

warmly in favor of such co-operation. A motion to adopt the report was then carried.

Rev. J. H. Hughes then moved that a committee be appointed to co-operate in the effort to raise \$50,000 for home and foreign missions in the Maritime Provinces, in accordance with the recommendation of the report just adopted and the request of the Secretary of the F. M. Board. The motion was warmly supported by Rev. W. E. McIntyre. He was glad to hail such a proposal as had been made to co-operate in this forward movement and spoke of what other Christian bodies were doing in efforts to raise such funds to support enlarged Christian effort as a celebration of the new century. It was by getting our churches interested in these great movements that the spirit of our churches would be enlarged and made more generous toward every department of Christian work.

M. S. Hall contended that to carry out the proposal before the Convention was to take the work out of the hands of the proper officers of the Convention.

T. H. Hall expressed himself in favor of co-operation and the appointment of a committee for the purpose.

Rev. A. B. MacDonald heartily endorsed the proposed action, he was thrilled with the thought of this grand movement for the new century.

Rev. W. E. Hall spoke in favor of taking hold of the proposed work. He had found that the churches which aided most the Forward Movement on behalf of the educational work were those also to do most for other objects.

The motion was adopted, and the Committee was named as follows: Revs. W. E. McIntyre, S. H. Cornwall and J. H. Hughes, Senator King, Dr. M. S. Macdonald and T. H. Hall, Esq.

The report on Obituaries was presented by Rev. M. Addison. This report noted the death during the year of Rev. M. Normandy and Rev. W. H. Morgan and made suitable reference to their lives and labors. Reference was also made to the death of Dr. Carey which occurred shortly after his removal from the Province and that of Rev. C. I. McLane, who was a native of Albert County, N. B.

#### SATURDAY EVENING.

The devotional service in the evening was led by Rev. R. M. Bynon who gave a very earnest and impressive address upon the words—"What shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" This service was followed by an earnest appeal by Secretary McIntyre in the interest of H. M. work. As a result of this appeal some three hundred dollars were contributed or pledged.

#### SUNDAY SERVICES.

Sunday brought a continuation of the beautiful weather of the preceding days with a higher temperature, and the closely packed audiences of the afternoon and evening suffered with the heat. At 9.30 there was a devotional service of much interest led by the venerable Rev. G. W. Springer, who read the 103rd Psalm and commented thereon. This was followed by the teaching of a model lesson by Rev. R. M. Bynon. The passage under consideration was Ezra 1, 1-11. The historical setting of the lesson was clearly defined and its practical teachings presented in an instructive manner.

At eleven o'clock, the Convention sermon was preached by Rev. J. A. Cahill, of Centreville. The house was crowded to the doors and as there were many who could not get in an overflow meeting in the hall near by was addressed by Rev. George Howard.

Mr. Cahill's subject was the Kingdom of God. His discourse being founded upon two passages,—Matt. 6; 10 and John 17; 21. The sermon was strong in thought and impressive in delivery. As it will probably appear in full in an early issue of this paper, it is unnecessary here to indicate further the line of thought pursued.

In the afternoon a missionary meeting was held under the direction of the W. B. M. Union. Mrs. W. E. McIntyre, Vice President of the Maritime Union presided. The Scriptures were read by Mrs. J. W. Travis of Gagetown, and Mrs. J. S. Titus of St. Martins offered prayer. After brief opening remarks by the president, Mrs. M. S. Macdonald presented the greetings of the local union and extended a welcome to the Convention, to which Rev. W. E. McIntyre responded briefly. Mrs. E. K. Ganong then read an excellent paper on "The True Missionary Spirit." This was followed by an interesting address by Mrs. Pierce, Secretary of the County Union. Then came an earnest and impressive address on Foreign Missions by President Irvine. The interests of Northwest Mission was advocated by S. McC. Black, and Rev. C. W. Townsend earnestly and eloquently pleaded the cause of Grande Ligne.

The music furnished by the choir added much to the interest of the meeting. The singing of a quartette composed of Messrs. M. S. Hall and Wm. Crueson of Fredericton, J. W. Travis of Gagetown and T. H. Hall of St. John was greatly enjoyed at this and other meetings of the Convention.

At the evening meeting a devotional service was conducted by Rev. C. N. Barton. This was followed by a sermon by Rev. M. Addison who spoke with power and

was heard with great interest. The social service which followed was of a deeply interesting character and a number of persons manifested a desire to lead a Christian life.

The adjourned session of the Sunday School Convention met at 9 o'clock on Saturday, Rev. S. H. Cornwall in the chair. The following officers were elected:

Rev. M. Addison, president.

Rev. S. D. Irvine, Rev. R. M. Bynon, Rev. C. N. Barton, vice-presidents.

Rev. S. H. Cornwall, secretary treasurer.

Rev. I. N. Thorne, Spurgeon Smith and Rev. J. A. Cahill, executive committee.

Rev. John Coombs was appointed auditor.

Rev. R. M. Bynon read a paper on the Outline of Baptist Normal Work.

The following were on resolution appointed a board of examiners to carry out the line of normal work suggested by Rev. R. M. Bynon:

Revs. R. M. Bynon, S. D. Irvine, C. W. Townsend, S. H. Cornwall, F. W. Paterson, M. Addison, George Howard, E. K. Ganong, J. H. Hughes.

Rev. H. Cornwall, treasurer, reported that the amount received was \$9 95; amount paid out, \$7.53.

#### MONDAY MORNING'S

session opened with prayer by Elder A. B. Macdonald, after which the report on Grande Ligne was taken from the table and adopted.

The report on Education was read by Pastor C. W. Townsend, and after a brief discussion laid on the table until the Educational meeting be held in the evening. Session closed with prayer by Elder Hughes.

The first part of the afternoon was taken up with the annual meeting of the Baptist Annuity Association, which opened at 2.30 with Rev. W. E. McIntyre, vice-president, in the chair. In the absence of the secretary Bro. M. S. Hall was chosen secretary pro tem. Considerable discussion took place on the question of increasing the income of the Association so as to pay full grants to annuitants each year. A few of the churches had sent in assistance and it was hoped that with a little effort this number might be largely increased.

At the close it was resolved to hold the next annual meeting on Saturday during the New-Brunswick Convention, instead of on Monday as hitherto.

After the adjournment of the Annuity Association, the Convention re-opened to transact its remaining business. The secretary called the attention of the Convention to two requests sent in asking the Board of the Convention to hold in trust certain funds collected for church buildings, which were not required for immediate use. It was resolved to open such an account, to be known as the Church Edifice Fund, and to solicit further contributions towards a general fund of this character.

On motion of Bro. C. W. Pierce, seconded by Elder Springer, it was resolved that the Convention approve of the publication of the Home Mission Journal and urge its continuance. Also resolved, that 1600 copies of the Annual be published for distribution among the churches. Rev. Ira Smith was named as the preacher of Convention sermon, with Rev. W. Camp as alternate.

At the evening service, in the absence of Bro. Irvine Elder A. B. Macdonald presided. Prayer was offered by Bro. Hughes, after which votes of thanks were tendered to the quartette, organist and choir for music furnished during the sessions. The report on Education was then taken from the table and read by Pastor Townsend. After Scripture reading and prayer, the president called on Rev. W. E. Hall to speak in behalf of the Acadia Forward Movement. The secretary followed with an appeal in aid of this fund, and cash and pledges amounting to \$200 were received in response. More than half of the delegates had returned to their homes before the evening session or this amount would doubtless have been much larger.

At the conclusion of the appeal Pastor Cornwall conducted an interesting social service, in which a large number took part. The treasurer then presented his report as follows:

Collections at Convention, \$95.02; 1st Springfield church, \$3.25; Hampton Village church, \$1.75; 1st Cambridge church, \$2; Mill Cove church, \$1.20; 1st Johnston church, \$3.81; Benton, \$2.50. Total \$109.53.

Votes of thanks were tendered the steamers and railroads for courtesies extended to the delegates, after which Convention adjourned to meet on second Friday in September 1900, at a place to be determined by the president and secretary.

### The Convention.

The published reports of the Convention have presented a large amount of valuable information. Some things reported have been encouraging, some discouraging, and some surprising. Considering the amount of time devoted to the discussion of the duty of the Dominion Government in respect to a prohibitory liquor law, and the explicitness of the resolution passed by the body in relation to purity of civil elections and the duty of ministers in this regard, one may well be surprised that members who acquiesced in these discussions and participat-

ed in this action, should hold that the ordination of ministers is a subject that cannot legitimately be brought before the Convention. However, perhaps we ought not to expect that anyone would always be consistent with himself.

The statistical tables are suggestive. The total raised for the general objects of the Convention is a little more than \$23,000. This is scarcely at the rate of fifty cents a member. Twenty years ago we thought ourselves able to raise a dollar a member each year. With the growth in wealth and intelligence in these years why is advance in contributions for the objects of the Convention so small? Serious thought may be profitably given to this question.

The returns from the churches are probably lacking in accuracy. But when for a series of years they indicate a tendency in the same direction, we may conclude that they represent facts. The record for a period of three years shows a decrease in the number of baptisms, in the total number of church members, in the enrolment in the Sabbath schools and in the number of scholars baptized. Unless these figures can be shown to be astray, they ought to awaken prayerful examination and reflection.

The Secretary has furnished a comparative statement of the number of delegates present at this session and the two next preceding. That not quite as many were present this year is of no importance. But the fact that out of a total of four hundred churches only one hundred and eleven were represented arrests attention. The 111 churches were represented by 188 delegates, not two apiece on an average. Seventy-four delegates came from twenty churches. Ninety-one churches sent one hundred and fourteen delegates. Each Association has the right to send two delegates. Four of the seven sent six delegates. When the body thus constituted expresses an opinion on any subject, to say that the great Baptist body has spoken is a strong figure of speech.

Evidently the Convention ought by some means to be brought into more vital connection with the churches. It cannot be expected that every church will be represented in every meeting of the Convention; but somehow every church should find its life and efficiency affected by the action of this representative body. The Associations meet so near to the time of the Convention that they can have only slight effect on the results to be brought before it. If the delegation from the Associations were dropped, no serious loss would be incurred. The District Meetings appear to be agencies by which the work of the Convention can be most effectively brought home to the churches. If each District Meeting would adopt some method by which the objects of the Convention could be brought regularly before each church in its district, and then urge the churches to send to the Meeting quarterly reports concerning these matters, an intelligent interest in these objects would be extended, and the oneness of spiritual life, which in our profession binds us into one body, might become something more than a sentimental theory.

NOT PRESENT.

### The Present Issue.

Prohibitionists in the Dominion of Canada have long since discovered that they have the combined forces of the liquor interests and the Dominion Government to meet and conquer, ere they can obtain the righteous legislation they desire. In the Plebiscite campaign of 1898, this fact stood out more fully than ever before. Prohibitionists fought the traffic in six provinces and one territory and beat it by a majority of 108,011. They fought the Dominion Government in the Province of Quebec and were outvoted by a majority of 94,324. This has taught us that our Government is the most formidable foe of the two. This fact also locates the stronghold of the foe. The Liquor traffic is fairly out-voted in the Dominion of Canada.

Prohibitionists have now only to capture the Government and victory is won. The most potent allies of the government today are found in the ranks of prohibitionists, otherwise the fight would be a brief one. A plea for the government is that a vote of only 22½ per cent of the electors in favor of prohibition is an insufficient mandate for the Government to enact a prohibitory law. Why not turn this course of reasoning end for end? If a 22½ per cent vote is not a sufficient mandate for a prohibitory enactment, is a far less vote a sufficient mandate for the Government to license this notoriously unrighteous traffic? The Government has decided to turn down the majority vote and to legislate by the will of the minority. A Government that will spend large sums of the people's money to learn the will of the people, and then legislate by the voice of the minority to perpetuate the great cause of strong drink can only be continued in power at the expense of righteousness.

J. H. SAUNDERS.

Ohio, Yarmouth, September 9, 1899.

### New Books.

The Bible Vindicated, viz., Marvellous Discoveries in Scripture Lands is the title of a small volume of 128 pages just issued by R. A. H. Morrow of St. John. It presents in an attractive form brought to light by modern excavation and research, many facts bearing upon the customs and history of the people with which the Hebrew people came in contact and which therefore appear more or less prominently in connection with the history of Israel. The author tells us in the preface that the book has been prepared with great care as to the accuracy of statement, no place having been given to anything which has not been fully sustained by undoubted authority. "It has been written under the conviction that such a work is needed and is sent forth with the earnest prayer that the Holy Spirit may use it to strengthen the faith of the Christian in the genuineness of God's Word, remove the doubt of the sceptic and encourage all classes of readers to a more diligent study of the Holy Scriptures."