

## Messenger and Visitor

Published in the interests of the Baptist denomination of the Maritime Provinces by

The Maritime Baptist Publishing Co., Ltd.

TERMS: \$1.50 per annum in advance.

S. McC. BLACK Editor

Address all communications and make all payments to the MESSENGER AND VISITOR.

If labels are not changed within reasonable time after remittances are made advise "Business Manager," Box 330 St. John, N. B.

Printed by Paterson & Co., 107 Germain Street, St. John, N. B.

### A CHANGE.

The union of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces with the Free Baptists of New Brunswick makes it desirable, in the interests of the united body, that there should be a union of the two denominational papers. Accordingly, as was intimated in our issue of last week, the 'Religious Intelligencer,' which has been the recognized organ of the Free Baptists, and of which for many years Rev. Dr. McLeod has been the proprietor and editor, has been purchased by the Maritime Baptist Publishing Company, with a view to its amalgamation with the Messenger and Visitor. The directors of the company have also decided that in the interests of the enlarged constituency which the paper is now to serve it is necessary, or at least desirable, that its name shall be changed to "The Maritime Baptist." Accordingly, after the present issue, so far as the name goes, the Messenger and Visitor, as well as the Religious Intelligencer, will cease to be. The change, however, will be a matter of name rather than of reality. The name of the paper will be The Maritime Baptist, but in size, form, subscription rates and all essentials, it will be a perpetuation of the Messenger and Visitor. Some of our subscribers may perhaps regret the dropping of the old name. The Messenger and the Visitor were a part of the history of the denomination in these Provinces from an early date in that history up to the union of the two papers nearly twenty-one years ago, and the Messenger and Visitor has been intimately connected with that history since. The names of the papers are household words with the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, and it is only natural if some regrets are felt at the dropping of the names connected with so many events and associations that are cherished in memory. But doubtless our friends are prepared to take a reasonable and Christian view of this subject, and if the change of name is desirable for the sake of union and Christian fellowship and the promotion of those interests for which the denomination stands, the attachment to the old names will not, we are sure, be allowed to stand in the way of giving the heartiest welcome and support to the old paper under its new name. The paper under its new name will not only be in all essential respects as good as before, it is reasonable to expect that it will be materially better. Dr. McLeod, who is so well and favorably known throughout these Provinces, who has been one of the foremost leaders in the Free Baptist denomination and has conducted the Religious Intelligencer for many years with large ability is now to become a member of the editorial staff of The Maritime Baptist. Our readers will doubtless welcome this change and may expect to profit largely from Dr. McLeod's connection with the paper.

### THANKSGIVING DAY.

Thursday, the twenty-sixth day of the present month, has been appointed by the Government of Canada as a day of public thanksgiving in recognition of the goodness of God manifested in the blessings of the year. The appointment of a yearly thanksgiving day has become a time-honored custom in Canada. Every Christian will doubtless readily assent to the proposition that the custom is a good one and worthy of being religiously observed. It is remarkable, however, that those who do so observe it are comparatively few. By great numbers of our people thanksgiving day is welcomed as affording a day's relaxation from business, as an occasion for feasting in the home and for crowding the places of amusement, but those who really think of it and observe it as a day of public

thanksgiving in which the people are to unite in devout recognition of the Divine Goodness which has crowned the year are lamentably few.

It would be well for us as a people we thought more seriously of the relation of our national life to God. For national life in its best expression is not merely a matter of physical resources, of bountiful harvests, growing industries, increasing commerce, enlarging wealth and developing intellectual forces. National life in its perfection of beauty and strength and fitness for noble service to great ends is not to be attained apart from such a recognition of God as will secure righteousness in life and in administration. Our great danger as a people is that in the amassing of wealth and in the haste to secure the sensual rewards of wealth we shall lose sight of those things which make for spiritual health and power, and finally, like others, be turned into that hell of materialism, sensualism and political corruption, which is the portion of the nations which forget God.

A review of the year will reveal abundant reasons for thanksgiving. As a people we have been largely blessed. Peace has reigned within our borders and no cloud of threatened war has darkened the horizon. There has been no internal disturbance, and no great natural disasters have occurred, but quiet and prosperity have everywhere prevailed. The husbandman has been blessed in his labors. Taking the whole Dominion into account, the harvest of 1905 is probably one of most bountiful on record. Those employed in the fisheries, the mines and other fields of productive labor have had at least a fair return for the energy expended, trade has been active, the industrial life of the country is expanding, labor is in good demand, there are few necessarily idle and therefore few who suffer for the necessities of life. The people of Canada have a wide and rich domain, a noble inheritance which God has given to them and to their children if only they are worthy to possess it.

The resources of Canada and the superior advantages which it offers for those seeking new homes are becoming more and more widely recognized, with the result that many thousands are now coming every year from across the sea and many from the neighboring republic, to make for themselves homes in our great Northwest. These people will develop the resources of the country and add to its wealth and influence. Many of them are valuable citizens, and many others, under the right kind of influences, will become such. But their coming adds largely to the responsibilities of those who recognize the spiritual principles of Christianity as fundamental to all right development in the national, the family and the individual life. The great field for mission work which the Northwest with its many-tongued population presents demands the consideration and the efforts of the Christian people of the older Provinces. The duty of evangelizing the Northwest confronts us and is not to be evaded. Naturally, we have a feeling of pride and patriotism as we think of our vast Dominion, the many millions to which it is to give a home, and the immense resources which those coming millions are to develop. But we do well to remember that the pride and power of nations are its people. If the people are brave, strong, virtuous, seeking the things which are above rather than the things which are beneath, the nation will be in the best sense strong and great. And we who in some small sense at least are the makers of Canada, may we be in this workers together with God, working with the highest aims and to the highest ends.

### MEETINGS FOR ORGANIZATION.

(Continued)

Association opened at 9:30 a. m., Wednesday in the Waterloo St. F. B. Church, Dr. McLeod in the chair. After prayer the minutes then read and approved. Rev. H. H. Cosman of the Reformed Baptist Church was invited to a seat and spoke a few words.

It was decided that a union committee appointed by the F. B. Conference, with the committee appointed by the Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces, be a standing committee to receive all approaches, and if necessary, to make approaches looking to the union of all the Baptist brotherhood. The members of the committee are the Revs. Dr. McLeod, J. B. Daggott, David Long, Abram Perry and C. T. Phillips. Rev. Dr. Gates was appointed assistant Moderator, Rev. J. B. Daggott assistant Secretary. It was decided to add three to the Finance Committee.

A committee on Resolutions was appointed, consisting of Revs. R. Barry Smith, L. A. Fenwick and Rideout. It was decided that 5000 copies of the proceedings of this association be published. The resignation of E. W. Slipp, Treasurer of the Association was accepted and James Patterson of St. John was appointed in his place. The committee on the Constitution reported through the Secretary, Rev. A. J. Prosser. The report was considered clause by clause.

Article 1 (adopted.) This body shall be known as

the Association of the United Baptist Churches of New Brunswick.

Article 2 (adopted.) The object of the Association shall be the advancement of the kingdom of God in the supervision of the Home Mission work of the province in the promotion of interest in the Annuity and Relief Funds and in fostering the Sunday School, Foreign Missionary and educational affairs of the denomination and to receive reports from the district meetings.

Article 3. The Association shall be composed of (a) Its officers; (b) All its ordained ministers resident in this province; (c) Two delegates from each district meeting; (d) One delegate from each church for every 200 hundred members or fraction thereof.

Article 4. The officers of the Association shall be moderator; assistant moderator, secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer and auditor, to be elected annually, adopted.

It was decided that the present draft of constitution, with additions to be approved by the executive be accepted as the constitution for the year. It was decided that the Association should meet next year the second Wednesday in July.

The committee on Resolutions reported through Rev. Barry Smith:

1. Resolved that we have learned with pleasure of the action taken by the F. B. Conference of Nova Scotia with regard to the consummation of union and we look forward with joyful anticipation that the matter when submitted to their churches will meet with their hearty approval and co-operation.

2. Resolved that we are of the opinion that the time has come for organic union of all the members of the Baptist household of faith and that the committee having the matter in charge should make such advances as they deem fitting to that end.

Resolved that we approve the position taken by the F. B. Conference and the Baptist Association of N. B. as to the more rigid enforcement of our laws working to the prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Resolved that the thanks of this Association are due and are hereby extended to this church for their use of the church and courtesies extended and also to the Main St. church and choir for the same thing, that the thanks of this Association are due and hereby tendered to the local press for the lengthy reports of the proceedings of the Association.

The thanks of the Association was also extended to the committee for their work on union and especially to Dr. McLeod and Dr. Gates for their earnest efforts in bringing about the union of the two bodies.

The Moderator and Secretary of the Association were authorized to present petition to the Provincial Legislature for needed legislation.

E. M. Sippell, Esq., was appointed auditor of the association. It was decided that the matter of constitution for district meetings be left to the committee on constitution.

Rev. E. L. Steeves on behalf of committee on nomination reported the following appointments on executive:

For one year Revs G O Gates, D Long, and D Hutchinson.

For two years Revs B H Nobles, A J Prosser and F W Emerson, Esq.

For three years Revs C. T. Phillips, C. W. Weyman and Z. L. Fash.

After much discussion it was decided that the Association advise the District meetings, after organization to consider the grouping and settlement of pastors in the bounds of the district and if necessary report to the Advisory Committee. Association adjourned to meet at 2 p. m. after prayer by Rev. L. A. Fenwick.

The Association met at 2 p. m. with the Moderator in the chair, and after singing and prayer proceeded to the transaction of business.

The Finance committee was authorized to prepare a statement for distribution among the churches explaining the objects of the different funds and the methods of collection, including the Convention Fund, the wheel plan and the Association fund, and that the expenses be paid out of the Association fund.

The Association passed a resolution favoring and advising the amalgamation of churches wherever needed in order to save men and money for service elsewhere. The Association added to the Finance committee the names of Gideon McLeod, Revs. L. A. Fenwick and D. Long and E. M. Sippell.

It was decided that Rev. Dr. McIntyre have in charge the publication of a year book. Revs. Dr. Manning and A. J. Prosser were appointed delegates to the Nova Scotia F. B. Conference to be held in Nova Scotia next year.

The report of the committee on the constitution of District meeting was next received and taken up clause by clause.

Article 1. Each District Meeting shall be composed of all ordained ministers within the district, and licentiate who may be laboring with any of its churches. The representatives of the churches composing the district shall be in the following proportion: Two

delegates for the members or undred every additional dred resident of

Article 2. Annual meeting at during the month

Article 3. The be, a Chairman tary and a Treas

Article 4.—Sh shall constitute the district itself

Article 5.—An may be received a two thirds vote

Article 6.—Th nish the Secretar the churches and religion in the cl as the last of J

Article 7 the d shall be:

(a) To appoint eritendance and

(c) To receive a or appeals from importance to th

(c) To make su the constitution promote the gen enterprises.

Article 8—Th at any annual se present, provided amendment has

The report of Dr. Gates in r

referred to the h sions. Not one meeting. The Nobles and Fath

—Friends with without giving faith, must not appear in our ford to print su name. And the is one with whi

—The more t Congo Free S the charges p and inhuman istration of af by the facts.

Leopold of Bel State, to inve natives. The men—a Germa vestigated the port has not

it fully sustain had been mad to King Leop by natives has Association in

brought out in mission are me the Congo Sta condition of a oyer again to speakable dis is the responsi a disgrace to condition of th

—It has seen oot of United effective as to merce of the boycott is not ese and that

make it effecti letter from Re in the 'Watch boycott metho years ago, the large shipping His friends to

company that their service, complied with their cargoes, came into por company being valuable offic

company had ness at this p in this country are quite willi the Chinese