

## Editorial Notes.

—The Eastern N. B. Association met at Albert, Albert County,—a section of the Hopewell church—on Saturday. The Association proper was preceded by a meeting of the S. S. Convention of the Association. A fairly good representation of ministers and delegates from the churches were in attendance. Among those present from beyond the bounds of the Association were Rev. Dr. Corey, of Richmond, Va., Rev. Dr. Trotter, of Acadia, Rev. W. E. McIntyre, Secretary of the N. B. H. M. Board, Rev. J. W. Manning, of the F. M. Board, and Rev. E. Bosworth, Field Secretary of the Grande Ligne Mission Board. Rev. W. B. Hinson, of Moncton, was chosen as Moderator of the Association. On Friday evening topics in connection with S. S. work were discussed and Saturday evening was given to the discussion of Missions and Education. An extended report of the proceeding will appear in our next issue.

—According to a Constantinople dispatch of July 17, the representatives of the European Powers had been informed by the Turkish Foreign Minister, Tewfik Pasha, that the Sultan had agreed to the principle of the demands of the Powers and was prepared to accept their views on the peace conditions. It is otherwise stated that the Powers had fixed the indemnity to be paid by Greece to Turkey at £4,000,000, with some concessions to Turkey in reference to extension of frontier, leaving the two countries to settle the matter of capitulation between themselves. A later despatch states that, at the Saturday sitting of the Peace Conference in Constantinople, the Turkish Foreign Minister, arriving late, submitted to the Conference a new frontier scheme, which was unacceptable to the Powers, and the ambassadors thereupon informed Tewfik that the Conference would adjourn until he brought a written acceptance by his Government of the frontier line traced by the military attaches.

—A letter, recently made public, from United States Secretary Sherman to Ambassador Hay in London, for communication to Her Majesty's Government on the Behring Sea Seal Question, is quite the reverse of conciliatory in tone and has naturally called forth some surprised and indignant comment on the part of the British press. Some leading American papers, too, are evidently not proud of the part that Secretary Sherman is playing in this matter. Mr. Sherman charges that the report of the expert of the British Government in the matter of seal fisheries has apparently been subjected to the "political exigencies of the situation." Commenting on this phrase and the undiplomatic and offensive tone of the letter generally, the New York Evening Post says:

"It is a locution not used in diplomacy except where one party wishes to make the continuance of the correspondence difficult. If Lord Salisbury had used it, it would have been considered impertinent and insulting. If it is not so considered on the other side it must be because they think the Americans are not used to refined manners and do not recognize the force of words."

The Boston Herald remarks:

"If the head of the French foreign office wrote such a letter to the French ambassador in Germany, intending to have it read to the German chancellor, or the head of the Russian foreign service sent such a letter to the Russian ambassador in London with the intention of having it communicated to Lord Salisbury, the accusation so bluntly stated would be merely the prelude of a declaration of war coming either from one side or the other."

Whatever the merit of a cause may be, it suffers no loss of strength when stated in a courteous manner, and if one wishes to come to a friendly agreement, either with a man or a nation, it is much the better plan not to tell the individual or the nation's representative that he is a liar or to accuse him of acting in bad faith. The difficulty with us, as we pointed out some days ago, is that our state department, so far as the positive direction of affairs is concerned, appears to be under the control of those who have no previous training whatsoever. The conditions, as we then said, are very much as if President McKinley had appointed as chief justice of the supreme court a man who had proved himself to be a successful retail grocer in the town of Canton, O."

## The Utility of Foreign Missions.

Too many of our people decline to give to Foreign Missions upon the grounds that the money spent in Foreign Mission work returns but very small dividends to the investors. That after all the out-lay of money, time, talent, and the sacrifice of valuable lives, very little impression has been made upon the heathen mind and very little good has been accomplished. To refute and put to shame all such objections and excuses, will you kindly publish the item below, clipped from a Boston paper. It certainly deserves a wide circulation:

"Among the recent contributions to the London Mansion House Fund, for famine relief in India, is one a little over \$4,000 (£844) from the Fiji Islands. In connection with this gift the English Magazine Work and Workers may well call attention to the fact that when Queen Victoria ascended the throne, sixty years ago, the Fiji Islands were inhabited by pagan cannibals, to whom not one ray of light from the Christian world had come. These people were peculiarly ferocious. The Wesleyan Society, which in 1838 had planned to commence work within the group, declared in its report of that year that the missionary must prosecute his work 'before the sailor and the merchant will dare to frequent those now inhospitable shores.' And now we have an illustration of what the missionary has accomplished. The Fiji Islands are Christianized, for out of a population of 125,000 about 100,000 are reported in the Government statistics as Wesleyans. The whole face of society has changed. In place of brutal orgies there is an orderly and thriving community, and now the grandchildren of the cannibals, whom it was seriously feared would slay and eat the first missionaries, have sent \$4,000 to feed the poor of India."

St. George, July 11.

Yours truly,

A. H. L.

\*\*\*

## Nova Scotia Eastern Association.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1.]

livered by Pastor J. H. McDonald. He talked from experience. Amherst has a successful Law and Order League. This league is successful because the business men of Amherst stand behind it and work it. It has been demonstrated in other places that such institutions will not work alone. In Amherst the league has been worked with so much of earnestness and manliness that Amherst is today practically a temperance town. Rev. A. W. Nicholson, Methodist, of New Glasgow, delivered one of the most interesting and forceful addresses of the evening.

Dr. Keirstead referred to \$7,000,000 as the sum the opposition said would be required to carry the I. C. R. into Montreal. Upon the raising of such a sum no advice was to be asked from the people. Yet the estimated loss of \$7,000,000 of revenue, if prohibition is made a law, must be a question for the voter to consider. If our liquor bill were spent in developing the corn and wheat lands of the Northwest, millions of sad hearts could be made glad. A boy may learn that liquor may lessen his chances of success. He should learn that Jesus Christ having lived in a human body, he has made that body a sacred thing. It must not be defiled. Environment is much, training and development are much, but spiritual influences hovering about, should be carried to the child to teach him that he is a part of eternity, and that here and now he must reject tendencies inconsistent with his noble possibilities. After these helpful addresses, the people sang "Stand up, Stand up for Jesus," and the meeting closed with the benediction.

Lord's day. The early morning prayer meetings, especially that held at 9 o'clock, were seasons of refreshing. It was observed by many that all of the social services of this association were of great interest.

The Presbyterian ministers of the town having sent a letter of greeting to the association, with the request that their pulpits be supplied, eleven of the different pastors and delegates preached in outside churches during the day. At the Baptist church in the morning Pastor D. G. McDonald preached to an appreciative audience.

Afternoon. The local Sabbath School, under the direction of K. Stewart, superintendent, met at 2.30. As at Chester, Geo. A. McDonald succeeded in delighting the children and older scholars, and gave them much to think about. Helpful addresses on Sabbath School work were delivered by Pastor Clay and Onslow Nelson, of Truro. Pastor Adams' associational sermon was delivered at 3.30. Pastor H. B. Smith read the Scripture lesson. Pastor John Miles offered prayer. The speaker had chosen for his text Romans 12, 14, "I am debtor." Picturing Paul's early life and the influences surrounding him, he showed the meaning of the words as used by the apostle, the reasons for our personal debt and how it may be discharged. The sermon gave abundant evidence of close thought and careful preparation.

Evening. The concluding service of the day, a platform missionary meeting, was largely attended. Grande Ligne, was the subject of a bright, practical address by the Associational Secretary for their mission, Rev. F. Beattie. Home missions, in the hands of Secretary Cohoon, were well cared for. The needs of the many fields now receiving aid, and the aims and methods of the Home Mission Board in dealing with these fields were made plain to all present. Returned missionaries, Rev. W. V. Higgins and Miss Gray were cordially received and listened to with deep interest. They gave good reason for increased giving, and for greater faith, on the part of our membership. The year's work has shown good results. There is urgent need for more workers in the vineyard.

Pastor D. G. McDonald was then the honored leader of a consecration service of power. The work of the busy day ended in renewed and serious consecration to the service of our Lord and his Christ.

Monday morning. Delegates were out in goodly numbers to the early meetings. Several of them, however, turned their steps homeward, leaving the transaction of important business to a number smaller than it should have been. Rev. J. H. McDonald was called to the chair in the absence of the moderator. Prayer was offered by Rev. W. V. Higgins.

Pastor Bancroft presenting the report on Temperance, it was on motion taken up clause by clause, and after a general discussion was adopted. The following were among the findings of this report: "A strong temperance sentiment is necessary to the perpetual defeat of the liquor habit and traffic. As a means to this end bands of hope should be maintained in connection with, or independent of, our common schools, Sunday schools, or temperance societies. Influential citizens should support temperance organizations. Total abstinence pledge should be freely circulated. Pulpit and lecture platform should frequently be employed to explain and defend the principles of temperance and prohibition. We expect the Dominion Government to fulfil their pledge to give a plebiscite untrammelled by any condition of taxation, and hope the vote cast for prohibition will be so large as to compel the government to give a prohibitory law. Churches and pastors of the association should work for and preach for a large vote. That the moderator and clerk be instructed to petition the Nova Scotia Legislature, at its next session, to enact a prohibitory law as strong as the constitution of the province will permit."

Reports of Associational Secretaries were received. Foreign Missions, by Rev. O. N. Chipman, who reported his endeavor to carry on active work in his department. The missionary conference, which was held in Truro, it was hoped, had quickened and deepened the interest in Foreign missions. Mr. Chipman recommended the continuance in office of an Associational Secretary to work in connection with the Maritime Secretary, Rev. J. W. Manning, anticipated more successful work for this department in the second year of its existence. Discussion upon this report was quite general. Brethren Bancroft, D. G. McDonald, Miles, Soley, Beattie and the clerk expressing a difference of opinion as to the duties of these new secretaries and the results of their work. The report was on motion adopted. Pastor Bancroft, secretary for ministerial aid and education, regretted that he had no report to make, as the requirements of his work had not been clearly understood. Pastor Beattie, as secretary for Grande Ligne, presented in concise form the claims of this important work upon the association. The meeting adjourned with prayer by Pastor J. M. Parker.

Afternoon. Rev. J. W. Bancroft occupied the chair at this session. Prayer was offered by Rev. John Miles. Continuing the reports of the associational secretaries, Pastor D. G. McDonald read a report on Northwest missions that was filled with telling statistics: (a) The need. Thousands making new homes in this vast territory each year should be met by Christian men and women and led into Christian churches. (b) The prosperity. Twenty-five years ago one member, to-day 4,000—130 per cent of gain in population in this period, 400 per cent gain of Baptists. At their convention, three weeks ago, the Northwest Baptists closed their year, with all missionaries paid and \$50 in the treasury. The church members gave last year for all purposes an average of \$15.25 per member. (c) The prospect. The district has now 27,000 farmers at work on a cultivated wheat area of 1,290,882 acres. After discussion by Revs. A. Cohoon, G. P. Raymond and others, and expression of interest in British Columbia's Baptist interests, the report was on motion adopted. Rev. J. H. McDonald, for B. V. P. U., reported that the Associational Union had renewed its organization in the election of Bro. Rice, of Canoe, as president, and a full quota of officers and committees. On motion of Mr. McDonald the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved that this association appreciates the effort made during the past year by the management of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR to supply our young people with C. C. Literature, and hopes that the efforts now being made by the executive of the Maritime B. V. P. U. Convention may result in a separate programme of C. C. Literature being published by the MESSENGER AND VISITOR."

On motion the locating of the next association was left to a committee consisting of the Moderator and the clerk, Revs. H. F. Waring, F. M. Clay and J. D. Spidell. The following letter was, on motion, sent to the Presbyterian clergymen of New Glasgow:

Dear Brethren:—In reply to your letter of kindly welcome the Baptist association begs to acknowledge the courtesy extended by you, and to reciprocate your good wishes. In Christian bonds, H. F. ADAMS, Moderator. T. B. LAYTON, Clerk.

On motion Rev. H. F. Adams received the thanks of the Association for his excellent sermon. On motion it was resolved, that Committee on Arrangements in Conference with the various Associational Secretaries, be requested to prepare the programme for our annual gathering with names of speakers, on the various subjects, whose consent shall have been obtained, at least three weeks before the date of meeting. On motion the committee on circular letter was authorized to prepare a digest of letters and forward the same to the churches in the near future. Pastor Beals closed the meeting with prayer.

Evening. Pastor J. H. McDonald delivered a timely address upon the educational work of our B. V. P. U. Pastor Waring had for his subject "The wisdom of soul saving." Each of these speakers was heard with acceptance and much profit. Their words led up fittingly to the consecration service, with which Pastor D. G. McDonald closed another successful gathering of the Nova Scotia Eastern. New Glasgow Baptists merit the vote of thanks and praise given them for their cordial and hearty entertainment.