

# Messenger and Visitor.

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## The Convention.

After the inspiring services of the Lord's Day, the Convention resumed business on Monday morning under clear skies, with a somewhat cooler atmosphere and with a large number of delegates in attendance.

A motion was passed asking for the appointment of a committee with a view to securing desirable changes in the legislation under which Baptist churches in New Brunswick are incorporated.

The report on Obituaries written by Rev. Dr. Steele, was in his absence read by the Secretary. The following named brethren in the ministry have been called away during the year, Revs. J. H. Foshay, Dr. G. M. W. Carey, C. I. MacLane, W. H. Morgan, Henry Achilles and J. L. M. Young. Of the lives and labors of these the report made suitable mention, and also of Deacon J. F. Masters of Leinster St., St. John and Lyman J. Walker of Truro. In connection with this report, touching remarks were made by Revs. Dr. Kempton and E. N. Archibald, and by request of the President prayer was offered by our highly esteemed aged brother in the ministry, Rev. G. W. Springer. The report was adopted by a standing vote.

A resolution expressing sympathy with Rev. Isaiah Wallace in his recent severe illness and hope for his complete recovery to health was moved by S. McC. Black, seconded by Rev. G. W. Springer, and adopted unanimously.

The committee on correspondence reported through its chairman, E. D. King, Esq., advising (1) that the invitation of the Halifax churches for the meeting of the Convention in 1900 be accepted—the meetings to be held in the North Church, (2) that the request of the Rev. C. A. Eaton that twelve delegates be appointed to a national Baptist Congress to be held next year in Winnipeg be complied with, the names of such delegates to be submitted by the Committee on Nominations, (3) that the resignation of Rev. Dr. Steele as chairman of Committee on Ordinations be accepted. After some discussion as to the propriety of continuing a Committee on Ordinations, to which several delegates declared themselves opposed, the report was adopted in full.

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPORT.

The report of the Board of Governors of Acadia University was presented in printed form and the Convention proceeded to consider it clause by clause as read by the Secretary, Rev. Dr. Kempton.

The first clause in reference to meetings showed that the Board of Governors has met five times during the year, and the Executive Committee of the Board meets regularly the first Friday in the month, giving earnest attention to the business of the University. The enrolment of students during the year in the college was 137. Of these one was a resident graduate, 23 were Seniors, 29 Juniors, 40 Sophomores, 38 Freshmen and 6 general students. Twenty-three students were graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and nine were admitted to the degree of Master in Arts. The report also states that the work of the professors during the year has been performed with marked fidelity and devotion. The new instructors, Messrs. Haycock and Jones, have given evidence of fine ability and are proving themselves to be a valuable addition to the Faculty. Mr. Haycock—with the assistance of his wife—has rearranged and re-classified the contents of the Museum. The students have in hand a scheme for the erection of a building for the use of their literary societies. The building is expected to cost \$5,000. The students have pledged personally the sum of \$700 and have undertaken to raise a minimum sum of \$10 each during the summer. The president expresses confidence in the practicability of the scheme.

This committee appointed by the Board to exercise supervision over the ministerial students in the college, and to disburse the Payzant Beneficiary fund, subject to regulations adopted by the Board, report that there were in the college during the past year 38 students for the ministry. These students were individually interviewed by the committee, their history enquired into, their credentials examined, and a careful record made in each case. All of these students took as an extra the homiletical work conducted by the president. Among the 38 men was distributed the sum of \$1,699 50; and from the same men there was collected \$137.50 as fees for theological library. The Board has under consideration some changes in the mode of distributing the Beneficiary Fund.

In connection with the above Rev. J. Coombs asked what was being done with the bequest left by Mr. Payzant for the establishment of a theological department at Acadia.

Dr. Trotter explained that a part of the proceeds of the

fund were being employed in providing instruction in homiletics for ministerial students. Half the Payzant bequest is constituted into a beneficiary fund for the use of students studying for the ministry. The interest from the remainder is not sufficient to sustain a regular theological department, but as soon as the governors were placed in a position to do so, President Trotter said, such a department would be established.

Mr. C. E. Knapp asked what had been done to secure from the government a refund of the succession duties on the Payzant bequest.

Dr. Trotter replied that the Government had not been asked to refund anything, but that petitions had been presented asking for the amendment of the law in the point of its application to bequests to religious and benevolent objects.

In reference to the Forward Movement the report states that "the \$75,000 for the fund has all been pledged, with a small surplus which will in part offset the inevitable shrinkage. The pledges include Mr. Rockefeller's conditional promise, through the American Baptist Education Society of \$15,000, and other pledges amounting to \$63,012 50. From the Education Society there has been received \$3,703.70, and from the home constituency \$22,275 57, making a total of \$25,903.27.

Great credit is due to Dr. Trotter for the manner in which this has been accomplished. He has spared no pains to increase the confidence and sympathy of the people in our institutions, as well as to secure the fund. All honor is due, too, to those who have so nobly responded to the call for help in the time of need. The services of Rev. W. E. Hall, who proved himself so valuable an assistant to Dr. Trotter, as a canvasser, have been retained, and the whole business of collecting and reporting to the treasurer of the college has been committed to him. Mr. Hall has also been empowered by the Board to receive supplementary pledges to offset in full if possible whatever shrinkage may take place."

In the matter of gifts, the Board acknowledges the receipt of a handsome Cabinet index for the library from the Junior Class, electric light furnishings for College Hall from Mr. C. S. Harding of St. John, and property in St. John from Mr. James E. Marsters of Canning. Certain conditions are attached to this latter gift during Mr. Marsters' life time, but at his death the property, valued at about \$1,000, is transferred absolutely to the Board. The Board had also received notices of two bequests of \$1,000 each, one from the estate of the late John C. Anderson of Yarmouth and the other from the estate of the late Nelson Forrest of Amherst. Concerning

### ACADIA SEMINARY

the Board reports encouragingly. The late Principal, Miss True, reported that in no year of her principalship had there been more faithful, earnest and efficient work on the part of teachers and students. The spiritual condition of the school, especially, during the last half of the year, were encouraging. A few students found and professed Christ.

The resignation of Miss True, accepted with reluctance, made it necessary to appoint a new principal and, as the public already know, an appointment to that position has been accepted by Rev. J. H. MacDonald, late of Amherst, from whose energy, scholarship and administrative abilities excellent results are expected. Miss M. A. Arletenu has been appointed teacher of vocal music in place of Miss Lawson. Miss Higgins, teacher of French and German, has also resigned, and the vacancy has been filled by the appointment of Miss Ida McLeod of Fredericton, a graduate of the New Brunswick University. Herr Bruno Siebels, of Halifax, has been appointed teacher of violin. Concerning

### HORTON ACADEMY

the report states that the work of the year has been prosecuted with diligence and success on the part both of teachers and students. It also notes that Principal Oakes, having pressed his resignation on account of Mrs. Oakes' impaired health, which made it impracticable for them to continue to reside in the Academy building, the Board had accepted the resignation with expressions of esteem to Mr. and Mrs. Oakes. In connection with this clause there were remarks by Dr. Saunders, Hon. Mr. Emmerson, Dr. Kempton, Dr. Keirstead, Mr. Creed and Miss Blackadar, expressing high appreciation for Mr. and Mrs. Oakes and their work while connected with the Academy.

The next clause referred to the appointment of Mr. Horace L. Brittain, M. A., of Fredericton as Principal of the Academy. Mr. Brittain has been acting principal of

the Aberdeen High School and Grammar School for the county of Westmorland, N. B. He is a graduate of the University of N. B. and was the winner of the Governor General's gold medal in his sophomore, and of the Douglass gold medal in his senior year. He has taught for several years and has rapidly risen into the principalship of a school with sixteen subordinate teachers.

The services of Mr. C. E. Morse have been retained for another year, and Mr. Lealie F. Fairn has been appointed teacher in the Manual Training Department in place of Mr. Archibald who retired at the end of the year. Mr. A. E. Wall of Moncton has known of Mr. Brittain's work and congratulated the Academy on securing Mr. Brittain as principal. Dr. Saunders spoke of the great advantages that Horton Academy offered over other high schools in the educational and religious influences by which its students are surrounded.

Concerning Chipman Hall the Board reports that under the arrangement with Mr. J. E. Bishop the results have been satisfactory and the arrangement will be continued. The report of the Secretary was adopted as a whole.

H. H. Bligh Esq., of Ottawa being present was at this point invited to a seat in the Convention

### MONDAY AFTERNOON.

The Nominating Committee presented a partial report naming as the committee to convey the greetings of the Convention to the Free Baptist Conference to meet in St. John in October, the following: The President of the Convention, Revs. Dr. Saunders and Dr. Gates; As a Committee in the matter of church incorporation legislation in New Brunswick: Rev. R. Barry Smith; F. W. Emmerson and H. C. Creed, Esqs.

The Committee on Credentials reported intimating some irregularities in the list of delegates. After some discussion the report was adopted, and it was resolved that all delegates whose names were not regularly on the roll should be invited to seats with all the privileges of delegates, except that of voting.

The report of the Board of Ministerial Education was presented by Rev. W. N. Hutchins and was adopted without discussion.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was read by the Chairman of the Committee and writer of the report, Rev. H. F. Adams, of Truro. The report was of great length and marked ability. It dealt elaborately with the Plebiscite question, presenting the figures in connection with the vote in the Dominion and the different Provinces and discussed at some length the vote in Quebec, charging that extensive frauds had been practised in that province with a view to the defeat of the cause of prohibition, criticised adversely the influence of the religious system prevailing in that province upon the cause of temperance reform, and strongly censured the Government for the course pursued by it in reference to the Plebiscite.

It soon became evident that the report as presented must evoke a sharp discussion and could not secure anything like unanimous endorsement from the Convention. Among those who took part in the discussion was Bro. C. E. Knapp who expressed the opinion that Quebec rules the Dominion. He desired to see a prohibitory law enacted and wanted the report adopted.

Dr. M. S. McDonald, of Cambridge, N. B., held that the report went too far and assumed too much. There was not sufficient evidence, he thought, that the Quebec vote on the plebiscite was dishonest, and in support of this opinion instanced Brome county which had voted "Yes" on the Plebiscite by 500 majority, but had since repealed the Scott Act by a still larger majority.

Rev. E. J. Grant said that he had opposed the late Dominion Government for its action in respect to prohibition and he had opposed the present government for a like reason. The government, he held, had deceived the people in respect to this matter by refusing to say what it would consider a mandate from the people. The late government had trifled with the question of prohibition by means of a Royal Commission, and it had done so in the confidence that, with the great majority of temperance people on that side, the claims of party counted for more than the claims of the prohibition cause, and the present government had used the plebiscite for a like purpose and because they had a similar confidence that the prohibitionists on that side of politics would also be faithful to the party. Mr. Grant further stated that he had been surprised and disappointed at

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