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ing their annual ome are digging in which they r Chinese ; some or evangelistic y little dolce far week-night and apanese. There the deepening of This year the ch a conference as preliminary , as preliminary lation of Japan d call at two or but the Gentle y own, and we es along at the ng uncultivated Asama, and on mulberry, past d, thatched, or gs us to Nagano, o. We put We put our le long, narrow ty is built, for Every house th together, the oms, and as all he street the air of industry and ngs us to the we shall find into the earth art of the lower ws and honorific inates, who are have deigned to the co retty little room rvants on whom gage. A sort of able ten inches f the room, with prise everything od of their kind, aper, the clean ood-work, afford i, I may as well n them—sleep, I exploits in trout terior, are mats e-straw. covered shes. The mats and six feet long, le floor. When pretty a floor as girl brings us a es, and is sur-ed, as in Japan alike, with the ians. Her next ept the tray of ttle table beside ese tiny cups of ling some of cakes thsome ain and the stly enter the of an honorable ney, but we find ts have already veral honorable nenta in the way perature of the ing point for any again augustly nd summoning a atton, give orders lay. The usua ping the hands egions below, ediate attention, if you please les, are brought , on the latam stand about five a are five dishes and one in the one contains a ; one contains a red with bonito ; d of vegetable owl of soup made d perhaps. The pickles, or what re leave severely you get used to from them plying entle Reader dips curiosity gradu-

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ally changing into one of dissatisfaction, to use a mild ierm, till he fishes out some sardines and potted ham from his lunch basket, and with their assistance worries down a bowl or two of rice. Meanwhile the waiting-girl down a bow or two of rice. In canwhile the waiting-girl sits near, with a wooden tub of rice and a tray beside her, and while she watches the ebb in our rice bowls, the odor of her well-pomaded and perfumed hair, floods the room with anything but attar of roses fragrance. Supper your with anything but atta of roses fragmance. Supper over, and our passports sent out to the police station for inspection, we ask for the beds to be prepared, for we must be astir early the next day. A number of thick wadded quilts are brought in. Three of these laid one upon the other, with a narrow strip of cotton on the upper one as an apology for a sheet, and a lighter quilt above, for cover, form the bed, and a round bolster of bran makes a very good pillow, much to be preferred to the narrow wooden pillow in common use. Our two beds being thus prepared, and we having spread our sheets, and sprinkled the beds with insect powder, as a precaution against fleas, the mosquito net is hung above, and we are invited to augustly rest.

gainst fleas, the mosquito net is hung above, and we are invited to augusly rest. Next morning we are awake bright and early, and with four toilet articles in our hands go down stairs to the sists of a low wooden sink, with several copper basins in it and a large earthen jar of water beside it. Here we will out turn to bathe our hands and faces in one of the copper basins, having first scoured it well, and make such a being the correspondence of the court, and correspondence of the court turn to bathe our hands and faces in one of the copper basins, having first scoured it well, and make such a best best best bed our hands and faces in one of the court turn to bathe our hands and faces in one of the court turn to bathe our hands and faces in one of the court turn to bathe our hands and faces in one of the court here, and tex and a slited plums have been folded up and carried off, and our hotel bils paid-40 cents apiece, to which we are to whet our appetites for brackfast. Breakfast being disposed of and our hotel bils paid-40 cents apiece, to which we add 10 cents apiece for the inevitable *chalari*, "tea money" —we prepare for the second stage of our journey. If we could favous temple of Zenkoji, at the end of the long stread fagano, but the day promises to be hot. and having turayi, foot-mittens of strong blue cloth, and having here and the day promises to be hot. And having on our lightest garments, and shod ourselves with after a take august care of ourselves, and set out on our tramp over the parting chorus of thanks and new will not attempt thirty miles this hot day, now we will not attempt thirty miles the wet, for the day in dust his due to the face, and set out on the day in we will make it a two day trip. There is no need of the stream, their paddles driven by the current, proving its west ward and upward, beside the awilf waters of having we will make it a two day trip. There is no the day haves wetle, which are to show on the stream, their paddles driven by the current, proving its west ward and upw

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# MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

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## African Baptist Association.

The African Baptist Association of Nova Scotia opened its 45th annual session on Saturday, the 3rd inst., at the Cornwallis Street Baptist church, Halifax. The Moderator, Rev. James E. Jackson, presided, assisted by Rev. A. Clements. After the usual devotional exercises and roll call of delegates, the officers for the ensuing year were chosen as follows : Moderator, Rev. Edward Dixon ; Assistant Moderator, Rev. John A. Smith; Secretary-Treasurer, P. E. MacKerrow; Assistant Secretary-Treas-urer, Thos. Langford. The different Committees were also appointed, the chairmen being, Arrangements, Rev F. Robinson : Letters, Jas. R. Johnston ; State of J. F. Robinson; Letters, Jas. K. Jonnston; State of Denomination, Rev. A. Clements; Sabbath Schools, W. T. Joseph; Obituary, Rev. James Borden; Denomina-tional Literature, Rev. Dr. Robinson; Missions, Jacob Flint; Temperance, W. N. States; Ministerial Education, Rev. A. Clements; Finance, Wm. Johnstone. At 8 p. m. a very successful Conference meeting was held, con-

m, a very successful commercial method was mean out of ducted by Rev. J. E. Jackson. The Sunday services were interesting and very largely attended. The church was filled to overflowing at all the services. Large numbers of the colored residents of the services. Large numbers of the colored residents of the neighboring settlements drove into the city to attend the services. The services of the day were as follows: 9 a. m., prayer and praise meeting, conducted by W. N. States; 11 a. m., preaching by Rev. J. E. Jackson; 3 p. m., preaching by Rev. J. A. Smith, assisted by Rev. James Borden; 7 p. m., preaching by Rev. A. Clements, assisted by Pastor Robinson. After the evening service J. A. Smith to a large number of communicants.

On Monday morning after routine business the letters from the different churches were opened and a number read and discussed. In the afternoon the discus the remainder of the letters was concluded. The letters from the different churches showed a very healthy growth

from the different childrenes showed a very heading growth of membership. The total membership this year is 707, as against 623 last year; 75 were added by baptism. The Mission Committee's report was then submitted and discussed. Rev. Dr. E. M. Saunders being present was invited to a seat in council and was called upon for a few remarks. He spoke encouragingly to those on the mission fields who had encountered difficulties, giving some fitting reminiscences of his own experience. B.H Eaton, Q. C., was also present, and introduced to the Association by the Moderator. He replied in a few well chosen remarks; his reference to the coming plebiscite being well received.

In the evening a mass missionary meeting was held. The principal speaker was Rev. Dr. Robinson, who took as his subject, "Holy Ghost Baptism," and in a forceful

and eloquent manner showed how essential a baptism of the Holy Ghost was to success. He was followed by Rev. Abram Clements and Rev. H. F. Adams, of Prin Street Baptist church, Truro,

Street Baptist church, Truro. On Tuesday morning the report of several committees were received and discussed. In the afternoon Geo. A. McDonald of the Book Room being present was invited to speak on the Sunday School Committee's report, which he did in a pleasing manner. A strong plea for the establishment of Young People's Societies in the different churches of the Association was made by James R. Johnston, president of the Cornwallis Street B. Y. P U. He urged its necessity, showing its advantages to the young people, and submitted a resolution which was unanimously adopted, recommending the establishment of Young People's Unions in the various churches, each delegate pledging himself to support and further such a movement. Rev. J. Francis Rébinson spoke of the necessity of the Association placing a missionary on the field, and moved, as a means to that end, that a Missionfield, and moved, as a means to that end, that a Mission-ary Board be formed to devise ways and means for the support of a missionary to be appointed by them. The motion carried. The Missionary Board as appointed, Rev. Edward Dixon, chairman, Rev. J. F. Robinson, Rev. A. Clements, Rev. J. Borden, P. E. MacKerrow, Wm. Johnstone and Thomas Langford.

In the evening a mass temperance meeting was held, presided over by Rev. Dr. Robinson. The report of the temperance committee, which was submitted by the chairman, W. N. States, was a strong one. The speakers of the evening were Ex-Mayor J. C. Mackintosh and Mr. Munns. Their addresses were well received. At the conclusion the report of the Committee was unanimously adopted.

The closing session took place on Wednesday morning. The Finance Committee reported. Votes of thanks were tendered the officers of the Association, the members of the church for their hospitality, the choir for all assistance by singing, the pastor of the church, the I. C. R. and D. by anging: the pastor is the three t

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## Poverty and Intemperance.

There is no statement more frequent or more erroneous than that poverty is the cause of drunkenness in nost cases. As a matter of fact, the case where poverty has caused drunkenness in this country is the exception. Those who make the statement get the cart before the horse. It is drunkenness that leads to poverty in the vast majority of cases, and hopeless, ruinous poverty at that. A man may be poor but not shiftless or lazy, but let him take to drinking and he will lose all self respect, ense of manhood, or desire to work, and become a lazy, shiftless vagabond and plunge himself and family into a hopeless condition of squalor and wretchedness. Those who are poor only make themselves poorer and end in hopeless misery.

Any person who has had the opportunity to observe the practice of drunkard-making, will testify that he can hardly recall a case where poverty has made drunkards, but he will testify to numerous cases where drunkenness has made paupers. Where one takes to drink because of poverty, a thousand are poor because of alcohol, and are making themselves still poorer, dving at last as paupers making themselves still poorer, dying at last as papers and dragging their families down with them. Alcohol is the poor man's worst enemy the world over. It is the chief cause of poverty in this country and the principal cause of the waste of earnings and the deterioration of health, morals and manhood. Any measure which would induce wage-workers not to waste their money on intoxiinduce wage-workers not to waste their money on intoxi-cating liquors would be a blow at poverty by abolishing its principle cause. The hope of removing poverty in the future lies in the prospect of removing voluntary intemperance, for sobriety is the first step to economy and industry. There is no tax so destructive as that which liquor levies on the wage-worker and the poor man. It gradually takes his money, his health, his meaning this mind and his home. If the theoremeth of happiness, his mind and his home. If the thousands of workers in this city would save the money they wa te on liquor there would soon gease all complaints of poverty. Chicago Tribune.

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There are many intelligent men who think the world is growing worse. I cannot agree with them. I believe that, on the whole, the sun sets on a better world every that, on the whole, the sun sets on a better world every night. But the fact that many hold the contrary shows that our moral progress is not indisputable while our material progress is. No one questions the reality or the magnitude of the latter. The increase of material wealth is simply prodigious. There has been no corres-ponding increase in our wealth of literature and of noble ideas. no each massing of moral and spiritual treasure deas; no such massing of moral and spiritual treasure. It is not intemperate to say that there has been more material progress during the nineteenth century than material progress during the innetcenth century than during the entire preceding history of the race. No one would think of making a similar statement concerning the intellectual and moral advancement of mankind. Nor would any one venture the assertion that we in America have surpassed European peoples in moral and intellectual growth as we have in material development? —Josiah Strong, D. D.