

### Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Baptist Missionary Convention of Ontario.

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the Baptist Missionary Convention of Ontario will be held (D.V.) in the Jarvis Street Baptist Church, Toronto, commencing on Wednesday, the 17th day of October, at 11 a.m., at which hour the Annual Sermon will be preached by the Rev. C. Goodspeed, M.A., of Woodstock. The usual Annual Collection for our Home Missions will be taken up at the close. The remainder of the day will be occupied with the transaction of business in connection with the Convention.

In the evening, at 7 o'clock, the Annual Platform Missionary Meeting will be held in the same place, when addresses will be delivered by the following brethren, viz., Revs. G. T. Stansbury of Aylmer-West, A. C. Baker of Rouleau, Henry F. Griffin of Barrie, Joseph W. A. Stewart, B.A., of St. Catharines, the Secretary of the Convention and others.

Collection for Home Missions at the close. Arrangements will be made with railway companies, as in former years, for the conveyance of members at the lowest rates, of which timely notice will be given.

The following is the usual programme of proceedings for Convention week:—

- Tuesday, 2 p.m., Church Edifice Society.
- Tuesday, 7 p.m., Missionary Board Meeting.
- Wednesday, 9 to 11 a.m., Sabbath Schools.
- Wednesday, 11 a.m., Annual Sermon.
- Wednesday afternoon, Convention business.
- Wednesday, 7 p.m., Annual Platform Meeting.
- Thursday forenoon, Convention business.
- Thursday afternoon, Convention business.
- Thursday evening, Foreign Mission Public Meeting.
- Friday forenoon, Superannuated Ministers' Aid Society.
- Friday forenoon, Home Missions.
- By order of the Convention.

THOS. L. DAVIDSON,  
Secretary.

Guelph, Sept., 1877.

The glorious news contained in the following letter to the Halifax *Christian Messenger*, is our only apology for reproducing it in the columns of the HELPER:—

CAPE WOLF, P. E. I.—*Mr. Editor*.—Your readers will remember that, not long since, Rev. Isa. Wallace announced through the MESSENGER that a work of grace was in progress at O'Leary Road and Cape Wolf, under the labours of Bro. E. H. Sweet (Lic.). This work is still in progress. Brethren Rev. D. G. McDonald and J. S. Brown, student, from Charlottetown, came to aid Bro. Sweet, on Bro. Wallace departing, and remained two weeks; Bro. McDonald baptizing 16 the first Lord's day he was here, and 14 the second. At the earnest request of Bro. McDonald, I came to this place two weeks since, and have had the happy privilege of baptizing 11 the first Sabbath, and 7 the next, and hope to lead several down into the baptismal waters next Lord's day. Such meetings I have never before attended. The Lord's presence has been manifest in a remarkable manner, and sinners of all ages, classes and creeds have been led to cry for mercy—to find peace in Christ, and obey His commands. Though but few of the people of this locality have been to any extent under Baptist influences up to the present, it is nevertheless the same now as it was in the "Day of Pentecost." "They that gladly received the word were baptized."

Sixty rejoicing converts have been "baptized with Christ in baptism" since the work began, and we hope that there are many "more to follow."

The fields here are white to the harvest. At Albury where Bro. Sweet labors also been labouring, there are a number of inquirers, and some awaiting baptism. The Lord is also working there. To Him be all the glory.

Brethren in Christ, remember this field in your prayers.

Yours in the Gospel hope.

D. H. SIMPSON.

### GENERAL.

Rev. W. S. Rainsford has returned from England and, it is said, purposes spending the winter in the United States. He will probably spend some time in Toronto also.

The Moravians have 4,808 communicants in the island of Jamaica, gathered in 14 congregations.

A branch of the Evangelical Alliance has been formed in Spain, of which Rev. Thomas H. Gulick has been chosen President.

Complaint has been made to the Bishop of Winchester against Rev. Reginald Shutte, of St. Michael's, Portsmouth, for the use of illegal ceremonies and vestments. He is also charged with exhorting his parishioners to confession, as follows: "Come boldly then to this healthy exercise of confession, though it pain you like laying bare a cancer for the surgeon's knife."

A novelty in American Presbyterian history is the election of a layman, Dr. William Eldmer, a ruling elder, as Moderator of the West Jersey Presbytery. As the directory of the Presbyterian Church requires that Presbyteries, like Synods and the General Assembly, shall be opened with preaching, the Moderator appointed a minister to do the duty usually discharged by the Moderator. There was some time in the early history of the Church of Scotland, when ruling elders were called to be Moderators of church courts, but it is something new in the practice of modern Presbyterianism.

The *Watchmen* is of the opinion that many of the converts of Moody and Sankey's meetings in Boston have been gathered into the churches. The churchers of its own denomination (Baptist) have, it says, been benefited by the revival—not only those in Boston, but all in New England. The *Watchman* believes that notwithstanding some adverse criticism, the revivalists would be as heartily received a second time in any of the cities they have visited as they were the first. It is said to be Mr. Moody's intention not to visit any of the great cities next winter, but to work in the villages and towns of New England.

In a leading article on the Proceedings of Convocation in regard to the Society of the Holy Cross, the *Times* says that those responsible for *The Priest in Absolution* "outrage the first instincts of English nature, and should be scouted as persons who are in a conspiracy to corrupt every innocent and healthy impulse in the young. Few things, however, could illustrate more forcibly the extent to which these poisonous practices have spread than that such a book as this should, according to the title page, be in its eighth thousand. It is evidently somewhat late in the day for the bishops to do 'what may appear to be their duty in the endeavors to counteract this conspiracy,' as the Archbishop called it, 'against the doctrine, the discipline, and the practice of our Reformed Church. But they may be quite reassured that unless they can get rid of these 'conspirators'—be they good or bad—the people of England will before long make short work of the institution which shelters them." Ever since the scandal about the Society of the Holy Cross, writes the *London Standard*, the press has been the society—"The Priest in Absolution"—has been a great demand at the British Museum. So much was it read when the interest in this book was first aroused, that it literally came to pieces, and has to be sent to be bound firmly to withstand the wear and tear of the curious.

A recent telegram announces the loss of the British India Steam Navigation Company's steamer "Camden," which went ashore near Cape Guardafui, and became a total wreck. It is with deep regret that the directors of the London Missionary Society report that among the passengers of this ill-fated vessel were two families connected with the Society's mission in Madagascar, who were returning to England. The Rev. T. G. Beveridge, Mrs. Beveridge, their son and daughter, Mrs. Rogers, wife of the Rev. T. Rogers, one of their children and a nurse, have by this calamity met with a watery grave. Mr. Rogers, with two children, one belonging to each family, has mercifully escaped. For full details of the event, the directors await the arrival of Mr. Rogers, who may be expected in England shortly. A calamity like this has not occurred in the history of the Society for a very long period.

Rev. Edward de Pressence, of Paris, writes that "Religious liberty in France is about to pass through a sorrowful eclipse. It is evident that it will be taken up to the National Assembly, and which was made up again by my friends in the existing Chamber of Deputies, will be set aside for a long time. It will become very difficult to carry on any evangelical missionary work, at least outside of the great towns. I lately received a most interesting call from some thoughtful men, who, weary of Catholicism, were convinced that it must be overthrown, but by skepticism, but by a true and earnest faith, they invited me to come and explain to them my own evangelical convictions. The day following, May 16, they wrote to me to say that the proposed discussion would now be impossible. Only this morning there has appeared an extraordinary circular from the Minister of the Interior on the subject of colportage, which must inevitably affect the colportage of the Bible."

Prof. W. A. Stevens, of Denison University, Ohio, has been appointed to the chair of New Testament Exegesis in Rochester Theological Seminary, (Baptist) in place of Prof. Brown, deceased.

The Baptist Churches in China correspond with each other annually. According to the letters of 1876, there are 20 churches in China, 3 in California and Oregon, and 1 each in Demarara and Siam, making in all 25 churches, with 1502 communicants. The number of baptisms was 187.

The Bishop of Cashel says disestablishment has been beneficial to the Church of Ireland. While he thinks disestablishment an evil in itself, such good has come out of it by the very fact of their assembling together year by year to take counsel on the affairs of the Church, that it will be found to more than counterbalance the evil. "Good is being brought out of disestablishment, too, by the impulse which has been given to the freewill offerings of the people for the Church's support."

The semi-annual meeting in connection with the Society of Friends in South Yarmouth, Ontario, was held recently in their meeting house, situated a short distance north of Sparta in a grove of considerable depth and dimensions. It is a commodious frame structure. The business exhibit shows a fairly prosperous condition. On Sabbath morning religious service was held, the meeting-house being completely filled, and it is estimated that fully one thousand persons were present. The spacious grounds were crammed with vehicles of every description. Addresses were delivered by Joseph Head, of New York State; Rowland Brown, of Pickering, Ont.; Samuel Martin, of Pennsylvania; and Nathan Borton, of Ohio. Sister Borton's address was somewhat dilated at some length upon the question of interdenominational Society of "Friends," or as they are more familiarly known "Quakers," was organized in South Yarmouth over forty years ago. The Society now embraces about forty families in the St. Thomas district.