

that undertaking was cordially commended to the support of the churches.

The report having been tabled for discussion at a future session, the remainder of the evening was devoted to addresses on the subject of Education. The speakers were Prof. E. W. Sawyer, Rev. C. W. Corey and Rev. J. A. Gordon.

Prof. Sawyer spoke of the work of the schools and of the influences which, inside and outside the class-rooms, are brought to bear upon the students at Acadia, and was heard with great interest as he showed the internal working of the College and set forth the value of the educational work which is being done at Acadia.

Mr. Corey discussed the value of a denominational College. He showed that Acadia was no narrow sectarian institution; its doors were broadly open to the public and all might share its benefits on equal terms. The aim of education is not to make men walking encyclopedias, but to give discipline which implies added power for service. True education lifts a man above the sordid aim of amassing riches as an end. It sends him forth with a mission. It teaches that the great thing is not to make a living, but to make a life. The essentials to the life of a College are not summed up in its curriculum, but are to be sought in the characters of its teachers. The education which Acadia gives is not merely for the production of ministers, but it makes for a strong and cultured manhood.

Rev. J. A. Gordon, of St. John, spoke on the Forward Movement. He referred to his pride in being a Prince Edward Islander and to the fact of one of his sons being a member of the class graduated this year at Acadia. He noted the necessity for advancement. This was the law of life. Not to advance was to fail. The Baptists of these provinces had been compelled seventy years ago to establish a school of their own or be denied the privileges of higher education. And now that these institutions have done so much for us, shall we let them fail for lack of support. More than any human influence the College has made the denomination what it is. To refuse to support Acadia would be suicidal. We have received this institution from the fathers who put their lives into it. A great responsibility is laid upon us, are we going to sustain and enlarge the work that has been committed to our hands? Mr. Gordon proceeded to explain the aims of the "Forward Movement" and to make a direct appeal for contributions to the fund. When Mr. Gordon said that he expected that one thousand dollars would be subscribed on the spot, probably not many present had faith to believe that the expectation would be realized, but the result proved that the speaker had not overestimated the ability and generosity of the people.

Bro. J. Nichol, of Annandale, promptly responded with a subscription of \$500, and this was followed by others of \$50, \$25, \$20, \$10, and smaller sums, until subscriptions had been obtained aggregating a little over eleven hundred dollars. This was a grand opening of the Forward Movement campaign in the Association and justifies the expectation that the Baptists of the Island will do their duty nobly toward the College at this crisis in its history.

SUNDAY MORNING.

An early shower on Sunday morning was followed by bright sunshine and unusual heat. A large congregation assembled at the North River church to listen to the Associational sermon, which was delivered by Rev. E. J. Grant. A number of the ministers in attendance upon the Association were preaching in Baptist and other pulpits in the vicinity. The service at North River was one of much interest. The Moderator presided and several of the ministers assisted in the service. Pastor Grant took for his text Gal. 2: 20, "I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live," etc.

The leading thoughts were 1. Death with Christ. 2. Life with Christ. 3. The grand motive of the Christian life. These great and vital truths were presented in a very interesting and impressive manner. As the sermon will probably appear in full in a future issue of this paper, it is unnecessary to attempt any abstract of it here.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

Was devoted to the subject of Missions. The report on Missions was read by Pastor Corey, of Charlottetown. It called attention to the broad character of the Commission given by Christ to his apostles and his church. It is to all disciples and on behalf of all men. It is divinely conceived and cannot fail of the grandest results. But Christians are as yet but feebly realizing their Lord's conception and there is urgent need of greater faithfulness in fulfilling his Commission. Statistics of Home Mission and Foreign Mission work were presented substantially the same as published in connection with the reports of other Associations on this subject. The report also called attention to the importance and urgent needs of the Northwest and Grande Ligne work, and in conclusion expressed hearty confidence in the management of the Home and Foreign Mission work by the Boards of the Maritime Convention.

The speakers for the afternoon were Revs. A. Cohoon and J. W. Manning, secretaries respectively of the H. M. and F. M. Boards.

Mr. Cohoon spoke at length of the conditions and progress and needs of the home work in N. S. and P. E. I. and showed that the requirements of the work would involve a yearly expenditure of at least \$6,000, while the income of the Board was only \$4,500. As a consequence there are frequently demands on the Board to do what the churches have not made it possible for it to do. The Board asked for sympathy and financial support. The churches of the Island had been asked to contribute \$1,000 to denominational work, besides whatever might be contributed by the W. A. Societies, and if a good and faithful effort were made he believed that could be done. The Board would try to expend on the Island two dollars for each dollar the churches of the Province would contribute to the H. M. work.

Mr. Manning spoke in the interests of the Foreign Mission work. We should recognize Jesus Christ not only as Saviour but as King. It is for kings to command and for their subjects to obey. Our Lord's Commission should have first place in the thoughts of his disciples. Their great work is to preach the gospel to the world. It is the imperative duty of Christ's disciples to give to every creature a chance to hear and believe the saving truth. The terms in which the Commission is uttered clothes the weak disciple with the divine power. It is the emphatic duty of Christians in this land to put forth

their best efforts to evangelize the heathen. Thirty millions are every year going down to endless night without having had a chance to hear and be saved. How can anyone expect to receive from the Master the plaudit "well done" if he does nothing to send the gospel of Christ to the heathen? A soul here is worth as much as a soul in India, it is true, but not more, and it is not right that the people of this land should have ten thousand chances to be saved while those in India have none.

While the meeting was in progress a thunder storm had been gathering in the west and now a tempest seemed imminent. The service was accordingly brought to a close, and the people sought the shelter of their homes, which some had scarcely reached before the rain, accompanied by frequent and vivid flashes of lightning, came on. It was afterwards learned that the storm caused considerable destruction of property, and some loss of life, in different parts of the Island.

At the Sunday evening service Rev. J. A. Gordon preached an excellent discourse from Phil. 1: 27-28, and an evangelistic service followed in which a number of brethren and sisters took part. Another heavy shower, accompanied by a grand display of electricity and heavy thunder, occurred during the meeting.

MONDAY MORNING.

The report on Education was taken from the table and considered clause by clause. The second clause in reference to the Seminary was spoken to by Rev. A. F. Browne who called attention to the superior advantages which the Seminary offers, and said that some Baptists were making a great mistake in sending their daughters to other institutions instead of patronizing their own.

Rev. A. Cohoon showed that with its fine building, its teaching staff and equipments the school was able to do excellent work.

Rev. J. A. Gordon held that Baptists who have some money would do much better to expend it in educating their daughters than to lay it up for them, since with an education they would be much better able to meet reverses if they came. Then the influence of educated Baptist women on the next generation was an important consideration.

The third clause having reference to Horton Academy was spoken to by Bro. S. J. Cann, a recent graduate of the school, who bore testimony as to the value of the education which the Academy gives and the wholesome influences of the school.

Bro. Theodore Robertson, of East Point, referred to the value of the influences carried by the students from Wolfville into the communities of the province.

Mr. Cohoon called attention to the value of the education afforded by the Manual Training School connected with the Academy.

In connection with clause four it was noted that as Rev. D. H. Simpson had unfortunately been prevented by an accident from canvassing the churches of the province in the interest of the Forward-Movement, his place would be taken by Rev. J. A. Gordon, and Prof. E. W. Sawyer would assist in the work. These brethren in their appeal for funds were commended to the sympathy of the churches.

Bro. N. J. McDonald spoke of the great importance of the young people being first converted and then educated, and alluded in terms of warm appreciation to the educative influence of the life and work of the late Rev. Samuel McLeod, of Uigg, which had made that settlement in which he had spent his life, to be a noted one upon the island.

The report on Missions was also taken from the table and discussed clause by clause. Clause 3, relating to the North West, was spoken to by Revs. J. A. Gordon and E. J. Grant, who had recently been in the North West and who bore testimony to the needs of that great country, and the present opportunities for mission work that it presents. The clause in reference to the F. M. work was spoken to by Secretary Manning, who explained the financial situation and urged the greatness of the work. Further consideration of the report was deferred to the afternoon session, when it was again taken up and adopted.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

A number of votes of thanks were passed, including thanks to the friends of the North River church and congregation, for their generous hospitality extended to delegates and visitors to the Association; to Rev. E. J. Grant for the Associational sermon, with the request that it be published in the MESSANGER AND VISITOR; to Bro. Hugh McLean and the choir, for the excellent music provided during the meetings of the Association; to the Maritime Baptist Publication Society for printed programmes, and to the Moderator and Clerk of the Association for the courteous and efficient manner in which they had discharged their duties. In accordance with the recommendation of the committee on nominations, the Association voted to accept the invitation of the church at Tryon to hold its next annual session at that place.

The report on Temperance was presented by Rev. E. A. McPhee. It noted the encouraging advance of temperance sentiment in the Province, since the organization of the Association thirty years ago, commended the advocacy of temperance in the press, special mention being made in this connection of the Charlottetown Guardian, regretted the defeat of the Scott Act in Charlottetown, commended the work of the temperance societies as worthy of sympathy and help, strongly deprecated the use of tobacco, and recommended that each church should by resolution at a conference meeting, request its members to desist from the use and sale thereof.

On the main principles there was probably little or no difference of opinion, but respecting some statements which the report contained a rather lively discussion occurred, and some amendments were offered and adopted. The report made reference to the Plebiscite, and, in its amended form, advised that an effort be made to make the affirmative vote as large as possible. The report was spoken to by Bros. Arthur Simpson, Wm. McLeod, Geo. McNeil, J. Nichol, T. Robertson, L. McCabe, Baglow, Howatt, Revs. E. J. Grant, A. F. Browne, E. A. McPhee, D. Price and others. The last clause, respecting the use and sale of tobacco, was, for lack of time to discuss it, tabled indefinitely.

MONDAY EVENING.

The pastors who have come into the Association during

the year: Pastor Grant, of Summerside; Browne, of North River; Turner, of Montague, and Whitman, of Springfield; were called to the platform and received from the Moderator a hearty welcome to the Island Association, to which they each briefly responded.

The evening was devoted to a platform discussion of the subject of Temperance. The speakers were: J. C. Clark Esq., of Bay View; the presiding officer of the Grand Division of S. of T. for the Provinces, Rev. A. F. Browne, Rev. H. Carter and Rev. E. J. Grant. We had intended to give a brief synopsis of the addresses, but find that our report has already overrun reasonable limits. It must suffice to say that different phases of the subject were presented in brief, earnest speeches. Some of the speakers are veterans in the temperance cause, and their representation of the subject was vigorous and effective. The large audience present enjoyed and applauded the discussion.

At this point the Moderator took occasion in a few earnest and appropriate words to present the thanks of the delegates, voted at the afternoon session, to the friends of North River for their kind and abundant hospitality; also the thanks of the Association to Bro. H. McLean and the choir of the church for the excellent music provided. These votes of thanks were much more than merely perfunctory courtesies, for the visitors felt that they had been very kindly and generously cared for, and everybody felt that the solos sung by Bro. McLean, and the anthems and choruses rendered by the choir under his leadership, had done much to enhance the interest of the services.

Pastor Browne responded happily on behalf of his people, and Mr. McLean, in like manner, for himself and the choir. Mr. Black, of the MESSANGER AND VISITOR, by permission of the Moderator, offered a few remarks, expressing on behalf of himself and others the highest appreciation of the Island Association, and of the generous hospitality of the people.

The treasurer presented his report, showing that upwards of \$32.00 had been received from collections during the meetings. On motion of the clerk, Arthur Simpson, Esq., the Association adjourned to meet next year with the church at Tryon.

Distinctness.

Of all the qualification for public speaking "distinct utterance," in my opinion, takes precedence. A person's voice may be naturally shrill or squeaky or silvery or steel-like or clayey in sound, but if he has a worthy subject fraught with thought, and the audience can receive every word clear and distinct, the listeners will show their appreciation by attention.

To enjoy plain speaking we should contrast it with persons who lisp or blur their words, or come down so low on some parts of the sentences as to be inaudible. Almost every meeting one attends, some of the addresses or perhaps prayers are impossible to be heard. True, in prayer meetings our Heavenly Father hears and answers supplications, whether uttered in a foreign tongue or in a whisper; but a leader in prayer should speak loud enough for the others to hear, and thereby have their thoughts accompany and their hearts respond. But to address an audience without speaking clear enough to be heard, is so disagreeable that no political or social assemblage would endure it. I have known a worthy deacon with grand thoughts speak so low, that half the attendants at the prayer meetings lost the mental feast his distinct words would have conveyed.

Some worthy pastors have carried such heavy mustaches that their words blurred, and before their sermons were completed the listeners lost the thread of the discourses and showed their lack of interest. Why should a professional speaker expect full pay for poorly delivered lectures, any more than a farmer for badly packed apples?

The last half of a sermon or address should be the most thoughtful and exhilarating, so the Theological professors instruct their students, and occasionally prove to the public: it is a pity that too often the sparkling gems of thought should not be carried home by us, merely because by speaking too loud or low or fast or otherwise partly indistinct, the audience loses the connecting links. One word missed by a hearer is likened unto one link broken out of a chain, and thereby our ship, intelligence, may drift away from the mooring subject.

Do not speak too loud if you want to be well and pleasantly understood. A short and comprehensive precept and example, in distinct utterance is contained in the following rule, "Sound the last letter of every word." This will compel you to speak comparatively slow which is essential, for strong thoughts and arguments should be expressed deliberately. Even very superior intellects assimilate mental pabulum leisurely. In our Associations and Conventions it is painful at times to behold a member speaking, but what he says is unheard by half the audience. No wonder delegates sometimes call out "please speak louder," much to the annoyance of the speaker, but to the delight of others anxious to catch and comprehend all the facts and arguments. Persons addressing such meetings are public speakers at home, accustomed generally to smaller rooms and audiences; but being very intelligent individuals (the flower of the land attend these gatherings, as delegates or friends) they should certainly estimate the size of the room, and speak so distinct that the furthest person present can hear every word. Less than that would be unworthy of the speaker or the subject.

A very worthy clergyman was teaching a large Bible-class some years ago, and on my inquiring, one of the members said the lessons were probably good, but as about one quarter of the words were indistinct to those on the rear seats, they soon tired of trying to grasp the meaning and therefore let it all go. That teacher does not yet know that he half failed, because he looked at and talked to the front benches. It is far better to speak to and for those farthest away. But physician heal thyself, and remember that brevity is next to distinct utterance.

J. PARSONS.

Halifax, July 7th.