

## Messenger and Visitor

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### Dartmouth.

Dartmouth, where the Nova Scotia Central Association was held last week, is situated in reference to Halifax much as Carleton is in reference to St. John, lying across the harbor from the city and connected with it by a steam ferry. The distance however is somewhat greater, and Dartmouth is not part of Halifax as Carleton is of St. John, but an independent municipality, with a population of about five thousand. The ferry service is a very good one, the boats being far superior to those in use on the St. John harbor. The citizens of Dartmouth appear to feel a good deal of pride in their town, and they have reason to do so, for it is well situated commanding at many points fine views of the harbor and the city, and is otherwise attractive as a place of residence. Of late years Dartmouth has been giving a good deal of attention to the improvement of its streets, to the very manifest advantage of the town. In some of the Presidential quarters the streets are lined with magnificent trees which just now are clothed in all the luxuriance of their summer foliage. Dartmouth has been the home of a number of prominent Baptists, well known throughout these Provinces. Here the Hon James W. Johnston, for many years so prominent in the political affairs of the Province as well as in the councils of the denomination, had his home, and here also lived and died his son of the same name, the late Hon. Judge Johnston. Dartmouth is also, as it has been for many years, the home of the Hon. Dr. Parker, who through all these years has stood so sturdily by his Baptist principles, and has served the denomination with head and heart and hand. Among other well known Baptists now living in Dartmouth may be mentioned Dr. B. H. Eaton. Mr. Lewis Payzant and Mr. Wm. L. Barrs. One well-known institution of Dartmouth of long standing is the Mount Hope Hospital for the Insane which, situated a little out of the town, occupies an elevated position commanding a fine view landward and seaward. Dartmouth has not yet become a great manufacturing centre. Its principal factories are a Sugar Refinery and a Rope Walk, but there are visions of a steel ship building industry, to be established there in the good time coming. The Dartmouth Baptist church is faithfully ministered to by the Rev. Dr. Kempton who is giving to his people the ripe results of his many years of study and experience. The church, which twenty years ago was a comparatively weak interest, has grown steadily until some years since it reached a condition of stable self-support and became a contributor to the general work of the denomination. It will doubtless continue to advance. A few months ago the church suffered a very serious loss in the death of Hon. Judge Johnston who had been one of its deacons and a most loyal and efficient supporter of its interests. And just now the church is mourning what seems irreparable loss in the death of Miss Amy E. Johnston whose life and work have been so intimately identified with the church, and whose taking away is felt as a sad loss to the whole denomination.

### Editorial Notes.

—Just as we go to press news has reached us of the death of Rev. G. W. Springer of Jemseg. While we shall all greatly miss the inspiration of our brother's hearty words and earnest spirit, we can be thankful that all the weariness and suffering which he has endured through these past months are ended and that he has been permitted to enter into the joy of his Lord. To the afflicted relatives we tender our sincerest sympathy.

—The editor of this paper had the privilege, at the time of the meeting of the Association in Dartmouth, of attending a service in the first Baptist church of Halifax

On Sunday evening, and of hearing an excellent and practical discourse from Rev. G. R. White of Hantsport. The church is soon to say farewell to the pastor who, for the past nine years, has served the church with so great faithfulness and ability. Few ministers, we believe, have won in a larger measure the unqualified respect and affection of their people than has Dr. Chute, and the severance of the bond which has united them in the pastoral relation will not be effected without a keen sense of loss on both sides.

—Dr. Clifford of London, preaching on a recent Sunday evening, which was the fiftieth anniversary of his baptism, spoke of his personal religious experience. Four years after his baptism he had gone out into a new world, meeting fresh ideas and thoughts and for a time was overwhelmed with doubts. Dr. Clifford expressed the belief that his four years of Christian experience were of the most vital assistance to him in this period of doubt and urged his hearers to set a high value upon their own Christian experience.

—In declining to consent to the proposal of the citizens of Brooklyn to erect a statue of himself in Cuyler Park, Dr. T. L. Cuyler says: "I have been permitted to spend forty-one supremely happy years in this city which I heartily love, and for whose people I have joyfully labored; and while the permanent fruit of these labors remain, I trust that I shall not pass out of all affectionate remembrance. The monuments reared by human hands may vanish away; but if God has enabled me to engrave my humble name on any loving hearts, they will be the best memorials, for hearts live on forever."

—The late Earl of Moray was a nobleman in a higher sense than can be secured by any hereditary earthly title. Dr. Alexander Whyte of Edinburgh, who is minister of the church with which the late Earl was connected, has told how on the day of his accession to the title, when a long line of carriages drove up to his hotel, bringing friends and well-wishers to offer congratulations, the Earl was nowhere to be found, and it was afterwards discovered that he had spent the afternoon drinking tea with one of the poorest and humblest families in the congregation living in a small flat up three or four pair of stairs. And this incident, it is added, was in keeping with the Earl's whole character.

### The N. S. Central Association.

The Central Baptist Association of Nova Scotia met this year with the church at Dartmouth. The first meeting was at 2 o'clock on Friday, June 21st. Rev. Dr. Kempton, the moderator, conducted the opening service. The election of the officers for the year resulted in the choice of Rev. A. Cohoon as moderator, Revs. H. B. Smith and S. Spidle, clerk, and Dr. B. H. Eaton, treasurer. The letters from the churches indicated that a fair measure of prosperity had been enjoyed during the year. The church recently organized at Chester Basin was welcomed to the Association. Rev. M. B. Whitman becomes the pastor of his church on July 1st.

The report on Obituaries, written by Prof. R. V. Jones and read by Rev. H. R. Hatch, made appreciative mention of the life and labors of Rev. D. Pineo and Rev. G. A. Weathers, who have lately been removed by death, also of the late Hon. J. W. Johnston, Daniel J. Etter, Harris H. Ried, James Smith and Nelson Wilson, deacons in churches connected with the Association, who have passed away during the year. Among the new ministers who have come into the Association are Rev. Dr. Gates, Windsor; Rev. C. H. Day, Kentville; Rev. L. H. Crandall, Newport; Rev. C. M. Freeman, Bridgewater, and Rev. A. S. Lewis, Aylesford.

Mention was made of the very serious illness of Miss Amy E. Johnston, so well known through her connection with the W. B. M. U. work, and the desires of the Association for her comfort and recovery were voiced in earnest prayers.

At the evening session reports were presented on Foreign Missions and Temperance, and these subjects were discussed in speeches from the platform. The report on Foreign Missions was read by Rev. H. B. Smith. The report dwelt upon the importance of the cause of Missions and the duty of Christians to give the gospel to the world. In reference to the work of our own mission among the Telugus, it was shown that there are now 30 missionaries connected with the mission, of whom 13 are on the field and 5 on furlough. There are 19 day and boarding schools, attended by 288 boys and 166 girls. There are also 39 Sunday Schools with 49 teachers, and out of these schools 17 were baptized last year. Eight churches have been established on the mission field, having an aggregate membership of 415, of whom 62 were baptized last year.

The adoption of the report was moved by Rev. G. R. White. He dwelt upon the great importance of this work. Christ came into the world because the world needed him, and the world never needed him more than to-day. He is needed by individuals and by churches, by the Christian world and the heathen world as well. Foreign Mission work has greatly blessed the churches and people which have engaged in it. We have assumed

responsibility for our Telugu Mission field. We have a staff of consecrated and efficient missionaries, and what is needed is the faith and love and consecration on our part to carry this work on by the blessing of God to large results.

The motion to adopt the report was seconded by Rev. Charles M. Freeman, of Bridgewater. Every Christian, and especially every pastor, Mr. Freeman said, should be deeply interested in mission work. The past year had been a remarkable one in connection with missions. There had been the inspiration of the great ecumenical gathering in New York a little more than a year ago, and there had been the martyrdom of many missionaries and native Christians in China during the year. He felt that mission work demands the best talent of the churches and was glad that strong men were yielding to the call of God to go into this work. Christ's commission, supported by his divine authority and power and accompanied with the promise of his perpetual presence was back of all our efforts. Christ calls all into his mission field either directly and personally or through the sympathy and co-operation which enables others to go.

The report on Temperance was presented by Mr. J. Parsons, of Halifax. The report referred to the good degree of activity manifest in Temperance work. Baptists are on the move in this matter and in the right direction. It was a matter for congratulation that an attempt to amend the license law of Halifax in the interest of the liquor business had been defeated by the unanimous action of the Legislature. There are extensive districts of the Province where no licenses are granted and where there is little or no sale of liquors. The report referred to Dartmouth as a prohibition town, where the law was well enforced. What Dartmouth had accomplished in this matter other towns could. If we cannot get national prohibition, the report said, we should do our best to enforce local prohibition in our towns and country districts. The use of fermented wine in the Lord's Supper was deprecated.

The report was spoken to by Rev. W. A. Snelling, who said that temperance should be promoted as a missionary work. He alluded to his own experience. The signing of a temperance pledge had been for him a first step toward a godly life. Our temperance work should look to the remedy of the evil by laying hold upon the drunkard and raising him up out of his vice. We should work for legal prohibition, but we should work also personally and directly for the drunkard and his family.

Rev. D. H. Simpson was the second speaker on this subject. He spoke of intemperance as a gigantic evil, and in spite of the somewhat optimistic character of the report, he feared a growing evil. It was the most important that could engage the attention of our public men to-day, and yet they seemed to ignore it. The liquor traffic is degrading to the country's morals, and no people can be great that is retrograding morally. Canada can never be what its natural resources fit it to be while dominated by this gigantic evil. The manhood of the country becomes a prey to the monster, and the capital of the country, needed to develop its resources, so far as it is engaged in the liquor business, is put to uses which bring a blight upon the country instead of prosperity. Let us pray, said the speaker, that statesmen shall be raised up to deal effectually with this great question.

### SATURDAY MORNING.

The first business taken up at the Saturday morning session was the report of the Committee on Denominational Literature. This report was presented by Dr. Keirstead. The report made very generous and appreciative reference to the MESSENGER AND VISITOR and its editor, praising the paper unreservedly for its general excellence and the character of its editorial work, and commending it to the continued confidence and support of the churches. In reference to books and periodicals for the Sunday schools, the report noted that, since the closing of the Book Room, the denomination has no special advocate for this part of its machinery. It was therefore recommended that the members of the Association and the officials of the churches be especially diligent in the work of supplying our young people with the best available literature. The report also recommended our people to supply their homes with as many as possible of the standard works in literature and theology, and encourage their children to read them, that in understanding they may be made strong and in the truth be made free.

This report was then tabled until the reports from the District Committees should be heard.

Rev. H. R. Hatch reported for Kings County. During the year four meetings had been held, and though not large, they had been helpful by reason of the spirit of earnestness and devotion manifested. Local and denominational interests had been discussed. The raising of the county's quota of the Twentieth Century Fund had been considered and a committee appointed to carry out the work. The conference had adopted a recommendation to the churches to send candidates for license to the Conference for examination. This had been complied with by the Wolfville church. The meetings might have been still more largely helpful if the attendance of pastors and others had been larger. This report was spoken to by Dr. Kempton and Rev. D. H. Simpson and adopted.