

MESSENGER and VISITOR.

When paid within thirty days \$1.50.

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C. GOODPASTER, St. John, N. B.

Messenger and Visitor

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 1890.

THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The annual meeting of this body convened at Liverpool on Saturday, June 15th. Liverpool, for situation and general surroundings, is one of the most beautiful ports on the Atlantic coast. The fair town never looked fairer than when your correspondent stepped from the City of St. John on Friday morning. The numerous ample shade trees were in full leaf, and the recent generous application of paint and whitewash had produced a marked improvement in the appearance of many buildings. As they arrived, the delegates received a cordial welcome from Pastor Kane and others, the arrangements for their entertainment being all that could be desired.

At ten a.m. the Association was called to order by retiring Moderator, Rev. A. Cohoon. Out of one hundred and twenty-six delegates reported, less than eighty were present. After a brief devotional meeting, the officers were elected for the ensuing year. Rev. B. N. Nobles, of Liverpool, was chosen moderator; Revs. I. E. Bill and E. P. Caldwell were re-elected clerk and assistant clerk; Deacon P. H. Parker was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Stephen West assistant treasurer. Rev. Mr. Ogden, pastor of the Methodist church in Liverpool, in a warm and eloquent address, welcomed the Association on behalf of the South Queens Memorial Institute. The editor being appointed, and no one having been appointed to perform that service, the Association unanimously requested Rev. A. F. Brown to make a report of proceedings for the Messengers and Visitors. Rev. J. W. Tingley, W. B. Bradshaw, and M. B. Shaw were appointed a committee to assist the clerk in reading a digest of the church letters. Revs. W. H. Richan, F. Trotter and J. B. White constituted a committee to consider questions in the letters. Quite a number of the churches were able to present an encouraging report, including large gatherings. While others were forced to reveal a spiritual condition which was far from being what they desired, still, in nearly every case a determination was expressed to press forward, trusting to the Master for results. The Association voted to accept an invitation to hold their next meeting with the church at Westport.

A communication was received from the First church of Yarmouth on the subject of Temperance. In effect, this paper desired the Association to endorse prohibition, and looked to the revising of our articles of faith, so that each member would be required to take a prohibitory stand, in the fullest sense of the term. The churches recently formed at Cansett Port and Port Clyde were welcomed to the fellowship of the Association, and the hand of fellowship was extended to Rev. J. L. Read as pastor of the Clements Port church, and Rev. A. Cohoon as representative of the Port Clyde church. The letters were not all in, but judging from those received, it would appear that the number of baptisms during the Association year was about 465.

In the absence of the chairman, Rev. H. F. Adams, the report of the Sabbath school committee was read by Rev. Mr. Jenner. The report was spoken to by Rev. A. F. Brown on the relation of the pastor to the Sunday school, who took the ground that the school to be accorded its full importance should be a part of the regular church work, and therefore in no sense independent. Therefore it should be as directly under the charge of the pastor as any other department of church work. When possible the pastor should be present at its meetings and take part in the exercises, and when it is not possible for him to be present, he should still retain an oversight of its proceedings. Rev. Frank Potter presented reasons why the school should be under the wing of the church. Being vitally connected with the church it needs every assistance which the church can give it. It is the nursery of the church and should receive from church members in general far more attention than it does at present. The church should know who the teachers are and what kind of instruction they are giving to those under their care. Rev. W. B. Bradshaw thought the church ought to receive regular reports directly from the school to be read and considered at conference meetings. Rev. A. Cohoon thought the matter could be best settled if the church members would more generally attend the school. Bro. E. D. Cooney gave a most effective illustration of the evils that grow out of union schools.

Rev. A. Cohoon presented the following resolution which was unanimously endorsed: "That the association urge it as important that the churches make provision for the study of God's word, so that this work may not be left to the

care of what are known as Union schools. That the churches be urged to consider the Sunday-school a department of their work, and by the presence and labors of their members endeavor to make the work effectual in the conversion and spiritual instruction of the young.

Rev. M. Richan read the report on obituaries. During the year, three of our ministering brethren have been called to higher service. Revs. J. I. DeWolfe and L. B. Gates, and Bro. A. Foote, licentiate. The report characterized the departed brethren in the highest terms, and was warmly endorsed by several brethren.

The evening meeting opened with singing by the excellent choir of the Liverpool church. The warm-hearted reply of Rev. C. H. Spurgeon to the resolution of sympathy sent from the last meeting, in relation to his position in the down-grade controversy, which has appeared in the MESSENGER and VISITOR, was read, and received with hearty applause. The report of the committee on education was read by Rev. A. R. White. Speaking to this report, Rev. A. Cohoon gave a most effective address on the condition and prospects of our denominational work. He spoke of the remarkable beginning sixty years ago, and then traced the growth of the work to the present time. The success which is now attending the efforts of the worthy instructors in our college was next alluded to. Warm praise was also given to the teachers in Acadia seminary and Horton academy. Bro. Cohoon declared that our own schools are the best places to send our boys and girls to receive higher education. But their constantly increasing success means that we are forced to assume fresh responsibilities. New demands are constantly arising, and supplying these needs, to some extent, is the work of the entire denomination.

Prof. J. B. Oakes, Principal of Horton academy, spoke of the need of students. Although the number is now large, the speaker declared that the number should be greatly increased. Mr. Oakes, with his good wife, had not been accustomed to the care of a family; but since they had taken charge of the student family at Wolfville, they had become deeply interested, and were very anxious to see it increase. The number of students should steadily grow, in order that we may keep pace with and lead the work of rival educational institutions. The need of money was also spoken of and enforced by most convincing arguments. Mr. Oakes thought that an endowment for the academy was little short of an absolute necessity.

Rev. J. H. Saunders answered the question, Why endow a college at all? Some one had said to him, if men with a higher education why not let them pay for it? The answer was that a college is chiefly endeavored to help the poorer classes of our people—young men and women who without the endowment would not receive the benefits of higher education. Another question, If it is necessary to endow a college at all, why not let the state endow it? This question was answered by the declaration that denominational work only belongs to members of the denomination, every one of whom should help support it to the extent of his ability. Higher education is a prime necessity of the denomination. We can not succeed without an educated ministry, and we cannot expect a large degree of success without an educated membership. Intellectuals at once sanctified and cultured must be great forces in our churches. As our polity puts the control of the church largely in the hands of the membership, it is important that the laymen should receive all possible educational advantages. Other shining reasons were presented in favor of denominational education and against colleges supported by the state.

Rev. M. B. Shaw spoke in reference to the religious element at Wolfville. From the first effort of Acadia has been to develop this all important element, and as one reason of this course the graduates of Acadia are holding important positions, not only in Canada, but in all parts of the civilized world. This is especially the case with those who are doing missionary work among the heathen. Many of these faithful workers received their first inspiration at Acadia College. Young men who go to the college without any thought of entering the ministry, while under its sacred influences realize the call to preach the gospel. The prayer-meeting which is held Sunday and Wednesday mornings was alluded to as the scene of many conversions.

Rev. J. W. Tingley considered the subject a broad one. He spoke of himself as one greatly in debt to Acadia, and what the college had done for him it was doing for many others. Mr. Tingley spoke earnestly on the general value of education in every department of business; but secular education is not enough; we must have religious, and especially denominational education. We cannot afford not to sustain Acadia. A good plan to blot out our denominational work would be to let Acadia die. Without the college the denomination will quickly lose all strength. As a denomination the college binds us together.

These addresses were full of strong meat and delivered with excellent effect. Sunday being a beautiful summer day, not only the Baptist, but also the pulpits of all other evangelical churches in

Liverpool and vicinity, were occupied by visiting Baptist ministers. The brethren were generally greeted by large congregations, and the opinions freely expressed by those not members of our denomination, indicated that on this important occasion the Lord was with them.

On Monday morning, the regular associational rain, which had previously only given us a few drops, came down in a copious shower. But it did not prevent a large gathering at the Baptist meeting house to hear the faithful associational sermon from the lips of Bro. Richan, who stood in the place of Bro. Warner. The discourse was founded on Hebrews 13:16, and was in every respect an eloquent plea for Christian liberality. The circular letter was read by Rev. I. E. Bill, and showed in terms that no one could mistake, some reasons why the church should hold up the pastor's hands. The manner in which this could be done was clearly pointed out, and also ways in which some church members hold down their hands.

The following resolution presented by Rev. M. B. Shaw, was unanimously adopted: "That the kindly Christian greetings of the Association be conveyed to our beloved brethren who, through the infirmity of years, have been hindered from meeting with us. We miss their faces and their counsels; but we wish to cherish their memories, and pray that the remaining days of their pilgrimage may be hallowed by the abiding presence of the Master." The resolution will be forwarded to Revs. A. Cogswell, J. A. Subbarth, J. C. Morse, H. Achilles, N. Vidito, Obed Parker, and R. S. Norton.

P. M.—Report on denominational literature presented by Rev. M. B. Shaw, spoken to by Rev. C. H. Jenner, Rev. A. F. Cohoon, Rev. J. H. Saunders, Rev. A. F. Browne, M. Freeman, and others. The report, which endorsed the MESSENGER and VISITOR, after discussion, was accepted. The sermon and letter, on motion of Rev. M. B. Shaw, were ordered to be printed in the MESSENGER and VISITOR; and also that the authors of these admirable addresses receive the thanks of the Association.

The subject of county organization was next considered; spoken to by Rev. A. W. Bars, Rev. I. E. Bill. On motion the reports of the county committees were presented by Rev. I. E. Bill, for Yarmouth; Rev. W. H. Richan, for Shelburne; Rev. D. W. Crandall, for Queens Co.; Rev. J. H. Saunders, for Digby; Rev. W. B. Bradshaw, for Annapolis. The reports indicated that considerable has been accomplished, and that a great deal remains to be accomplished along the lines indicated by the general laws of this scheme. The reports were discussed by several brethren.

Rev. E. P. Caldwell moved that the committee of arrangements be requested to recommend suitable chairmen for the various county committees, who shall have the matter of finances in hand. In making the motion the brother spoke warmly in favor of this means for providing the Convention fund. Spoken to by Rev. J. H. Jenner, Rev. A. Cohoon (who spoke of some excellent results which have already been accomplished), Rev. P. F. Murray and Rev. J. H. Saunders. Motion adopted. The subject of the Hymnal was next considered; and it was moved that a suitable resolution on the new hymn book be framed. The resolution strongly endorsing the "Canadian Baptist Hymnal" was presented by Rev. J. H. Saunders, and heartily and unanimously passed.

A motion was passed thanking the various lines of conveyance which had granted reduced fares to the delegates. A motion was passed appointing Rev. A. Cohoon to be a delegate to all the associations in this convention. Rev. J. R. White was chosen to preach the associational sermon next year. Rev. J. W. Tingley, alternate.

The subject of temperance was considered while the temperance committee was preparing to report. Rev. A. F. Browne, and Rev. J. H. Saunders took the most decided ground in favor of prohibition. Rev. D. W. Crandall had lost confidence in both the political parties of the day where the question of temperance is involved. He believed a new party movement was necessary to secure true prohibition. Bro. Kenney spoke of one statesman who could always be depended upon in the matter of temperance. Baptists ought always to see that their votes are given to such men. Rev. A. Cohoon thought we should not altogether lose sight of the old methods of moral influence. When the moral sentiment of the country demands it, any political party in power will hasten to enact a prohibitory law, which may be enforced. The question must be steadily pressed to the front. The matter of using the various means for securing temperance education was spoken of as one of great importance. Rev. S. H. Kane thought that what was necessary is to consolidate our forces and swing an influence counteracting the influence of the liquor dealers. Bro. Cooney declared that our ministers did not preach enough on this subject. Their influence should be more directly and largely used in this important matter. The committee reported through Rev. J. R. Reade; the report recommended that the pastors in this Association preach at least four tem-

perance sermons each year, and that this Association heartily endorse the new prohibitory paper, the Voice, which is published in Halifax.

In the evening the building was well filled with an attentive audience. This service was greatly enhanced by the excellent singing of the Liverpool church choir. A resolution was passed thanking the church and people of Liverpool for their kind and cordial entertainment. The report of the committee on Missions was presented by Rev. A. Cohoon. In response to the trumpet call which has been sounded by the foreign missionaries, one of our best young men, Mr. W. B. Higgins has responded, and said here am I, send me! The report called attention to the great work, and the pressing needs of the Home Mission Board.

Rev. F. H. Beals spoke of the condition and needs of our foreign mission work, illustrating his address by a large map of the field. The speaker considered the problem of foreign missions a difficult one to solve. The subject of foreign missions has been before us since 1884, when, at a convention at Chester, a collection was taken up for foreign missions. The best way to judge of the condition of foreign mission work is to glance, if it were possible, into the hearts of men and women composing our churches. So far as finances are concerned, while we have done a great deal, a great deal remains to be done. It is especially difficult to prophesy regarding the future of our foreign mission labor. As a denomination it is possible for us to take such steps as will ensure the progress of this great movement. These steps largely consist in faithfully carrying out the spirit and letter of the convention plan.

Mr. W. V. Higgins, missionary elect to the Telugus field, spoke of the human and divine aspect of missions. He began by declaring that the Lord called us into His kingdom that we may spread the gospel throughout the world. It is certainly the will of God that His gospel should spread to all nations. It is the purpose of God to save the lost through human instrumentality. This is in no sense a human work, and requires men and money and enthusiasm. This is the command of our Father, who gave His Son as the first missionary. Is it not time that we Baptists waked up to our responsibility in this matter. Forty-five thousand Baptists have three men to represent them in heathen lands; 1,500,000 Telugus are our charge, and we are able to send more men to lead them to Christ.

The speaker made a fervent appeal to young men and women to give themselves to this glorious work, and those who cannot go, with their means must share in the work to the extent of their ability. The speeches of Bro. Beals and Bro. Higgins were full of the true missionary spirit. Bro. Higgins, especially, in every word of his eloquent address, proved his call to the sacred foreign mission work.

Rev. B. N. Nobles spoke of the heathen's need of the gospel and our duty to give it to them. Every one believes that the heathen need the gospel, and that it is our duty to give it to them. The question is, How shall this be done? The nations where our mission work is going on make little progress and are in pressing need of gospel light. In no other way can they receive a true civilization. The difference between these lands and those illuminated by the gospel was exhibited by a most vivid contrast. It is the purpose of the Lord to identify this church with this great work, and the obligation rests upon the church of Christ and we cannot get clear of it. Individual members of our churches must feel that the duty is theirs. They must be thrilled with this great truth. If you cannot give anything else, for the glory of God give yourself.

Rev. A. Cohoon spoke of the work in the Northwest. In all that vast country, we have only three self-sustaining churches, and only two prominent missionaries. There are unbounded opportunities, and the call is, come over and help us! Bro. Cohoon then spoke on Home Mission work as related to denominational progress. The Board is now planting churches, whenever an opportunity opens to go in and occupy new ground. During the last ten years 26 new churches have been established led by brethren employed wholly or in part by the Board. Some of the churches which have been planted during these ten years, are now self-sustaining. Several of the churches which have thus made progress were described. The Board is also helping to lift up weak churches, and in the name of the denomination the helping hand is given to make them self-sustaining, and in a number of cases the effort has been grandly successful. The Board is also gathering valuable members for our stronger churches, who come to the centres after being converted in country districts, by God blessing the efforts of home missionaries. Of all the agencies at work to give us ministers, the home missionary is the most powerful. Thirteen of the thirty young men now at work under the Board, are from mission fields. The speaker showed the pressing necessity of contributions to sustain this work. Churches formerly assisted are now doing nobly for the con-

vention fund. In order to carry the conquest abroad, we must build up the churches at home. We must develop our churches at home, if we wish to conquer the regions beyond. By more liberal contributions, we can do grand things, that the past has shown. The fields are ready and waiting for our occupation.

Miss Amy Johnson read a letter from Miss Gray, of the utmost importance, which will doubtless appear in the columns of the MESSENGER and VISITOR.

The association adjourned with prayer by Brother Richan.

UNION BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held, according to announcement, at the Baptist Room, Donville Building, St. John, on Thursday last. There was a fair attendance of those who have had the Seminary on their minds and hearts.

The report of the directors narrated the action taken and the work done during the year. The current receipts and expenditures in connection with the school during the first two terms are as follows:

Expenditures	\$6,186 25
Receipts	5,137 59
Deficit	\$1,048 66

It must be remembered that during these two terms there were extraordinary expenses. The superintendent's salary is included, as well as the drain on the finances made by the great amount of fuel required by the heating arrangements of Smeed, Dowd & Co.

Owing to the fact that all the accounts had not been rendered, and to the impossibility of making a full and definite financial statement, it was resolved, when the meeting closed, to adjourn to meet the first Thursday in July.

The election of directors resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen for the ensuing year: Baptist—M. McDonald, Wm. Vaughan, Dr. McFarlane, John March, John McGinty, A. F. Handolph, Thomas L. Hay, David Vaughan; F. C. Baptist—A. C. Smith, J. A. Vanwart, Dr. McLeod Vince, Wm. Peters, Jas. Tattenson, Geo. E. Foster, E. W. Slipp, B. S. Palmer.

The following were appointed a committee to consider the question of changes in the act of incorporation, and to report at the adjourned meeting:—Dr. Bill, Dr. Musgrove, C. H. Martell, Wm. Peters, C. Goodspeed.

At the close of the meeting of the society, the new Board of Directors met and organized by the appointment of the following officers: Mont. McDonald, Esq., President; Wm. Peters, Esq., Vice President; A. A. Wilson, Esq., Secretary; David Vaughan, Esq., Treasurer; John March and A. C. Smith, Esqs., and Dr. Musgrove were appointed auditors, and Dr. Hopper, W. F. Peters, Dr. McLeod, Revs. W. F. Parker, G. A. Hartley, C. H. Martell and C. Goodspeed were appointed a committee on teachers.

The meeting of the society and of the Board of Directors was characterized by a kindly and hopeful spirit. Dr. Hopper begins this week, his work of visiting associations and of working up the finances of the Seminary and securing students for the coming year. Help him all you can, brethren.

THE WEEK.

The question of combines is destined to become a most serious one. Capitalists are seeking to gain control of almost all the articles of consumption or of use. Copper, tin, cotton, sugar, oil, have all fallen into the hands of men who control them for their own interest. The prices are forced up as fast and as far as can be ventured, and not arouse the people to rebellion. Now salt is to be added to the articles upon which a long suffering public are to pay toll to monopolists. The almost inevitable result will be that the greed for gain will lead monopolists to go too far in filching money from the pockets of the producers and workmen of the land. When the time comes that an indignant common people shall assert themselves, there will be a fierce struggle. Attempts will be made to buy up legislatures, and successfully, for a time, until the people shall refuse longer to be trifled with. It is to be hoped that those who are gaining control of so many of the necessities of life may be satisfied with a moderately unreasonable percentage of gain and not force matters to extremities.

When will war preparations cease, and nations be relieved of the tension caused by efforts to surpass or equal their neighbors in power to shatter and destroy. Russia has been spending immense sums in furnishing her soldiers with a new rifle capable of dealing death, at a distance of over a mile. Noiseless powder is also to be used. When armies meet and slaughter each other in this more silent way, war will be all the more terrible. Serbia is in no enviable position. On one side is Austria and on the other Russia. The latter power is using her best endeavor by intrigue to gain a controlling influence. Austria, on the other hand, is as watchful that this power be not obtained by her all too mighty neighbors. Last week there was a testing of the comparative influence of the two powers, in which Austria, backed by Germany, carried her point against Russia. Germany and France are having their periodic growl at each other. France

arrested a supposed German spy; many demands compensation. France says she was justified in action taken. There the matter stands.

Bismarck is bullying little Switzerland. He declares the way Switzerland harbored Nihilists who have been plotting against Germany, has already been sufficient as a casus belli. Those who are ever seeing some deep laid scheme for the aggrandizement of Germany in all Bismarck's acts, regard this as the first step towards slicing off another piece of territory from France. It is probably an outbreak of the German dictators' irascibility.

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone occurs in July next. The National Club of London will give a special reception in their honor, at which from two to three thousand persons will be present. It is expected to be the social event of the season. Half four has answered Gladstone's statements in his recent tour of the south-west of England. He regards the Gladstonian idea of federation of the empire as more absurd than that of Home Rule for Ireland. He may find that both are not too absurd to become facts, in some modified form.

The Anti-Jesuit agitation gives no sign of abatement. Every denominational meeting of Protestants, whether of smaller or larger dimensions, has entered its protest against the Jesuit Bill, and most of them have petitioned for its disallowance. At Montreal, Kingston, and other cities, monster meetings have been held, speeches heard and strong resolutions passed denouncing it. A great convention has just closed in Toronto, at which 750 delegates were present from 130 localities. A clear course of action has been agreed upon, by which the strongest pressure possible will be put upon the government and time serving politicians, and measures were taken to appeal the question all the way up to the Queen, if necessary. At the same time, care was taken to make it evident that the agitation was not against Romanists as such, but only against discrimination in their favor, and that it was in the interest of no political party.

Jottings from the Western Association of N. S.

A very pleasant and interesting session of this body has just been held. Every thing seemed to conspire to this end; the old town had donned its best attire, the hospitality was of the best sort, the greetings glad, and the meetings strong in fraternal sympathy and religious power. A shade of sadness overshadowed us because of the absence of old familiar faces and voices. There has been a complete change in the personnel of the pastors. Only a few gray heads are seen among them. The work and responsibilities have fallen on us young men. The outlook in this particular is far from dark. Instead of the fathers we have a noble lot of young men well qualified in every way to do superior work in the Lord's vineyard; so while many of the old men rest from their labors the cause goes on.

In passing through Queens Co., much to cheer is noticeable. The season is unusually forward. Haying has already commenced. The mining, manufacturing and mercantile interest are all on the rise. And what is nearer our Baptist heart, the cause of Christ in health and progress. The churches are well supplied, with faithful pastors. Bro. Cain at Liverpool, Crandall at Milltown, Bars at Millville and Port Medway, Jenner at Brookfield and Caledonia; and there is our good faithful brother J. E. Bleakney all over the northern part of the county and a large district in Annapolis Co., doing efficient self-denying services. For several years he has been toiling on amid many disadvantages and discouragements, but the fruitage is now appearing. A gracious work of grace is in progress; a goodly number have been baptized. A glance at the places of worship in passing, shows that Bro. B. has been carefully laying foundations. The old meeting-house at Kempt, while not up to the modern style of architecture, is a beautiful monument of the wise forecasting and zeal for God's cause of the departed fathers and mothers of the present generation. Bro. B. and his people do themselves much credit by keeping it in such good repair and so nicely furnished with organ, etc., for worship. May it long remain, and still be the birth-place of souls. At Milltown, the brethren were led, or rather misled into investing in a union house of worship deeded to the Methodists. The sharp practice of many similar events was here repeated, and the Baptist pastor and his people were obliged to withdraw from their unwise investment and build for themselves. In this they have succeeded and have now a comfortable place of worship, which does them and their good pastor much praise. At Greywood, largely through the labors of Bro. B., another house of worship has been dedicated to the service of God, so that all these thriving settlements in the interior of the province are being favored with gospel privileges. As in the past, so in the future, we may expect that from these districts efficient laborers in the vineyard of the Lord will come as the result of present toils.

Digby, June 20. J. H. SAUNDERS.

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