

Messenger and Visitor.

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S. McC. BLACK, Editor.
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Messenger and Visitor.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10th, 1896.

—It was our privilege on a recent Sunday evening to listen to a stirring temperance address in the Temperance Hall, Fredericton, by Rev. J. A. Cahill, of Centerville. Bro. Cahill is not very much accustomed to handle his subjects with kid gloves or to prophesy smooth things, especially when he has the liquor business under consideration. On the occasion mentioned, he showed that every honest man renders an equivalent to the community for what he receives. The farmer, the merchant, the artisan, the teacher, the minister of the gospel, all could fairly and honestly claim to render to the community a *quid pro quo*. The man who gets that for which he gives no value in return—unless he receives it as a gift—is a thief. Every man in honest business takes a pride in exhibiting his products. He is not ashamed that the world should know what he has been doing and what the results of his labor. But the liquor business does not like to be questioned as to its products. It renders no valuable return for all the wealth it takes from the pockets of the people. It is therefore a thieving business. Instead of helping and blessing men, it debauches, degrades, destroys and dams. Its products are ruined manhood and ruined homes, it blights and curses wherever it comes. The parasite is the most despicable of all creatures because it is a parasite and fattens on the blood of others. The liquor business is a parasite of the vilest and most despicable character, a vampire on the community and the nation, an evil thing which the christian people of the land should crush to death by the power of their votes. It was a vigorous and able address and the good people of Fredericton might with advantage to themselves have been present in much larger numbers than they were to hear what the speaker had to say.

—On God's plan things come to us as we are able to receive and use them to His glory. There are communications which we are not yet able to receive and blessings which we do not yet know how to use, but which by and by, if we are patient under God's discipline, we shall receive and rejoice in. A little boy may be ambitious to wear a man's clothes, but until, through years of growth, he has come to man's estate, it would not make him ridiculous to dress him in garments fashioned like his father's. A student is eager to secure his college degree but it would be as unkind to him as it would be unjust to others, if immediately upon his matriculation into college he should be declared a bachelor or a *graduatus*. Results are not to be attained except through the processes necessary to their accomplishment. Merely factitious honors are no honors at all. The wise man recognizes this and is willing to work and wait for results. In the spiritual realm as well as the intellectual and physical this holds true. We are anxious often for the ripe fruit and joy of christian character which we are not willing through the discipline of faith and by patient continuance in well doing to develop. For by faith comes patience and by patience, experience and by experience, hope, and in due season every child of God shall reap if he faint not.

"Some gifts the Lord cannot bestow 'Till in holiness we grow; Therefore, to fit us for His will, He keeps us under training still. But not one trial does he send Which brings not blessing in the end."

—It seems to be pretty well understood in political circles that the remedial legislation looked for will not be passed at this session of parliament. The several political party organs are discussing the subject in lively style; but it may not be that the real issue is made very plain to the public mind, by all that party journals are saying of the Manitoba scheme. It is of the first importance that the "right" of the case may prevail. That the wisdom of a political party or a church should be involved, and a question of principle be lost, is a serious matter.

Makes a Man Healthy.

Excepting the favored few whose length of purse and other circumstances permitted the luxury of a rural summer residence, it used to be that the denizens of the city could get but very occasional glimpses and tastes of the beauty and freshness of the country. A day's outing at rare intervals through the summer, with perhaps a brief vacation once a year, giving opportunity for a visit to the country, marked the limits of their privileges in that direction. But the advent of the bicycle is doing much to change these conditions. The man who rides a wheel, if not hampered and restricted by more than the ordinary demands of business, may, almost any fine day and with the expenditure of little time and labor, exchange the noisy city street for green lanes and shady groves, and with the fragrance of the fields and woods may fill his lungs with copious draughts of air that has in it no suspicion of city dust and smoke. For many a business man or clerk it is no small boon to be able, before the business of the day begins or after it is over, to combine the exhilaration of a bicycle ride with a brief exchange of city for country surroundings. For the pale city pastor, with nervous system much exhausted by the long strain of winter work, the opening of the wheeled season comes as a benediction—that is it may do so, if the minister is wise enough and not too primly dignified to recognize and test for himself the merits of the "silent steed." The surroundings of most cities afford the cyclist opportunity, within the distance of a few miles, of very pleasant rambles amid rural scenes. St. John is not an exception. There are several good roads which afford easy avenues for excursions into pleasant country places. Spruce Lake, the Fredericton Road, Red Head, Loch Lomond, each has attractions of its own. But perhaps the most popular road is that leading to Rothesay, or, if one wishes a longer run, to Gondola Point or to Hampton. The road is not perfect, indeed, but as roads go in this country it is not to be despised, and the bit of country through which it leads, if it were in the neighborhood of some great and growing city, would certainly become a very paradise. For those who have no invincible objections to an early start, the very early morning affords the most charming conditions for a short run into the country. Fortified by a glass of milk and a biscuit, the rider starts as the rising sun is lifting the yell from the face of a summer morning. The city sleeps; the small boy and his dog are still steeped in sweet repose. As the cyclist passes down the silent street an alarm clock gives its warning to someone who must be early astir. Soon the drowsy city is left behind. Marsh Bridge, the one mile house, the three mile house, are quickly passed and Brookside is reached. Here, after climbing a hill or two, just sufficient to put lungs and heart in vigorous action, the rider reaches a bridge and a miniature lake—"a burnie"—in the still bosom of which the evergreens are charmingly reflected. The bit of scenery is a quietly picturesque and here after his half hour's run the cyclist may like to carry for a little and listen to the joyous notes of many song birds in the woods about, or the distant "co-link co-link" of a cow bell, the business-like *caw!* of a solemn crow that flies over the tree tops. Then, if business engagements and the rider's strength permit, he may continue his excursion past Torryburn and on to Riverside where the broad Kennebecasis comes into view, a bit of water noted as the scene of famous boat races in days gone by. A few minutes more and the faithful wheel has carried its rider on to Rothesay, beautiful with fine residences and tastefully kept grounds, a noted suburban resort and one of the most attractive places in the province. Then, after a few minutes breathing spell, the cyclist is ready for the home pull. A run of from forty to thirty minutes, according to his strength or inclination, brings him back to the city, and after a vigorous rub down and a good breakfast, he is ready for his day's work. It is not surprising that a form of exercise which so happily combines amusement and recreation is growing more and more into favor with the dwellers in cities.

The Hero of the Drama of Genesis.

MR. EDITOR,
Dear Sir,—Many thanks for your favorable and impartial notice of "The Hero of the Drama of Genesis." The only conspicuous error in punctuation, I think, will be found in connection with *often* abbreviated to *off*, which, in nearly every case is followed by a comma thus, *off*, instead of either a period or nothing according to the latest rules of rhetoric. This is either the printer's or my own error, through blind writing and was unfortunately overlooked in reading the proof.

As you have stated Mr. Editor already several hundred copies of the book have been sold, and with your permission I would say that any one wishing a copy of the poem may have it from me direct by addressing me at Lawrenceville, N. B. Each binding costs 50 cents, paper 30 cents, and I can furnish any number of other required. J. HARRY KING, LAWRENCEVILLE, N. B.

Monthly Periodic. Will send gratis.

The N. B. Western Association.

The meeting place for the 48th annual session of this association was in the beautiful agricultural district of Upper Kingsclear on the West bank of the river St. John, about sixteen miles above the city of Fredericton. When an editor finds himself dropped by the train some sixteen miles distant from the meeting place of an association; the proceedings of which he must report, and with no visible means of getting there other than his own physical resources may furnish, he realizes how appropriate a thing it is for him to have, and to be able to ride, a bicycle. And so it came to pass that, some on bicycles and some by other and more primitive methods of conveyance, we all, or at least the most of us, got safely there. And all admired the renovated house of worship, recently beautified and improved inside and out, which was a new bell, the crowning glory, to which we were all invited, in winsome ways which no one could resist, to contribute our subscriptions. And all admired the beautiful scenery and fine farms, and all enjoyed the generous hospitality which the good people dispensed in their comfortable homes. A good representation of delegates was present. In spite of some unpleasant weather on Saturday, good congregations were present at most of the sessions and the meetings of the association were much enjoyed.

The first session was held on Friday afternoon. Rev. T. Todd the moderator presiding. After some time had been profitably spent in devotional services the enrollment of delegates was proceeded and the officers for the year were elected. Rev. F. D. Davidson was chosen moderator, Rev. S. D. Irvine was re-elected secretary and Bro. C. U. Barton assistant secretary.

FRIDAY EVENING.

The report on education was presented by Rev. F. D. Davidson. This report will be found upon our second page. Addresses were delivered on the subject by Revs. W. E. McIntyre, J. D. Freeman, J. A. Cahill and A. Freeman. The writer regrets that he did not arrive on the ground in time to hear these addresses, but he is informed that they were of a high order of excellence, so that some who were present regarded it as the most interesting educational meeting they had ever attended.

SATURDAY MORNING.

After a prayer-meeting which was a season of spiritual refreshing, the association resumed its business at 9.30, and the report on education which had been discussed at the platform meeting on the previous evening was disposed of. A clause which recommended that young men preparing for the ministry should take a full course of study at the institutions in Wolfville was amended so as to recommend candidates for the ministry to seek the best possible educational preparation. It was explained by those who introduced the amendment that it was thought unwise to adopt anything that seemed to indicate that an arts course was essential as a preparation for the ministry.

The circular letter was read by the writer of it, Rev. M. P. King. The subject of the letter was, "The mission of the church wholly spiritual." It was a very thoughtful and sympathetic presentation of the subject. Emphasizing the mission of the church of Christ to proclaim the truth and be the medium of spiritual influences for the regeneration and sanctification of men, and not to teach morality or to promote moral reforms. Some discussion ensued in reference to the letter. Some of the brethren, while willing to endorse heartily its statements as to the mission of the church in spiritual things, thought that the church is properly interested in all that concerns the well-being of humanity, that the church has a mission to promote moral reforms by influencing political action, etc., and expressed regret that the letter did not recognize this. After slight amendment the letter was adopted by the association at the afternoon session and its publication in the MESSANGER AND VISITOR requested. About an hour of this session was spent in the reading of letters from the churches.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

The report on Home Missions was presented by Rev. J. A. Cahill. It recognized the great importance of home missions as being at the basis of all other work of a denominational character. If home mission work is neglected other interests must suffer with it, and it is promoted foreign missions, education and every other department of our work will receive benefit thereby. Many of the strong churches are failing to carry out Christ's law of love in helping the weak and struggling interests. A more generous disposition on the part of the great blessing both to those who should give and those who should receive. The report noted that much good work is being done by the N. B. Convention in H. M. work. Two general missionaries are being employed and a number of fields are being assisted to support pastors.

A number of the brethren made remarks in reference to the importance of Home Missions and the needs of particular fields.

Rev. Chas. Henderson spoke of the great need existing for work at St. Francis and other sections of that region of country.

Rev. W. E. McIntyre spoke of what had been done in H. M. work by the Board of the N. B. Convention. They had not been able to give grants to all the fields that had supplied, and those fields which had secured grants had complained that they were too small. He believed that it was well that delegates should speak of the needs of the fields with which they were acquainted and thus an interest would be aroused in the H. M. work through the association. The needs were great. Not less than \$2,000 were required in this work in the province and \$3,000 might be profitably expended. Two general missionaries are now in the employ of the Board, Bro. Young and Ervine. They believed there would be at least funds enough to pay these; \$700 was all that as yet had come into the treasury, but he hoped for larger contributions to this work and believed that if the H. M. work were vigorously carried on in the northern part of the province great results would be seen.

Bro. Isaiah Wallace spoke of his experience years ago as a young man on the St. Francis field. He was followed there by Bro. Stephen March who did good work. He referred to the needs of fields in Restigouche and Westmorland counties and expressed the hope that, by mutual concessions and the leadings of the Holy Spirit, all the churches of the province would soon come to form an united phalanx in the home mission work.

Rev. Thos. Todd spoke of the success which had attended the labors of general missionary Young in his work and gave some information in reference to the Canterbury group and the St. Francis field. The latter with adjoining fields required the labor of three men. It took a long time to get to the St. Francis field as the people were generally favorably disposed towards Baptist views.

Mr. McIntyre said that general missionary Young during the first seven months of his work on the fields had baptized 115, and 40 or 50 had been baptized by pastors with whom he had labored.

Bro. Neales (colored) gave some account of the work on the Osoyoos field where he was laboring. A meeting house was being built and some progress being made in gospel work.

A committee on special business reported favorably on the request of the church at Hartland, recently organized, for admission to the association. Bro. Judson Curry, on behalf of the church, received from the moderator the right hand of fellowship and a hearty welcome to the association.

The report on Foreign Missions was presented by Rev. W. E. McIntyre. It was as follows:

REPORT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We feel that we owe devout gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the increase of F. M. interest so manifestly spreading throughout the world today. Long have the pioneers in heathen lands labored and prayed that such a time would come. We believe that it is fast hastening, and that a wonderful fulfillment of prophecy concerning the glory of the church of Christ is at hand.

And now it is given to us to have a part—a humble yet glorious part—in the most important awakening the christian church has ever known. On every hand men and women are answering the call of the Master to go out into the vineyard and work for Him. An unusual uprising of the young people betokening much good to the Foreign fields has taken place throughout Great Britain and America and we sincerely hope this good work may continue until the lands now in darkness shall be manned with preachers of the Word.

Our mission to the Tongus has been faithfully carried on during the year just closed. We cannot report large accessions to our churches from the ranks of heathenism, but for this we still pray that God may hasten the day when this land and people shall become the heritage of our Redeemer.

We are glad to welcome to our gathering this year our esteemed missionary Bro. R. Sanford, who has given to this service the best of his strength for more than twenty years past. We trust that he may be greatly restored in health and strength and may see yet many years of good service in the Master's cause.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. MCINTYRE, Chairman.

This report was tabled for discussion in the evening.

The report on temperance was presented by Rev. J. A. Cahill.

The report expressed gratification that in spite of discouragements and some apparent defeats the cause of temperance steadily advances. Total abstinence for the individual has come to be generally acknowledged as the right ground. Prohibition for the State has in principle at least obtained wide recognition. The question is how shall prohibitory law be obtained. The political parties have appeared to dodge the real issue. It was recommended that candidates for parliament be strongly pledged to advocate prohibition irrespective of party, and when this cannot be done that the temperance forces be united in supporting an independent pledged prohibitionist.

The report was discussed at some length and by a number of the brethren. Rev. M. P. King thought it would be hard to reconcile the temperance forces with the prohibitionist.

Circular Letter. Mr. Cahill held that that should not be urged to the discredit of the report. H. C. Creed believed the Association was ready to endorse generally the positions taken in the report, but that it might be best to omit any reference as to how prohibition could best be obtained, as that touched politics and aroused conflicting opinions. Mr. Cahill said the report was much less pronounced in this matter than those of some other religious bodies on the subject, and read from the report of the F. C. Baptist Conference to prove this. Bro. Moses Dykeman objected to this part of the report. If prohibition were ever obtained it would not be through a third party. Rev. B. N. Hughes was not sure of that. When the two parties came to be nearly equal in the House, a few independent men would be able to hold the balance of power and dictate their terms to the party that should receive their support. Rev. A. B. McDonald spoke of the growing corruption in political life. He would have the candidates of both parties pledged to support prohibition. Bro. J. Hardy said the parties sometimes scorn the request of the temperance people in this respect. Bro. Curry expressed the opinion that the churches should concern themselves with the spiritual interests of the people and have nothing to do with politics. Rev. J. H. McDonald liked the report, it stated a simple historical fact in saying that the political parties had dodged the issue, and it presented something practical. Rev. P. O. Reese regarded it as the province of the church to remedy evils existing in the world so far as it was able. The Baptist denomination, he believed, had been too mealy-mouthed on this subject. If the Christian people would say to the politicians: you must give us prohibition, the demand would be granted. Bro. James McNally thought that we might profitably mix more religion with our politics than we do. It was a sad thing to be told that there were Baptist church members who would sell their votes for money. Rev. M. P. King wished that nothing he said should be construed as against the christian doing his duty as a christian citizen and discharging political duties as in the sight of God. He believed fully in that, but not in the church as such having anything to do with politics. His mission, as he regarded the matter, being wholly spiritual. The report was adopted.

SATURDAY EVENING.

The report on Denominational Literature was presented by Rev. S. D. Irvine. The report recognized in the printing press one of the mightiest agencies of the present day for the promotion of truth and the cultivation of christian intelligence; but while it denounces truth it scatters widely also the seeds of evil, and by the flood of fictitious and evil literature poured forth upon the world the taste of the young becomes vitiated and often with great injury to the character of the readers. Hence the need of caution and wise selections in those who guard the home and the Sunday school that matter which tends to strength, purity and piety, shall be provided. The report noted the need of establishing Baptist families and churches, through wholesome literature, in the principles and usages of the church as revealed in the New Testament, and recommended especially books on Bible teaching, Baptist Missions, Denominational history, articles of faith, etc., and a Baptist Catechism. For the S. S., Baptist Lesson helps, papers etc., were recommended, with histories of missions and biographical sketches for the S. S. libraries. The Christian Culture Courses of the E. Y. F. Union were commended. The MESSANGER AND VISITOR was heartily commended as indispensable to every intelligent Baptist, and the regret expressed that it was not in every family represented in the Association. As the time of the Association was limited the report was adopted without discussion.

The evening was devoted principally to a discussion from the platform of the subject of Missions.

Rev. R. Sanford, returned missionary, spoke in the interest of the Foreign Mission Work. He alluded to the meeting of the Association 22 years ago on the shores of the Washademoak. The christian greetings and sympathetic words then spoken had lingered pleasantly and helpfully in his memory, and he was glad now again to meet some of those who were present then, with others whom he now met for the first time. Mr. Sanford proceeded to speak of his early life, his interest from early youth in the denomination, its institutions and undertakings, the establishment of an independent foreign mission and the call which he had felt to give himself to the foreign work in connection with the Maritime Board. He had not regretted the course taken. He spoke of the varied experience of the Mission, but the good hand of the Lord had guided in all; of the greatness and importance of the Mission field; of the inadequate provision which had yet been made for the Evangelization of the Tongus—13 missionaries, men and women, among 1,700,000 people. But a good foundation for work had been laid; five stations well situated, six churches, centers of christian influence; the christian people were being trained, and

making satisfactory progress in christian life. The terrible power of caste had to be encountered in the work of Evangelization and this was a reason why the Mission was not able to show so great results as that of the A. B. M. Union whose converts had been mostly among the non-caste people. In conclusion Mr. Sanford spoke of his continued deep interest in the Mission work. He had given to it 22 of the best years of his life, and it was his great desire if possible to return and spend the remainder of his life among the Tongu people. He appealed to the Association to give it the sympathy and support that was needed in order to its success.

S. McC. Black spoke briefly of the noble and enduring character of the work in which the christian missionary is engaged, and the opportunity it offers every christian man and woman to be a co-worker with Christ and his missionaries, in sending his gospel to all people. Rev. W. E. McIntyre said he regarded Foreign Missions as the great work of the church. The intelligence from the various mission fields was profoundly interesting to him. The work is advancing and we have not yet begun to realize the possibilities which it holds. The great masses of heathenism almost appeal, but God is able to conquer all opposition. These 1,700,000 Tongus of whom Bro. S. has spoken seem to be peculiarly entrusted to our care. We may by our prayers and efforts have a glorious part in their evangelization.

Rev. J. W. S. Young spoke of the H. M. work. He had been interested in it from a child. In some respects he felt himself behind his brethren; he felt his heart was burdened on account of the needs of the great wide home field. The indifference of christians to the salvation of those around them troubled him. He had been but 21 years in the ministry, but had been permitted to baptize more than any other minister in the province. The general missionary or evangelist needs much of God's grace in conducting revival meetings and in dealing with penitents. The results of the evangelist's work were sometimes spoken of slightly, but perhaps on the whole they were as permanent as those of the settled pastors. There are young men entering the ministry who need encouragement, and we need to pray the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth more men into the harvest.

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Rev. S. D. Irvine, spoke in a very interesting way of his own conversion and his experience in the christian life. He had labored first for the conversion of his own relatives, then for others. He had felt that God called him to enter the ministry and of late had felt a yearning to go out as a general missionary and preach the gospel to the people who are destitute of its privileges. He purposed to preach the Bible and its truths and not the wisdom of men and hoped for revivals that should give permanent results.

At the close of the missionary meeting the routine business of the association was resumed. A number of letters from the churches remained to be read and this and other matters were disposed of. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the people of Kingsclear for their generous hospitality. The next meeting of the association is to be held at Deakstown in accordance with the invitation of the church in that place. Rev. F. D. Davidson was appointed to preach the sermon, with Rev. J. A. Cahill as alternate. Rev. J. H. McDonald to write the Circular Letter. Notice was given by Rev. T. Todd, of a motion to change the time of meeting of the Association.

SUNDAY

It had rained quite heavily much of the time on Saturday, and though this meant a benediction to the farmers and great benefit to the crops which had begun to feel the effects of the dry spell, it made it unpleasant for those attending the Association. But Sunday brought brighter weather, the sky cleared during the forenoon and the day continued pleasant. Large congregations assembled, more than filling the house of worship. After an early prayer-meeting, a service conducted in the interests of the B. Y. F. U. was held at 9.30. Revs. J. H. McDonald and J. B. Morgan were the speakers and were heard with much interest and profit.

The sermon at eleven o'clock was by Rev. T. Todd. The text was Matt. 16:18 "Thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The preacher discussed his theme with much force and eloquence. He viewed the church from an architectural standpoint.

1. The church is built according to the design of God.
2. In its material it is composed of redeemed men and women.
3. The means of building, in all its ministry the church is God's great missionary society for the salvation of the world.
4. The locality of the church is in the world.
5. Its foundation is Christ.
6. As to providence, it is the church of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
7. It has been a persecuted church. Baptists have suffered persecution, but it is their boast and glory that they have never been conquered.

God it possesses utility and industry the enemies by may be assailed. In the afternoon was presented Donald, from Christ's, I. C. was listened to. The preacher was referred to our experience, joy of salvation, his zeal. The then enjoyed news, so that with great enthusiasm long for the time should be well. At the evening of the Donald, or the preacher, and loved. We were tending this was not less than those which. The revival in per Kingsclear, short time ago, membership, important and strength to the tor, Bro. Whitte, esteemed by his faithfully for church. We much good in Kingsclear.

Halifax Council held first Book Room, Bro. elected Secretary. year. An explanation and explanation contemplated. The churches routine work. and the pews nacle held last evening; process. North church contemplate S. soon.

Bro. Chute to Brother Eldon the pulpit in h. Bro. Hall at the fort. North street church. Blackburn, Ch. occupy the pulpit Sunday, in J. R. Duggs supping morning last evening. The attendance on the India, past, proceeds of the responsibility was Maritime Haps their mission and was deep many of the T. claims of J. labor and giving. Bro. Chute.

Bro. Chute. Boggs on M. number were treat. Bro. B. of questions work among in an earnest God our brother, our M. friends in the, he with you. Boggs offering a. diction. "God "God bless you heard as we less. Our sympathies aged father of and was deep. The Martine holding their. A large number. They meet nee.

The city is railway, and is to be run. Tourists from here for a beautiful garden suit them. Public school week (Friday). Strawberry and every body the writer.

At the request church, council was ability of settling christian mission. On June 26th church. Son attend. The as representative 2nd Hillsboro Elgin, Fitchburg 1st Concordia.

Rev. J. A. chair and which the Bro. A. B. in examining lodge then r. ence, call to christian doc been questioned the council a. Rev. J. C. Rev. H. H. recommended the ordination unanimously. In the eve. me was carri. A. MacNeil, then prayer. Recrossed to ed hand of follow charge to the benediction. Our Bro. i. people and people.