

# Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER  
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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR  
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For W. B. M. U. column and other interesting matter see second page.

The Maritime Province delegates to the B. Y. P. U. Convention in Toronto returned on Thursday. At least most of them did so, but a few, we believe, lingered for a longer visit in the Upper Provinces. Three cases of the C. P. R., we understood, had been at the disposal of the delegates as far as St. John, and they appeared to be a very happy company when they reached this city. Here there was a division of the force—a part of the delegates leaving the train to take the steamer across the bay, while others continued their journey by the railway. If we are correctly informed the number of delegates from these provinces by the sea was between sixty and seventy, by the larger number of whom were from Nova Scotia. It appeared to be the general verdict that the Convention had been a pronounced success; that everybody had enjoyed a grand good time and that the Yankee cousins had been more than pleased with the reception they had met with in Toronto. We give a good deal of space in this issue to a report of the Convention proceedings furnished by the editor of our B. Y. P. U. department. The Maritime Union, and particularly our Amherst friends, are to be congratulated on again securing the banner denoting superior excellence in the Christian culture work. Bro. J. H. McDonald has led the young people of Amherst very efficiently in this work. He is, no doubt, proud of them, and they, we happen to know, are also proud of their leader.

The Presbyterian Observer, of Philadelphia, remarks that "the missionaries who are faithful and make their mark on the people to whom they go find themselves appreciated at home as honored servants of the church when they return," and as instances of this the Observer mentions Rev. Dr. Paton and Rev. Dr. McKay. These noble Christian men have indeed been honored of God and have been enabled to accomplish a great work in Christ's name, the one in the New Hebrides and the other in Formosa. It is well that these men should be held in high esteem, both by their own denomination and by all the Christian world, for their work's sake. At the same time we ought, perhaps, to be on our guard against a very natural tendency to make results a measure of faithfulness. Wise and faithful preaching of the gospel may indeed be expected to yield gracious results among whatever people it may be proclaimed. The Word of the Lord shall not return void. But some souls are more receptive than others to the seed. In some cases, too, the process of germination is more rapid than in others. It is quite possible that other missionaries, not less faithful than those honored men who have been named, have labored long and hard and have seen comparatively little fruit of their labors. However the churches may regard the missionaries, we may be sure that the Lord of the churches and of the missionaries will not fail to commend any of His faithful servants, however small to human vision may seem to be the result of their labors.

The calendar for the current year of Acadia Seminary is received, giving a large amount of information in reference to the school, its objects, situation, building, staff of teachers, courses of instruction, regulations, expenses, and generally all matters in reference to which patrons of the school would desire to be informed. In its beautiful, healthful, and convenient situation, its fine, commodious building, its excellent staff of instructors and thorough course of study, the Seminary presents attractions which we should suppose must lead to its being quickly filled to its fullest capacity. The course of study, we understand, has been revised and greatly strengthened. By this revision also, the course of instruction has been brought more closely into harmony with that of the common schools. Miss Crowell, who, during the past year, has studied at Radcliffe College, the Ladies' department of Harvard University, resumes her place upon the staff as teacher in mathematics, physics, &c. Miss Alice Anderson, of Seckvick, a graduate of Mount Allison and of the Boston Conservatory of Music, has been appointed to a position on the staff as teacher in music. Miss Olive Tilford will give instructions in the department of shorthand and type writing. Miss Tilford is said to be a lady of liberal scholarship as well as possessing skill and experience in her special department. It is expected that many students will avail themselves of the excellent opportunities which will thus be afforded for qualifying themselves for a line of work which is constantly becoming more popular for young ladies. The fall term of the Seminary opens Sept. 5. Any information desired respecting the school may be obtained by addressing the Principal, Miss M. E. Graves, Wolfville, N. B.

## N. B. Eastern Association.

This Association met in its 47th annual session with the Putnam Ridge church, Havelock, Kings Co., on Saturday, July 21st, 1894. The first session was held at ten o'clock a. m., and opened with devotional exercises and Christian conference led by the Moderator of last year, Rev. B. N. Hughes. Two sets of delegates being, as in previous years, reported as claiming to represent the Dorchester church, the matter was referred to the committee on questions in letters, and it was agreed that, pending the report of this committee, both sets of delegates should be admitted to seats in the Association.

The officers for the year were elected as follows: Moderator, Rev. I. B. Colwell; Clerk, Rev. M. Addison; Assistant Clerk, Rev. H. H. Saunders; Treasurer, Bro. C. B. Keith.

The afternoon session opened with a half hour's devotional service. The Circular Letter was read by the writer, Rev. W. Camp. The subject was "Christ-likeness."

The digest of letters from the churches, prepared by the clerk of the Association, was read by him. From the digest it appears that there are 47 churches in the Association, of which 32 have reported this year to the Association. The total membership for the year is reported at 4,733, as compared with 4,572 for the preceding year, showing an increase of 161. The number of baptisms reported is 177. The baptisms last year were 120. The total amount raised during the year for local purposes is placed at \$12,480. The total amount reported for denominational purposes is \$1,150 59, an average of less than 25 cents per member on the basis of the reported membership. A large number of churches are pastorless, showing the need of more laborers. A majority of the churches report a good attendance at the prayer meetings. In reference to the matter of family worship the churches have not generally reported. The three churches reporting the largest number of baptisms during the year are, Moncton 1st, Hillsboro 1st and Elgin 2nd. The three reporting the largest contributions are, Moncton 1st, Hillsboro 1st and Hopewell.

The report on home missions was read by Rev. W. E. McIntyre. According to the report about one third the churches of the Association are at present without pastors. Three pastorless churches are principally in Albert and Westmorland Counties. Some churches have suffered by failing to avail themselves of the advice and assistance offered by the H. M. Board. A little more effort and self sacrifice on the part of these churches would result in their being provided with pastors, and thus being greatly strengthened. Some of these churches are working nobly to sustain the cause of God in their localities, but others through lack of zeal and consecration to the Master's service, are allowing the cause to languish. This matter should engage the serious attention of the Association. The weak churches should be strengthened and the Association should consider and report some methods whereby this might be accomplished. The report was tabled for future discussion.

The committee on question letters reported in reference to the matter of Dorchester church delegates as follows:

1. That the two sets of delegates from the Dorchester church be recognized at this association.
2. That the Upper Dorchester people be requested to form a church by themselves.
3. That in future the association will not receive delegates from the Upper Dorchester section of the Dorchester church.

W. CAMP, }  
B. N. HUGHES, } Com.  
H. H. AYER, }  
SATURDAY EVENING.

At this session reports on Sunday-schools and temperance were presented and spoken to. The report on Sunday-schools, presented by Bro. J. G. A. Belyes, declared that the Sunday-school should be run by the church and for the church. A temperance pledge for the scholars was recommended, also that the churches should send the statistics of their Sunday-school work to the chairman of the association's committee on Sunday-schools before the annual meeting, so that he may be able to present to the association a satisfactory report of the Sunday-school work.

Rev. H. H. Saunders, in speaking upon the subject, emphasized the importance of Sunday-school work. The churches needed to manifest a greater interest in it. The instruction of the children as well as those of more advanced years in the Word of God is of

the utmost importance. Therefore it should be sought to have for the Sunday-school the best equipment possible. There should be progress in Sunday-school work as in all other things. The methods of the present are vastly different from those of 50 years ago, and the very best methods should be sought. The best men and women available should be sought as teachers, and they should be in heart and purpose thoroughly Christian. The faithful teacher might expect great joy in the results of his work.

Rev. B. N. Hughes felt the great importance of the Sunday-school work, though unable, on account of other duties, to engage in it as he would desire. On his field were six Sunday-schools—four of them Baptist, and two others union schools in which the Baptist interest was strong. There should be a strong effort to keep the boys in the schools and not let them drop out as was the tendency to do after they reached the age of fifteen years or so. The methods employed in the boys' brigade work were, he thought, worthy of favorable consideration. Steps had been taken a few years ago to organize a Sunday-school convention or association, but it appeared not to have resulted in much. Either through such an organization or through the association more consideration should be bestowed upon the work.

Bro. W. Wilmot, who is now living in Boston, spoke briefly, alluding to his experience in mission and Sunday-school work among the rougher element in that city.

The report on temperance was presented by Rev. S. W. Keirstead. It recommended the enforcement of the Scott Act in the counties which were under it, while efforts should be put forth to obtain a general prohibitory law. The report also recommended that church members should be disciplined for departure in any degree from total abstinence from intoxicating drink; the use of unforgotten grape juice in the Lord's supper, and that each pastor should preach at least one sermon a year on the subject of temperance.

Mr. Keirstead, proceeding to speak upon the subject of the report, gave some account of his experience in endeavoring to enforce the Scott Act in Dorchester. He believed that the law was a good one, and that when the professed temperance people should firmly support the inspector, the rum traffic would receive a tremendous blow through the operation of the law. It was not right that Christian men and women should be indifferent to the evil if it did not immediately touch them. As a Christian minister, he felt it was his duty to do all that it was in his power to do to have the law enforced. In doing this he had gained the ill-will of the rum-sellers, and some predicted that he would have to leave Dorchester, but he had gained the sympathy of the best people of the community. In this matter of temperance we are not, he believed, making the advances we should do as a Christian people.

Bro. R. E. Steeves, of Hillsboro, being called upon, said he was not aware that he was expected to speak. He held it to be of great importance that the minds of the children in the Sunday-schools should be imbued with temperance principles. He referred to his own experience in S. S. work, and the good results of faithful efforts.

Rev. A. F. Brown spoke of his work in connection with temperance societies, and advocated efforts along that line. The Scott Act was good, and if it had the same force of public sentiment back of it as other laws had, it would be enforced. When the ladies are given the franchise we shall have prohibition. He also emphasized the importance of work with the children. The report was then adopted, and the meeting adjourned.

A welcome rain came Saturday evening and during the night, and was followed by a bright and beautiful day with cool and bracing airs, and all the face of nature having been freshened, the beautiful country of Putnam Ridge—one of the finest farming sections in the province—was seen to the best advantage. The people poured in from far and near, and after the church had been filled to its fullest capacity, there were enough people for quite a large overflow meeting in the open air, which was addressed by Rev. Wallace Corey. In the absence of the brother who had been appointed to preach the associational sermon and also his alternate, Rev. W. E. McIntyre, of Chipman, was invited to preach the sermon on Lord's day morning, which he did to the great

satisfaction and profit of the large congregation. The subject was, "The Divine Purpose in the Redeemed Church." Text Eph. 5: 27. The plan of redemption revealed through the grace of God was briefly traced in the old dispensation, from the promise, given to the first sinful pair, of the serpent, the redemption of a chosen family from the flood, the covenant to Abraham and his seed, confirmed to those who immediately followed him and to his descendants later, through the prophets; a plan of redemption declared also by type and symbol in the sacrifices and ritual of the tabernacle, as delivered to Moses. But despite all the grace revealed and God's dealings with the race of Abraham as His peculiar people, sin and rebellion continued to abound. Then the Son of God came on His mission of grace to the world, to make honorable the broken law, transform the rebellious into obedient children and restore man to his true and normal condition in harmony with God. What a spectacle for earth and heaven when Christ came on this divine mission of redemption. But His own received him not. The kingdom of God though destined to fill the earth had feeble beginnings. The enemies of God sought to crush out the life of the church. They crucified its founder, persecuted and killed His servants and sought to destroy the spirit of liberty and truth. But the truth can never be destroyed. Through trial and persecution it has survived, and all along the pages of history, even in the darkest periods, though Christianity had become Romanized and corrupted, the more closely we study the more clearly do we discern a real and true church of Christ coming into view. That church, though often despised and persecuted, is and was the glorious church of God. This church is worthy to receive our honor and allegiance. Societies, semi-religious and semi-secular, are attracting much attention in the present age. But the one institution divinely given is the church of Christ, for the manifestation of God's grace and glory. Therefore the importance of preserving the church of Christ in its original and divine simplicity. As in the old dispensation Moses was commanded to make all things according to the pattern shown in the mount, so in the new we must beware of departing from the simplicity which is in Christ. There is strong temptation to be resisted at this point. The door of entrance into the church is by personal repentance and faith in the one saviour. A religious parentage or ancestry is not, in these days, any more than in the days of John the Baptist, a passport to the favor of God. Baptism, as the seal of the Covenant with God, into which the individual soul enters by repentance and faith has meaning only for the believer. The parents' faith cannot stand for that of the child. That which bears the name of the church of Christ is too often found honey-combed with worldliness, and rendered weak and impotent by the substitution of human inventions for divine verities. We need therefore to stand firmly for the truth of God. The much vaunted spirit of the 19th century, with all its intelligence and power, must not weigh with us against the truth as it is in Christ. The preacher emphasized the importance of the Christian giving himself in unreserved surrender to God to be guided by His spirit and according to His truth. How much we owe to those who in the past have been faithful, standing for God and truth, even when to do so meant the sacrifice of liberty and life! Faithfulness to her divine Lord, and her mission demands that the church shall keep free from all alliance with the civil power. Our trust for victory is in God, not in the arm of the civil ruler. Even in the grand endeavor to promote the cause of temperance, the speaker doubted if it were wise for the Christian minister to invoke the civil power in the fight with the enemy. In accordance with the position taken by old Roger Williams, though we are confident of the truth of our religious principles, we would not force them upon others.

To this glorious church of Christ in which the power and grace of God are revealed we owe a pure and faithful service. Finally, the glory which is being revealed will by and by appear in supreme fulness. The battle which is being fought will issue in glorious victory, and the church militant become the church triumphant.

The summary here given does but small justice to this strong and every day excellent sermon which we should

have been glad to give our readers in full, but as it was delivered without manuscript the preacher was unable to accede to our request for a copy. At the afternoon service the church was again crowded. The preacher was Rev. J. H. Hughes; his text Jer. 17:12. "A glorious high throne from the beginning is the peace of our sanctuary." The preacher was at his best, and the sermon was highly appreciated. In the evening Rev. Wallace Corey preached to a crowded house from John 3: 3, and was heard with delight and profit. Bro. Corey's native home is at or in the vicinity of Havelock. He was graduated at Acadia College in 1883 and has since been engaged in the ministry in the State of Illinois. We hear that some of our vacant churches are coveting his gifts. We should be pleased to hear of his being persuaded to return to his native province.

MONDAY MORNING.  
The report on home missions was taken from the table, and after some remarks from Revs. B. N. Hughes, S. W. Keirstead and Bro. J. G. A. Belyes, was adopted. The following resolution was then moved by Rev. S. W. Keirstead: "Whereas, we are aware that our home mission work is in a bad condition at the present time, and the interest on our mission fields is suffering for the want of aid; and as we feel that some action should at once be taken by this Association, therefore

Resolved, 1. That we continue to do our home mission work through the Maritime Convention H. M. Board if possible, and that we continue to maintain the unity of the Maritime Convention.

2. That this association appoint a H. M. committee of seven to act in connection with the general Board; to enquire into the necessities of the mission fields within the bounds of this association, and advise the Board accordingly and render any aid that it can to the Board.

3. That in the event of H. M. work being thrown out of the Convention this association undertake its own H. M. work, and that the above named committee act as a H. M. Board for this association until further arrangements can be made.

Rev. J. H. Hughes moved in amendment the resolutions endorsing the N. B. Convention, which had been passed by the Western and Southern Associations of this province, and which will be found in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR of July 4 and July 18. The discussion which followed occupied most of the day. To report the remarks of the different speakers would be for the most part to report what has already, by repetition in these columns become familiar to our readers. It was contended on the one side that the desire for a N. B. Convention had been the growth of years, and the movement in that direction was largely the result of dissatisfaction with the management of the home mission interests of the province by the Maritime Convention; that the organization of the provincial convention had been in accordance with the wish of the majority of the Baptists of the province and in harmony with the plan of organization adopted by the Maritime Convention; that the Convention by its action at St. Martins had authorized the course which has been pursued, and that the action of the other associations showed that it had the endorsement of the majority of the churches in the southern and western part of the province. It was further contended that the N. B. Convention was a necessity in order to rescue St. Martins Seminary from the perils by which it is beset, and maintain the school for the benefit of the Baptists of the province. Some also held that though the methods by which the N. B. Convention had come into being might not be such as they could commend, yet for the sake of unity and peace it was best to fall in with it.

On the other hand it was contended that the agitation for a provincial convention had not had the sympathy of the Baptists of New Brunswick generally; that the Maritime Convention had no power to change its constitution without one year's notice and therefore it was impossible that it could at its last meetings have taken action to authorize the transference of part of its work to another body; that the vote taken at the Southern Association in reference to the N. B. Convention did not properly represent the churches in that body; that the associations in N. S. and P. E. I. have all voted against the proposed change, and that it is improbable that the Maritime Convention will amend its constitution as to place home missions and academic education beyond its control; that the salvation of the Seminary does not depend upon the N. B. Convention but

upon the united support of the churches and that many of the churches opposed to the new convention were among the best friends of the school, and that the influence of that convention would be to alienate the sympathy of N. B. Baptists from Acadia College.

Rev. B. N. Hughes, though declaring himself opposed to the change, and deprecating the spirit which he believed had inspired the agitation for it, yet felt himself bound by the vote which, for peace sake, he had given in favor of the basis of union adopted at St. Martins, and now felt himself in duty bound to support the amendment.

When the vote was taken 25 appeared in favor of the amendment and 14 against.

As this discussion had taken up most of the time of two sessions, and as it was thought necessary that the Association should close with the evening session, brief reports on denominational literature and systematic beneficence were passed with but little discussion. From the report on obituaries, read by Rev. E. H. Saunders, it appeared that the ranks of the ordained ministry had not been broken by death during the year. The death was recorded of Bro. Samuel Clarke, a member of the Canadian church, who had exercised his gifts as a preacher and had possessed remarkable power in exhortation and prayer. The

EVENING SESSION  
was devoted to addresses on missions. Rev. A. J. Vincent spoke on home missions, giving an interesting account of the progress of the work on the Cape Tormentine field. He emphasized the necessity of teaching the people, as well as preaching to them, in order that they might become intelligent in reference to the principles and the work of the denomination.

Rev. H. Y. Corey, missionary elect, gave a very earnest and interesting address. He spoke of enthusiasm as necessary to successful work, and knowledge as necessary to enthusiasm. Our people generally do not know enough about missions to make them enthusiastic in the work. It is the duties of the pastor to instruct them. Mr. Corey proceeded to speak at some length of the success which had attended the labors of Christian missionaries in different parts of the world.

Rev. J. W. Manning, sec. of the F. M. Board, delivered an earnest and forceful address in which he especially emphasized the duty of Christians to think and to pray in reference to the mission work.

A special effort resulted in the raising of \$33 to ward Mr. Corey's outfit.

After a ringing speech on missions from Rev. W. B. Hinson, of Montreal, the meeting was brought to a close, and the association adjourned to meet next year with the First Hillsboro church.

PERSONAL.  
We are pleased to learn from Rev. A. E. Ingram, now of Ludlow, Me., that he is enjoying excellent health and is happy and successful in his work. The man who can make such a report has much to be thankful for. May Bro. Ingram long continue to enjoy these blessings.

Rev. Dr. Steele, of Amherst, was in St. John last week called hither on the sad duty of attending his mother's funeral, which took place on Friday afternoon. His father, Mr. John Steele, still lives and retains his mental faculties in a remarkable degree considering that he carries the burden of more than four score years.

Rev. J. Howard Bars, who last year returned from India on account of the failure of his wife's health, is now in Wolfville, N. S., and as it is not expected that Mrs. Bars' health will ever be sufficiently strong to stand the climate of India, Mr. Bars has decided to engage in the work of the ministry here as opportunity may present, and is ready to enter into pastoral relations with some church which may require his services. Mr. Bars is a graduate of Acadia College and of Rochester Theological Seminary.

Rev. A. K. deBlais, Ph. D. who recently resigned the principalship of St. Martins Seminary has received and accepted an invitation to become president of Sturtevant College. This institution is situated at Alton, Ill. We understand that besides the college proper there are in connection with Sturtevant a preparatory department, a young ladies institute, a theological department and other schools in which special lines of study are pursued. By his energetic and successful management of St. Martins Dr. deBlais has won an excellent reputation in this province, and while we congratulate him upon the enlarged sphere of usefulness to which it appears he is being called, we share in the widely felt regret that he is not to continue to serve the cause of Baptist education in this province.