Bro. J. W. S. You...

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AMERICAN RUBBER... 65 Charlotte Street, Saint...

The Disunion Movement.

A few words more on the third... It is alleged that the manage... of home missions "requires local... and provincial control."

Now union in home missionary work... was brought about fourteen years ago... as the result of a long continued agita... in which certain esteemed brethren... born in New Brunswick (!) took a promi... part. (Among these were my names... Rev. C. Goodspeed, Rev. Dr. Day... and Rev. E. Hickson.) The wisdom... of the change was soon proved by results... and the benefits have become increas... ingly manifest. In 1879, the year in... which the convention plan was introd... ced, the churches in this province... contributed only \$280.19 to the funds... of their own home mission society, equal... to a little more than two cents from... each member on an average. In 1891... the contributions raised in New Brun... wick for our home missions amounte... to \$15,543.88, which was more than ten... cents per member. And these were not... exceptional years. Thus it appears that... while the membership increased only 22... per cent. In the twelve years the gifts... to the home mission fund increased 451... per cent. Under the old arrangement... there was little or no growth. It is an... indisputable fact that the benevolence... of the Baptists of New Brunswick has... been drawn out far more largely in the... cause of home missions under the Convention... Board, representing the three provinces... than it ever was "under local and pro... vincial control."

Passing now to my next topic, as indi... cated in my last letter, I notice that... certain things in this circular, and in... connection with the movement which it... is designed to advance, occasion some... surprise when considered as the methods... employed by our brethren to promote... an undertaking declared by them to be... of great importance to the best intere... of our churches.

It may fairly be assumed that this... circular was prepared for the press and... issued by men who know quite well how... such things should be done. But there... is nothing to show whence it came, no... names of chairman and secretary or... committee being subscribed. The two... hundred brethren whose names are on... the sheet may or may not be intelligen... tly desirous of the separation. We are... expected, no doubt, to believe that they... are so. But why were they not asked to... sign a statement such as, "We heartily... approve of the contents of the foregoing... circular?" Possibly many of them... merely approved of the call for a meeti... ng to consider the issues involved.

Many of the names were obtained by... a respected minister (perhaps more than... one) who went about the country inter... viewing brethren who were thought... likely to favor the movement, or who... could, by a one-sided presentation of... the case, be induced to give their names... He went about this business here so... quietly (preaching here on Sunday and... remaining several days in the neighbor... hood) that few of us—not even the dea... con who entertained him—knew of his... mission. Is this the most approved... mode of promoting a great denomina... tional movement designed to advance... the best interests of the churches?

That the circular is misleading is... evidenced by the form in which its... substance has been given in some of... the secular papers. The Herald of... Fredericton, puts it thus: "At a meeti... ng of the several churches at St. John... on November 3 last, it was decided that... it is desirable that the Baptist churches... of this province form a separate Conve... tion," etc.

Of course the general public would... understand from this that the decision... was reached by a constitutionally repre... sentative conference, whose finding... would be deemed somewhat authorita... tive. "A meeting of the several... churches" is alleged to have been held... This may mean the several churches in... St. John, or the several churches to... which it was thought best to send invita... tions. It certainly was not a meeting... of the churches throughout the province... nor of their representatives. Many... churches received no notice, some of... which were certainly not forgotten.

At this meeting, we are told, it was... decided "to issue the following cir... cular to the churches." Now, any in... telligent reader not aware of the facts... would understand from this that the... meeting adopted as an expression of... their opinions and wishes a certain docu... ment submitted for their consideration... But we learn from the report in the... MESSENGER AND VISITOR (Nov. 9), that... the meeting merely decided, by a vote... of seventeen to fifteen, that the cir... cular previously sent out should be again... issued to the churches generally, with... a call for another meeting for May 31... It further appears that discussion on the... merits of the circular was ruled out of... order. Brethren were not allowed to... express their views on the main question... and several may have voted for the res... olution simply because they approved... of the holding of the proposed meeting... One half of those present were oppos... ed to taking any action whatever on that... occasion.

It may be mentioned here that the... circular, as first prepared, the same in... form as that adopted at the meeting of... October 11, and ordered to be sent to the... churches. The probabilities have been... amended. H. C. GREEN,

On a review of the whole question, I... cannot see any good reason why the old... Convention should be broken up. I can... see, as I suppose, many reasons why... this policy of disruption should not be... favored. There would need to be a... general Convention, as at present, to... oversee foreign missions and Acadia... College interests. The Home Mission... Convention in New Brunswick would be... so much additional machinery which... would force a similar convention for... Nova Scotia. The leading men in our... churches would have association, local... Convention and general Convention to... attend each year, and one or other of... them would inevitably suffer in interest... and enthusiasm. Besides, rightly or... wrongly, there are many New Brun... swick churches, and they among the... strongest who, whether it be from Nova... Scotia influence or not, do not favor this... new movement. Could it be anything... but disastrous to have even the New... Brunswick Baptist churches divided, and... some of them in one Convention and... some in another? For it must be... noticed that while "no power on earth,"... as Bro. Hughes says, can prevent Bap... tist churches from forming a Convention... of their own if they will, it is equally... true that no power can compel any to... join this Convention against their will... Would not this division of New Brun... swick Baptists lead to endless complica... tions and frictions? and would it be... possible for the glory of God and the... general good that these should have... place? With the free interchange of... pastors between the provinces, the... arrangement would be most awk... ward. While there are some of the... ablest Nova Scotia brethren in New... Brunswick, there is about an equal... number of the most earnest New Brun... swick brethren in Nova Scotia—witness... Fosby and White, of Yarmouth; Dyke... man, of Digby; Young, of Bridgewater... Nobles, of Bear River, and Parker, of... Truro, not to mention several others... Would it not be most unnatural to have... a line of cleavage as to Conventions... under these circumstances, dividing in... terests which all should have in com... mon.

In conclusion, I may express surpris... at the statement of Bro. Hughes as to... wide-spread desire in New Brunswick... for a separate Convention. Three years... ago I would have yielded to none in in... timate personal acquaintance with our... people, and I do not remember to have... heard any expression of desire in this... direction. I have been in New Brun... swick for a fortnight, and have conversed... with representative brethren in quite... a number of churches, and I cannot but... believe that our brother has over-esti... mated this sentiment. I would not... like to say how much. With the excep... tion of a few who had been personal... ly approached and had been canvassed... to sign a certain paper, I have found no... special desire in this direction, and... some of those who signed it were influen... ced by a wish to please the brother who... was active in the quiet work of making... the representations which would most... favor his purpose. Of course if the peo... ple are told they ought to be dissatis... fied, many of them will be, especially... when there has been no chance for them... to hear explanations.

If there are any grievances, and this... is very possible, let all meet together... as brethren and consider them in the... spirit of the Master, and I am sure a... remedy will be reached without enteri... ng upon so risky an experiment as the... one proposed. May the Lord give grace... and wisdom in order that He may get glory... to Himself. C. GOODSPEED.

P. E. I. QUARTERLY MEETING.—This... Quarterly convened with the Alberton... Church, April 11. Rev. John Miles not... being present, the secretary was called... upon to preach. Rev. J. A. Gordon was... placed in the chair in the absence of the... president, and the reports from the... churches showed prosperity all along... the line. Bro. Carter and Maple re... ported over fifty baptisms during the... quarter; also that during the meeti... gings recently held in Alberton six had... professed to be converts. Bro. Davidson... reported twenty-one received for bap... tism in Clyde River. The rest of the... North River field is running along... smoothly. Bro. Shaw is building... house of worship. Bro. Gordon reported... twenty-one baptisms; all departments... of church work running in good shape... On Easter Sunday a collection of \$1,255... had been taken towards the liquidation... of the debt on their house of worship... \$2,700 had been raised for this purpose... during the year. Dea. Clarke reported... for Alma church. The spiritual interest... good; the number of converts was called... good. We were sorry that so many of... the pastors failed to avail themselves... of the privilege of meeting with their... brethren, for we would have liked very... much to have reports from them as to... the work on their fields. The afternoon... was spent in listening to outlines of ser... mons by brethren Maple, Carter and... Davidson, which were discussed at... length by the brethren. A difficulty... that for years had been in this church... was here settled to the satisfaction of... all, and we anticipate good things for... this church in the near future. Bro... Gordon preached a clear gospel sermon... to a good congregation in the evening... At the close a resolution favoring the... one Convention, or in case of a division... a union with Nova Scotia, was passed... unanimously; also a unanimous vote... was taken in favor of a plebiscite for this... island on the temperance question. Closed to meet with the association in... Charlottetown, July 14th.

F. D. DAVIDSON, Secy.

Baby's croup is cured by Hahnemann's...

The Separate Convention Question.

I am sure I may, without presumption... venture to make a contribution to the... discussion of this question. If excuse... be needed, let it be my deep and abidi... ng interest in the welfare of my breth... ren in the Maritime Provinces, gained... by years of blessed fellowship and... earnest co-operation with them in the... Lord's work. It may also be that a... somewhat intimate acquaintance with the... conditions of things in the Maritime... Baptist Convention, and my removal... from all possible partisan influences, may... make it possible for me to view the... question dispassionately, and to consid... er it with some degree of intelligence.

It seems to me that a little thought... will rattle out some considerations which... at first glance, might appear to have... weight. Whether New Brunswick or... Nova Scotia brethren have most to say... in the business of Convention, or... whether a work which covers the three... provinces is directed by a board located... in one or the other of them, is too... trivial a matter to justify the withdrawal... of churches in either province from the... general Convention. Can anyone sup... pose, seriously, that our Lord would be... pleased with our Nova Scotia brethren if... they should refuse to support foreign... missions because they are under the... control of a board located in St. John... rather than on Nova Scotia soil? So... also, in reference to home missions, would... any brother dare to ask God's favor... for a movement to break up our home... mission work because it is directed from... Yarmouth rather than from Saint... John? I suppose Bro. Hughes has good... ground for his statement that there is "a... vast amount of withholding" because... the Board of Home Missions is not lo... cated in New Brunswick, although I... cannot bring myself to believe that there... are many who can really refuse to give... for such a trivial reason. It is to be... hoped, at least, that Bro. Hughes does... not encourage any in such a course as... this; for all the churches outside of St. John... where the new Board of Home Missions... for New Brunswick would doubtless be... located and a new Convention organiz... ed, would, in the future, have the... same reason for withholding, seeing that... the control still would be beyond their... door steps.

It need scarcely be said that the right... and power of our independent churches... to form a Convention or a dozen conventi... ons, does not constitute any reason to... act in this way, and our churches ought... not to think of doing anything from the... mere desire to assert and show their in... dependence. A man has the right to... throw his money into the fire and the... power to commit suicide, but it would... be very wrong to encourage him to do... either, or to think that advice was an... impertinence.

May we not go further and assert that... the question whether the Maritime... Convention should be disrupted is not to... be decided in view of any possible self... ish advantage to a section of the... country? It might be a good selfish... policy for all the strong churches to... form themselves into a Convention and... throw off all the weak ones; but this... would be the best way to serve the... devil; for it would encourage atavistic... selfishness and effectually bar all hope... of progress. It is to be hoped, therefore... that Nova Scotia-Baptists may never... wish to withdraw from union with those... of the other provinces merely because... they are the stronger and might hope to... gain advantage from separation, if ad... vantage could come to any from such a... course. This leads us up to the only... principle which should guide Christian... men in the decision of this and all other... questions. It is this: would the forma... tion of two Conventions for Maritime... Baptists result in the general advance... ment of the Lord's work? Questions of... personal or provincial prominence, or... of Baptistic power and legal right, all drop... out of sight in view of this principle, which... has to do with the vital interests of... immortal souls.

Before considering this question in... the light of this principle, it may be... well to clear away some possible mis... conceptions. New Brunswick Baptists... were not forced into union with Nova... Scotia Baptists in home mission work... neither were Nova Scotians the chief... movers in the matter. I had the honor... myself to introduce the question of a... general union in home mission work at... the Western Association of New Brun... swick held at Jacksontown, and a resolu... tion favoring the idea was passed. I... went then to the Nova Scotia Home... Mission Convention, recently formed and... meeting in Parrsboro, and it was with... exceeding difficulty that our Nova Scotia... brethren were induced even to appoint... a committee to discuss the question of... union in home missions with representa... tives of New Brunswick Baptists. At... this and at subsequent stages, it was... largely through the influence of Dr... Day, a New Brunswick Baptist, that... success was achieved. I then visited... the Eastern Association of New Brun... swick, but did not succeed, chiefly owing... to the opposition of one or two leading... brethren. However, our brethren in... New Brunswick finally accepted the... view that the union of all Maritime Bap... tists in home mission work would give... greater strength and confidence in our... missionary operations. The brethren

who are agitating to disrupt the general... Convention are not therefore seeking to... deliver from an enforced bondage, but to... break up an arrangement entered into... freely. I do not mean by this that a... union once formed should never be... broken; but those who remember the... next to nothing that was done for home... missions in New Brunswick before the... union will not, many of them, I am sure... wish to run the risk of reviving old... conditions by going back to the old, aban... doned policy.

Messenger and Visitor.

to promote a Sunday-school missionary... work. These then are the three general... interests which the Southern Baptist... convention has in hand—foreign mis... sions, home missions and Sunday-schools... We stated in a previous article that... the State conventions were not concern... ed with the management of the general... interests of the denomination, but only... with the matters pertaining to their own... state. This, we take it, is the fact in a... general way, and especially in the... North; but in the South, it would ap... pear from the reports presented in the... Year Book, that in some cases the... state convention is charged with the... collecting of funds for the foreign and... home mission work, and that these... funds are passed over by the treasurer... of the state convention to the treasurers... of the general boards.

From the account which has been... given—brief and general though it is—... our readers will, we think, be able to... form a fairly correct idea of the two... different plans of organization upon... which our brethren in the United States... are working. The two systems have... lines of "coincidence and lines of diver... gence. So far as the management of... local and state interests is concerned, they... are nearly if not wholly alike. Both... North and South, they have their... associations and their State conventions, or... what is equivalent to them. It is in... respect to the management of the gen... eral denominational interests that a differ... ence appears. In the North, each of... these general interests—foreign missions, home... missions, the publication work—is in... the hands of a separate society. These... societies hold their annual meeti... gs at the same place and in immediate... succession. Many persons are, no doubt, members of all three of these societies, yet... each of them is constitutionally distinct;... each has control of its own particu... lar enterprise and no other.

Among the Southern Baptists it is... quite different. The control of all gen... eral interests is vested in one body—the... general convention. This convention... appoints three boards, to which are... entrusted the management of foreign... missions, home missions and the gen... eral interests of Sunday-schools. It is... not our purpose to discuss here at any... length the respective merits of these... two systems. The Southern plan is the... more democratic in form, and is prob... ably somewhat so in fact. But either of... them affords an intelligent and work... able scheme for carrying on the gen... eral enterprises of a large denomina... tion. It is evident, too, that in the... case of so large a religious body as... either the Northern or the Southern... Baptists, organized on the Congrega... tional system, some such general plan... of work is a necessity. The management... of general and local interests could not... possibly, with any measure of satisfac... tion or success, be combined in a single... convention. On the other hand, if the... denomination is small in numbers and... the territory which it occupies limited... in extent, the distinction between gen... eral and local disappears and one con... vention is all that is required.

Now it is pertinent to our present cir... cumstances to enquire: what extent, number... and magnitude of denominational... interest can, with advantage, be man... aged by a single convention? Where is... the point reached at which a distinc... tion between general and local interests... should be recognized and provided for... in management? How large must be the... membership, what the extent of terri... tory, what the number and magnitude... of interests to be cared for in order to... make a separation into two or more con... ventions, with additional provision for... the management of general interests, de... sirable? Some of our brethren are per... suaded that such a point has been... reached by our denomination in these... Maritime Provinces. On the other hand, it... is contended that the present system... is excellently adapted to our present... needs. Without presuming to determi... ne here who is right in this matter, we... may remark that, from what has been... presented, it must be evident that, if we... are to have a change, so that while the... churches of each province shall man... age certain interests for themselves, they... shall all unite in certain undertak... ings of a general character, some such... plan will have to be adopted as one of... those upon which our brethren in the... United States are working, otherwise... we should have general interests and no... provision for their management.

This question in reference to a New... Brunswick Convention, which is about... to be submitted to the churches of this... province, then practically resolves itself... into this: Has the Baptist denomina... tion in these provinces so extended it... self in regard to numbers, territory, and... magnitude of interests to be managed, that... it can no longer be organized judiciously... on the simple plan of a single Conve... ntion, but a more complicated orga... nization of the denominational forces... has become necessary? In our next we... shall enquire upon what plan our breth... ren in the Upper Provinces are working, and... endeavor to ascertain whether in that... quarter we can obtain any help to... ward the solution of our problem.

—The stomach defiled by poorly... cooked food can be cleansed by K. D. C. Restore the stomach to healthy action by taking K. D. C., the king of dyspepsia cures.

Messenger and Visitor.

When paid within thirty days, \$1.50... 50.00 per annum... Editor... Business Manager... OFFICE: 24 GERRARD ST. ST. JOHN, N. B.

Messenger and Visitor.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1893.

A LEAF OR TWO FROM OUR NEIGHBORS' NOTE BOOK.

Among the Baptists of the United... States, both North and South, in addi... tion to the general organization men... tioned in a previous article, there are... a number of associated societies carryi... ng on work of more or less importance. Of... these it is not necessary to our present... purpose to write particularly, since they... are not essential features of the differ... ent plans of organization. Among these... associated societies may be mentione... d in passing the Women's Baptist Foreign... Mission Society, with its headquarters... in Boston; the Women's Baptist Foreign... Mission Society of the West, with head... quarters in Chicago; the Women's Bap... tist Home Mission Society, also with... headquarters at Chicago, and the Women's... American Baptist Home Mission Society, with... its rooms in Boston. These are all connected with... the Northern Baptists. The last named is... less general in its character than the... others, being supported by the Baptist... women of New England with the pur... pose chiefly, we believe, of adding the... educational work among the Indians and... negroes of the West and South. The... Southern women have also their mis... sionary union, which was organized in... 1888 and co-operates with the Southern... convention in home and foreign mission... work. The New England Baptist Mis... sionary Convention carries on a home... mission work of limited extent, and... proposes also to undertake foreign mis... sion work and to establish a Baptist... school to be owned and controlled by... the body. The African Baptists of the... South and West hold three conventions... of a general character, and maintain... associations and State conventions of their... own. The German Baptists also hold... several conferences.

It is somewhat more important to our... present purpose to mention the Ameri... can Baptist Education Society, which... was organized in 1885. Its origin was... in the North, and its annual meetings... hitherto, we believe, have been held at... the same time with those of the other... general societies of the Northern Bap... tists, but its funds appear to be quite... generally distributed, institutions North... and South alike sharing in its benefi... cence, and this year its annual meeting is... to be held in connection with the South... ern Baptist Convention. The purpose of... the society is not to found and establish... institutions, but rather to gather funds... and to afford aid, in a judicious way, to... the various struggling educational en... terprises of the denomination at large.

The general work of the Southern... Baptists is carried on on a plan some... what different from that of their breth... ren in the North. Instead of a num... ber of societies, they have a general... convention. This great convention em... braces fourteen states, besides the Dis... trict of Columbia and the Indian Terri... tory, with 648 associations, 16,574... churches and a total membership of... 1,282,221. Precisely what the condi... tions of membership in this convention... are we are unable to state, but a part... of the members appear to be delegates... from associations, and part hold their... seats on a money basis. Thus the... American Baptist Year Book for 1893, in... its report of the convention says: "The... whole number entitled to seats on... money basis was 852, and an associa... tional representation 404, a total of... 1,256. Of these there were present, on... money basis, 749; as representing asso... ciations, 221—a total of 970."

The convention appoints boards, in the... same way that our own convention... does, to manage the general interests... of the denomination. There is a Board... of Foreign Missions which carries on... work in Italy, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, China... and Africa, and is expending over... \$200,000 annually in its work. There is also a Home Mission Board... which carries on work extensively in... the States and Indian Territory, and also... in Cuba. A Sunday-school Board, now... in the second year of its existence, has... been created by the convention. The... purposes of this Board appear to be to... foster the Sunday-school work in the... churches, to collect statistics, to pub... lish lesson helps, papers and other Sun... day-school literature, and, especially,