

The work of the Association began on Friday afternoon, June 29, with appropriate devotional exercises led by Rev. E. A. McPhee, Moderator of last year. After hearing the list of delegates read, the brethren chose Rev. W. H. Warren as Moderator, Bro. Arthur Simpson as Secretary, Rev. E. A. McPhee as Assistant Secretary, and Bro. W. T. Costain as Treasurer. Among visiting brethren invited to seats were Dr. Jones, of Acadia College; Principal Brittain, of Horton Academy; Rev. Mr. Bosworth, representing the Grande Ligne Mission, and Rev. A. Cohoon, of Wolfville. An interesting and very full report on Obituaries was read by Rev. A. F. Browne, making touching reference to the names of honored brethren and sisters who have entered the unseen city since our last gathering. Among these names were those of Dr. Covey, Deacon John S. McDonald, Bro. Herbert Bain, Mrs. John Nichols, Mrs. J. W. Keirstead and Miss Clemmie Clark. Remarks respecting the faithfulness and zeal of these departed friends were made by Rev. J. C. Spurr and Rev. E. A. McPhee. Though dead our loved ones still live in grateful memory and in the works which follow them.

Friday evening was given to a consideration of the spiritual training of our young people. The Moderator presented a report on Sunday School work, showing that there are thirty-two Sunday Schools on the Island, attended by about sixteen hundred pupils and managed by one hundred and seventy officers and teachers. Suggestions were made as to the best means of increasing the usefulness and efficiency of this important department of Christian work. More careful preparation at home for class-work was recommended, and the friends of the young were urged to make the spiritual welfare of each pupil a prime consideration. An excellent address by Rev. E. A. McPhee followed, presenting the necessity of having attractive school-rooms, cheerfulness in dealing with the young, and prayerful earnestness in seeking to win them to Christ.

Systematic beneficence came up for discussion in the form of a suggestive report on the subject by Bro. B. Howatt. New Testament methods and motives were emphasized in connection with all our benevolent contributions. It was shown that churches which do not generously respond to the appeals of missionary workers are not only failing to discharge their duties to the unsaved but are laying the foundations for their own decay.

Rev. A. F. Browne spoke with much energy in relation to the need of enlarged liberality among those who profess to be the followers of Christ. Self-sacrifice is demanded of us all, and we have little of the spirit of our great Master unless we are willing to follow his example in this particular.

Dr. Jones was called to the platform and subjected to a shower of questions on all phases of Sunday School training. He passed through the ordeal with becoming patience, and solved the problems presented to him in a very satisfactory manner. His old pupils rather enjoyed pouring in this fusillade of interrogatories upon him, in remembrance of the searching questions he formerly set before them in the College class-room.

Saturday forenoon was spent in listening to a well-prepared digest of letters read by Rev. J. C. Spurr. From this abstract it was gathered that forty-nine baptisms have taken place during the year, but eighteen deaths, and the removal of members to other communities, have resulted in a slight falling off in the total membership of our Island churches.

The Moderator read a paper on Church Discipline, pointing out the difficulties attendant upon this element of church life, but vigorously urging faithfulness on the part of sincere workers in prosecuting this line of Christian duty. Rev. E. Bosworth, Bro. John Nichols and others followed with helpful remarks upon the same topic.

Rev. A. H. Whitman read a vigorous report on Denominational Literature. The need of carefully chosen books in our schools and homes was clearly shown. Pernicious literature is too common. The Book of books is neglected by many, and religious literature is not sufficiently patronized. Words of hearty commendation were spoken in behalf of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, and its many excellencies pointed out in terms of warm appreciation. A number of speakers strongly supported the sentiments of this report. The paper was commended especially for its judicious editorial and business management, and for its pronounced advocacy of those religious and moral principles which tend to exalt and purify social life.

A stirring address on French missionary efforts was given by Rev. E. Bosworth. He pointed out the obligations resting upon all our churches to assist in evangelizing that large portion of the population of our Dominion which is still under the domination of the Roman Catholic priesthood, and showed how much had already been accomplished by the institution at Grande Ligne. Many questions were asked and answered respecting this important work.

A crowded hall greeted the speaker on Education Saturday evening. Rev. G. P. Raymond read an excellent report on this subject, making plain the aims and successes of Acadia College and its affiliated institutions at Wolfville, and urging renewed efforts in lifting off the

burden of its indebtedness. The past year has evidently been one of marked advancement in our educational enterprise, and we have much to encourage us to strive for further enlargement. Rev. A. E. Hooper, of Cavenish, dwelt upon the general benefits of education, particularly in relation to the moral and religious welfare of the young. Bro. Freeman, who is at present doing missionary work at Tyne Valley, Belmont, and other places, gave a description of the character and method of the study done at Acadia, warmly eulogizing the professors and students, and showing the excellence of the spiritual influences which seem to pervade all departments of the institutions at Horton.

Principal Brittain, of the Academy, made a felicitous address respecting student life and experiences. The benefits conferred upon our denomination by Horton Academy were forcibly shown, and young men of promise were urged to avail themselves of the advantages afforded by this excellent school.

Dr. Jones spoke in his usual pleasing style concerning the growth and prospects of Acadia College. He complimented P. E. Island for its successful students, and dwelt with much satisfaction upon the world-wide influence exerted by the sons of Acadia in every sphere of noble effort. A strong appeal for continued aid and sympathy in this great work was made, and young men and young women were encouraged to turn their faces toward the institutions at Wolfville.

The gatherings on Sunday were very large. At the morning service Rev. H. Carter preached the Associational sermon, taking for his text the words, "Stand therefore having your loins girt about with truth," taken from Ephesians 6:14. It was an appropriate and well-prepared discourse, delivered with much warmth and energy. Sincerity in the Christian profession, fidelity in service, and steadfastness in faith were shown to be vital elements in the believer's spiritual success. In the afternoon an inspiring missionary meeting was held. Rev. A. H. Whitman read a touching letter from Bro. Hardy, our Foreign missionary, relating to the sad removal of his wife by death. An admirable address was given by Rev. G. P. Raymond on the general missionary obligations resting upon the church of Christ to evangelize the world. Reference was made to the recent international missionary gathering held at New York, and to the encouraging progress which has been made in all lands in spreading the glad tidings of salvation.

Rev. A. Cohoon followed in a rousing presentation of the results and prospects of work in the home fields. He showed clearly how much the stronger churches owe to the weaker ones for accessions to membership and for zealous pastors. The Island has been greatly aided by the H. M. Board, and the churches are under very strong obligations to enlarge their contributions for this department of denominational work. The service throughout was well adapted to make abiding impressions upon the hearts of all present.

Sunday evening found the large hall crowded to its utmost capacity. Rev. A. Cohoon blew the gospel trumpet with soul-stirring earnestness, showing how Christ has put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. An impressive evangelistic service followed, led by Rev. E. A. McPhee, during which a large number of warm testimonials were given by brethren and sisters.

Monday morning found the delegates in their places. A report on our Island B. Y. P. Unions was presented by Rev. A. H. Whitman, indicating some measure of vitality in these societies, and giving promise of more vigorous efforts during the coming year in the way of systematizing and enlarging their plans of work.

Rev. A. F. Browne followed with a rousing address on the relation of the prayer meeting to the spiritual health of the church, pointing out that we are in danger of drifting away from this Scriptural means of gaining divine blessings.

A timely Circular Letter was read by Rev. E. A. McPhee, his topic being "Elements of strength in New Testament churches." It was decided to send printed copies of this excellent letter to the churches connected with the Association.

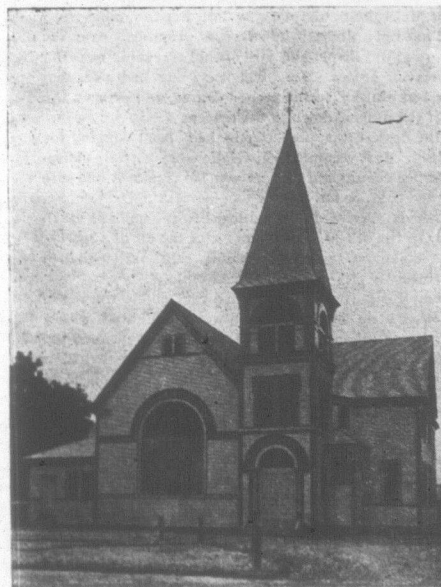
A carefully prepared and comprehensive report on Missions was read by Rev. E. A. McPhee, giving a brief review of the recent successes achieved in this sphere of our work. Bro. Cohoon announced the plan which had been formed for raising \$50,000 as a suitable new century memorial fund. The Association gave its endorsement to the scheme, and recommended earnest co-operation in the endeavor to raise the needed amount.

Temperance received due attention in connection with a report having the right ring, presented by Bro. J. S. Clark. It urged a firm stand for prohibition, and expressed approval of the measures recently passed by the Island Legislature looking toward this end. Stirring addresses were made by brethren Arthur Simpson, W. B. Howatt, John Nichols, Philip Laird and others, showing the necessity of combined efforts in overthrowing the liquor traffic.

The closing services on Monday evening were of a deeply interesting and impressive character. In behalf of the Association the Moderator gave a cordial welcome and fraternal hand of fellowship to Brethren Hooper and Freeman, who have recently entered upon

pastoral duties on P. E. Island. Rev. J. C. Spurr preached a faithful sermon from the words, "Call upon him while he is near," and Rev. A. F. Browne conducted an evangelistic service, during which a large number of persons took part in witnessing for the Master. Many of the young seemed to be awakened to new hope in the way of salvation, and much satisfaction was manifest when it was announced by Pastor Whitman that special meetings would be continued at Kautsford during the week.

The Moderator in fitting terms, conveyed to the friends at O'Leary and vicinity, the sincere thanks of the delegates for generous hospitality enjoyed and for Christian courtesy shown by other denominations. It was felt by all present that the meetings had been marked by rich blessings from above, and that a new impulse had been given to our religious enterprises. After singing the beautiful hymn, "God be with you till we meet again," the Association adjourned to meet on the first Friday in July, 1901, at such place as shall be arranged for by the committee appointed to attend to this matter.



Aylesford Baptist Church.

The Aylesford Baptist house of worship, of which an excellent cut is presented herewith, is one of the neatest and most complete church buildings in Nova Scotia. Its audience room is seated amphitheatrically with shaped pews manufactured by the Globe Furniture Co., of Walkerville, Ont. The walls and ceilings are covered with steel sheathing of neat designs, which with the delicate shades and tints of painting produces a very pleasing effect. On the west side a rostrum of liberal dimension is backed by a choir chancel, and these are connected by doors on the south side with the pastor's room and the choir room respectively. On the north side of the rostrum and in full view of the seated audience, stands a very pretty baptistery, surmounted by a plate glass top with silver mountings. It is entered from robing rooms in the rear. On the east side the school room directly opposite the rostrum is connected with the audience room by two rising doors stretching its full width. A large class room and the librarian's room open into the school room. The main vestibule is located beneath the tower on the south east corner and leads directly to both the audience room and school room, while a small vestibule on the opposite side affords ingress also to both rooms. The entire ground floor is wainscotted with hardwood finished in medium antique, thus blending with the pews which have oak ends and black ash backs, and with the vestry settees of oak. A unique feature of the audience room is the memorial windows, of which a portion only are yet in position. The choir chancel is lighted by a handsome three-pane window in memory of Geo. W. West, Rev. Wm. Raymond, missionary to Africa, 1840-47, and Andrew Lee, the gift of Mrs. West and Mrs. Lee. In the south wall a large pastor's window bearing the names of all the pastors of the church from its organization to date, will emphasize the pastoral thought, by presenting the figures of Christ as the Good Shepherd, supported by Peter, John, James and Paul, accompanied by appropriate texts. This will be surmounted by a semi-circular top of artistic design, bearing on its centrepiece the date of the church's organization. Directly opposite in the north wall will stand another window of similar dimensions, to the memory of the deceased deacons of the church, George West, Eleazar D. Harris, Zechariah Whitman, Beriah Graves and Samuel Bowlby. These windows are the combined gifts of the friends and relatives of the men whose names they bear, chief among whom are Judge Chipman, Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., Mrs. Capt. Amos Burns, C. E. Harris, Mrs. Beriah Graves, George McGregor and Mrs. Samuel Bowlby. Above the school room are five large class rooms and a kitchen, with pantry and closet. Three can be thrown into one room by means of folding doors, making a dining room thirty-three feet long and twelve feet wide. A completely finished belfry occupies third story of the tower.