

—The movement for good roads which is one of great importance is at this time prominently claiming the attention of the public. A good roads association has recently been formed in St. John and a part of its endeavor to promote this important reform is found in a good roads convention to be held at the Exhibition St. John on the 21st. and 22nd. inst.

—If the possession of much gold means wealth, then Canada apparently deserves to be classed as a wealthy country. Last year we were astonished at the reported riches of the Kootenay district. This year we have been dazzled at the fabulous golden wealth of the Klondike, and now we are told that on the shores of Lake Superior there is a gold-mining country, which competent authority pronounces the most extensive, if not the richest, in Canada. The centre of this region—or at least the place chiefly mentioned—is Michipicoten. There is a bay of that name in the great lake and a river of the same name emptying into it. The district thus indicated lies on the south-east shore of Lake Superior and about 150 miles north of Sault Ste. Marie, from which it is easily reached by steamer. It is said that the gold deposits of the Michipicoten country are very extensive, and they are believed to be of great richness. Specimens of quartz have been secured, which yield gold at the rate of \$1,000 per ton. The precious metal is also to be found in paying quantities, it is said, in the gravel beds of the streams. If the region shall prove to be as rich in gold as some sanguine prospectors believe, its development will mean a great deal to Canada. It is easily accessible. Compared with Alaska and the Klondike country it may be said to lie at our doors. Those who are suffering intolerably from the gold fever, but cannot reach the Klondike this year, may be able to compromise the matter with their restless spirits by going to Michipicoten.

—At a very full meeting of the corporation of Brown University, held Sept. 1st, the resignation of President Andrews was considered at length, and it was finally determined to request him to withdraw it. This action was in a way unanimous. No one voted against it, but five members of the corporation declined to vote at all. As the subject is presented through the report of the committee appointed by the trustees to confer with Dr. Andrews, it would appear that there was nothing in the attitude assumed toward him by the corporation to call for the president's resignation. So far as an outsider can see, there should be nothing now to prevent Dr. Andrews withdrawing his resignation, unless he has made such a course impracticable by forming other plans and engagements. Alluding to this matter the Watchman wisely says: "Two great principles emerge from the discussion in regard to Brown University. One is the right of the governing body to control the affairs of the institution over which they are placed; the other is the right of College officers to a reasonable liberty in the expression of opinion. One principle is as sound as the other, and it is a misfortune in any institution to have either unrecognized. The interplay of these principles must largely depend on the good sense of the governing body and of the college officers. It is hardly to be defined in a set of abstract propositions."

The New Brunswick Convention.

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navian language, and he afterwards gave some account of the work he is engaged in among the people of his own race and language. The Danes like to have him come and like to hear him preach, but there is much need of gospel tracts in the Danish language in order to disseminate the truth among the people. Another thing the Danish Missionary needs is a horse to enable him to reach his appointments. Mr. Gross said he had been praying for \$30 with which to purchase the horse. In a few minutes some \$43 were subscribed by those present, and the good missionary rejoiced in the answer to his prayer.

Rev. H. H. Hall was the last speaker for the afternoon. He alluded to the vastness of the western country and its resources, and said it was impossible to present the subject in a brief address. He would speak first of the idea of design. God is in everything. He is in the movement of the peoples to the west—the immigration now setting strongly toward the Canadian Northwest. Paul went to plant the gospel in the great centres of the mixed population of his times. There are 15 distinct nationalities to be found in the Northwest today. Five-sixths of the missionaries in foreign lands are English. The facts go to show that God is preparing the Anglo-Saxon race for the evangelization of the world. Mr. Hall proceeded to speak of the great extent of the territory of the west. There is room for 8,000,000 farms in the country. It is estimated that the population of the world will double in the next century. The Canadian dominion is capable of supporting 70,000,000 people. To take these people who have come and shall come into the northwest and mould them into a Christian nationality is a colossal task. To start from here and visit all the Baptist churches of the Northwest and return would involve a journey of

5,600 miles. The visitor would find churches organized among five different nationalities. He would visit the Germans, the Mennonites, the French, the Stundists, the Indians. There are 50 men stationed among these churches and \$11,000 are needed for the year. The leader Rev. Alexander Grant is gone. Bro. Mellick has been forced by ill-health to give up the Superintendency and the situation seems desperate. Bro. Hall pleaded earnestly and eloquently for the help of which the cause in the northwest is in so great need.

SUNDAY SERVICES.

On Sunday evening Rev. F. T. Snell, of Havelock, was the preacher at the Gibson church. Mr. Snell not long since came to this country from England, and has found a cordial welcome and obtained a good report among his brethren in the province. His excellent sermon was much enjoyed. An after service of much interest was led by the president of the Convention. The singing of the choir, led by Bro. M. S. Hall, added much to the interest of all the services of the day and other public meetings in connection with the Convention. The pulpits of the Baptist and other evangelical bodies in Gibson, Fredericton and adjacent places were generally filled by ministers attending the Convention.

MONDAY MORNING.

The Convention opened at 10 o'clock, the President in the chair. Rev. Dr. Carey having just arrived from St. John, was welcomed by the president and invited to address the Convention. Dr. Carey said that he had been prevented by other engagements from reaching the Convention at an earlier session and that he came under a good deal of solicitude on account of the serious illness of a member of his family.

The report on the state of Denomination was called for. Rev. J. H. Hughes chairman of the committee stated that he had not been able to obtain the data required for such report. The time of receiving report was accordingly deferred until the necessary information might be secured.

At this point communications were read by the president from Inspector Mersereau of Miramichi, Rev. G. O. Gates, Hon. H. R. Emmerson and Lieut. Governor McClellan.

A resolution of sympathy with the church and family of the late Rev. Alexander Grant of Winnipeg and the brethren of the north-west, drafted by Rev. Dr. Trotter, was presented by Rev. C. W. Townsend. After interesting remarks by Dr. Carey, the resolution was heartily adopted.

The report on Colportage was presented by Rev. J. H. Hughes. The report emphasized the importance of supplying our people with wholesome Christian and denominational literature and recommended that the Convention unite with the Sunday School Baptist Convention of the province in securing and appointing a S. S. missionary colporteur as soon as possible to engage in this work and that he be at liberty to divide his time and efforts between these departments of evangelistic work, as occasion require. The report was briefly discussed and laid over for further consideration.

The report on Grande Ligne Mission work was presented by Rev. C. Henderson. The report set forth the importance of the mission, the connection of the work with the province through efforts on behalf of the French in the northern part of the province, the results of the labors expanded and the large needs of the Mission. This report was tabled.

The Secretary's report on Home Missions was taken up and considered section by section. This occupied the remainder of the morning session. A number of the sections were passed under review with explanations on some points by the ex-Secretary, and were adopted with little discussion.

The first part of the afternoon was occupied with the annual meeting of the Ministers Annuity Association of New Brunswick. Rev. W. E. McIntyre presided. Secretary Havelock Coy, Esq., read the minutes of the last annual session. Some time was occupied in discussing terms of membership, &c. The board of directors and officers of the society were elected. The reports of Secretary and Treasurer were presented by Secretary Coy and adopted. These showed that the ministers who are annuitants have received the past year \$50 each, and widows who are annuitants \$60 each, but that, as the number of the annuitants has increased, the society will need at least \$200 more to enable it to meet the claims on it the coming year. This sum it is hoped the churches of the Province will supply.

The business of the Convention was resumed at 4.10. The following resolution moved, by Rev. Dr. Carey was adopted:

Resolved, That the Convention place on record its deep sense of gratitude to Almighty God for His great goodness in granting to our beloved Queen and Empress the longest and most glorious reign in English history, and our earnest prayer that the coming years may bring to Her Majesty and to every part of her increasing dominions blessing both abundant and abiding.

The consideration of the report on Home Missions was then resumed. Some interesting information in connection with some of the sections was given by Pastors Barton and Henderson, Deacon Parent, Pastors King, Blackburn, Gross and Davidson. The consideration of this report occupied the time of the Convention up to the close of the session.

The evening session was to be given to a platform meeting in the interests of education. Speeches were expected from a number of brethren who would doubtless present the subject with great ability. This is as far however as the MESSENGER AND VISITOR can go in its report this week. The meetings up to Monday evening had been held under favorable conditions. The weather was fine. A large number of the pastors from the western part of the province were present. The public meetings were large and of an inspiring character. A spirit of harmony and good fellowship had generally prevailed and it is to be hoped that the meetings will have an important influence to stimulate the churches to larger efforts in the Master's service.

Ontario Letter.

PASTOR P. K. DAYFOOT.

We are all in a maze in this part of the world. The month of August was cold. The thermometer went down to freezing, night after night, though no frost came. The people who went to Balmly Beach, New Gardens, Muskoka, Old Orchard and the many other resorts, shivered and shuddered, and tried to delude themselves into thinking that they were happy and comfortable. Then when the holiday season ended, they came home. Now the schools are open, and work going full swing again; and lo! the thermometer has gone up to 88° in the shade, and we are casting off the warm clothing, capes and other wraps we had to wear in midsummer, and are getting into cool costumes once more. Yet it has been a beautiful summer. This picturesque town is in a "living green," and has the freshness of June in leaf and lawn and flower; so have rain and cool weather combined to prevent the usual drought.

AN EXPERIMENT.

Was made in the early part of August, in the direction of an open air assembly. The meetings were held in the village of Port Burwell, on the shore of Lake Erie, in the county of Elgin. This is the very heart of Baptist territory. Baptists abound there, and Baptist churches may be found in all directions. The organizer of the meetings was Dr. Spencer, the energetic pastor of Brantford, first church; and his lieutenant was Pastor P. R. Corey of Port Burwell. The audiences ranged from 300 to 1,500. There were three services daily. The Bible discussions were reverent and able. There was no trifling, and no sensationalism; but earnest exposition, clear and careful discussion, and eager attention. The collections fully met all expenses. So well satisfied were the leaders of the movement, that they formed a joint stock company, and leased eight acres for a permanent assembly. Next year they hope to plan more extensively, and attempt greater things.

A SORE BEREAVEMENT.

Was laid upon us by the drowning of Pastor A. Grant of Winnipeg. He was unique. He was a modern Elijah, fearless in denouncing wrong and upholding right. He was a man of broad vision and keen foresight. He took hold of our Home Mission work when it was in dire confusion, and by sheer force of will brought order out of chaos. Then he went to Manitoba and, as pastor of the First Church in Winnipeg, he was the "strongstaff and the beautiful rod" for the Baptist cause in the Northwest. His untimely death leaves a whole denomination mourning. The Winnipeg church has appointed a committee to find a pastor, but who will venture to follow the king.

BRO. MELICK.

As you will all know in the East, has exchanged the superintendency for the pastorate and has gone to Emerson. The Board has found a successor in Pastor A. J. Vining, of the Second church Winnipeg, who will bring to his new office a splendid enthusiasm and abundance of physical and mental energy.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Are having special attention at present. Rev. J. G. Brown is touring in Eastern Ontario and is making a marked impression. Revs. John Craig and J. E. Davis, with Secretary McDiarmid will hold a conference in Brantford, Sept. 26, 27. They will have with them Rev. A. B. Reekie, who is under appointment to Bolivia, South America. Farewell services will be held for Bros. Craig and Davis in Port Hope, Sept. 24th, and in Toronto, Oct. 6th.

MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH.

Toronto, will be opened Sunday, Sept. 12th. Sermons by Prof. Farmer at 11 a. m., Chancellor Wallace at 3 p. m., and Dr. Thomas at 7 p. m. This church is built by Mr. Daires, of Toronto, in memory of a deceased daughter. This brother has also given \$2,500 for a memorial cottage in Gravenhurst Sanitarium, Muskoka.

AN EXPERIENCE.

A few weeks ago, the writer went to a church in the country, (not Baptist) to preach an evening sermon. The building had been renovated and festivities were being planned. The text was Rom. 1:16. The claims of the gospel were urged as faithfully as the preacher could urge them. The large congregation, mostly of young people, listened attentively. The order and reverence was gratifying. Imagine the result, when, at the close of the service, the pastor arose and began booming a garden social for the following evening! In five minutes every good impression was wiped out. I have suffered so much of this sort of thing at the hands of certain pastors, that I begin to ask whether the Master had this in mind when He said "then cometh the wicked one and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart."

PORT HOPE, Sept. 10, 1897.