

Messenger and Visitor

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SAINT JOHN, N. B. WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1896.

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—A public with pleasure in another column President Sawyer's "Word More" referring to the great value of the services rendered by Hon. Dr. Parker to the denomination in connection with our educational work, and especially as a governor of Acadia College. The tribute is richly merited. The college and its kindred institutions have always had a place near the heart of the denomination. Many have loved them well. But among all who have held them dear and labored to promote their welfare, it would be difficult to name one who has shown a more constant, unselfish and practical friendship than has the honored brother of whom the President of the College writes.

—Poetic justice recently overtook an anarchist and would-be murderer at Aniche, France, in a very sudden and effective manner. The tragedy occurred in connection with the celebration of the 50th year of a certain M. Vuillemin's management of the coal mines of Aniche. An anarchist miner, named Decoux, who had previously been dismissed from the employ of the Company, approached M. Vuillemin and fired three shots from a revolver at him, all of which took effect, inflicting serious but not dangerous wounds. Decoux then attempted to throw a dynamite bomb, but it exploded in his hands, dismembering the murderer and hurling his writhing body a distance of eleven feet from where he stood, causing his death in a few minutes.

—REV. RUSSELL H. CONWELL, pastor of the Grace Baptist church, Philadelphia, is said to enjoy the distinction of preaching to the largest congregation in America. Of Mr. Conwell's early life and conversion *Zion's Herald* gives the following account:

"Born and brought up on a small farm in western Massachusetts, he was an officer in the Civil War. Subsequently he became a sort of Bohemian for years. As a newspaper correspondent he travelled throughout the far East. An infidel and gambler, he was induced to reform through the influence of a singular incident. He is said to have been the man who, while engaged in gaming at Long Kong, China, hummed the Sunday school tune, set to Phoebe Carr's beautiful lines,—

"One sweetly solemn thought
Comes to me o'er and o'er,"

suggesting to his companion in sin associations and memories of other days, which led him to say, "Conwell has played my last game of cards," and who from that moment became a changed man. Whether just at that time and place Mr. Conwell was also converted, we are unable to say, but not long afterwards we find him a Christian man and a law student in Boston. While practicing law here he also turned his attention to authorship, and among other works wrote "Boston After the Fire." He is also said to have led a large and enthusiastic teachers' Sunday school class at Tremont Temple long before the days of Dr. Meredith and Mr. Cable."

—In the historical account of Rev. J. H. Foshy delivered at the laying of the corner stone of the new Yarmouth church, published in the Yarmouth Times, of July 19, and republished on our first page two weeks ago, a sentence referring to the organization of the church read as follows: "As nearly as can be ascertained from the records of Mr. Harding, this took place in 1791, when, by vote of the proprietors of the house, it became a regular Baptist church, the Rev. Harris Harding being called to the pastorate." Between this statement and the inscription said to be engraved on the corner stone—"organized 1797"—there appeared to us to be an evident discrepancy, and we therefore suggest in a foot note that "1791" in the sentence above was probably a misprint for 1797. Mr. Foshy has since written us, explaining that "1791" was not in itself a misprint, but that the apparent discrepancy in dates was due to the fact that some words in his manuscript had been omitted—indirectly we presume—from the historical sketch as it appeared in the *Times*. The sentence quoted should read as follows: "As nearly as can be ascertained from the records of Mr. Harding, this took place in 1791, and was a church on the mixed membership plan, which it continued to be till 1797, when, by vote of the proprietors of the house, it became a regular Baptist church, the Rev. Harris Harding being called to the pastorate."

The authorities of the Washington, D. C., Smithsonian Institute, have awarded the Hodgins prize as follows: First grand prize, \$10,000, to Lord Rayleigh and Prof. Ramsay, of London, for their discovery of argon as a constituent element of the atmosphere. Third prize, \$1,000, to Henry de Varigny, of Paris, for the best popular essay on the properties of the atmosphere. The second grand prize of \$5,000 was not awarded, none of the contestants fulfilling the conditions.

Minsard's Honey Balsam, once tried always used.

A Word More.

Every reader of the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, at all acquainted with the facts, must have felt that the acknowledgment of Dr. Parker's generous and unswerving support of all the benevolent enterprises of the denomination was amply deserved. But his relations to one of the objects have been so intimate and his services in its behalf so valuable that they should be especially noted. For nearly the entire period of his professional life, Dr. Parker has been officially connected with the management of our educational institutions. His contributions for their financial support have been frequent and large. He has been one of the most constant in his attendance on the meetings of the Board of Governors in Wolfville and elsewhere, although that attendance must often have seriously interfered with his professional practice. His counsels were always wise and helpful. His cheerfulness, his courage and cheerfulness in circumstances of discouragement have led to success from the brink of defeat.

Such faithful devotion to the interests of our educational institutions deserves special acknowledgment. The example ought to be an incentive to similar devotion on the part of many young men in the same good work.

—A. W. SAWYER.

Questions.

1. Is it not a pastor's duty to preach against the open fault of church members, and kindly advise them not to engage in such faults as best-selling on the Sabbath, passing the church on prayer meeting evening for a walk, rather than come to the meeting, and such like?
2. Is it becoming for church members to discuss the pastor for denouncing the common errors and worldly sins of the day, before the world?
3. Is it a case that calls for discipline of the members, and whose duty is it to be private or public offences—if any?

The first and second of these questions do not seem to require any answer. The things named are of course unbecoming and wrong in members of the church and they should not be offended with the pastor for reproving them for wrongdoing, and for publicly warning his people against popular sins and evil habits into which they are liable to fall. The pastor, on his part, however, should be careful to speak the truth in love and to improve in the spirit of gentleness and wisdom. Merely censorious reproof untempered by sympathy and a strong desire to help the erring may easily do more harm than good.

The third question it seems impossible to answer specifically. It is in the highest degree unbecoming for church members to talk openly against their pastor, even though his course in some matters may not commend itself to their judgment; and to speak falsely against the pastor and thus injure his reputation and usefulness is a grave offence not only against the minister but against Christ and the church. It is to be feared that church members are sometimes guilty of this in a thoughtless way, without considering the sinfulness of their conduct. Whether speaking against the pastor should be regarded as a private or a public offence would depend, we suppose, on what has been said and how. But of course church discipline in such a matter should be employed only when kindly and persistent personal efforts on the part of the pastor and others had failed to bring the offenders to a due sense of their wrong-doing.

Lunenburg Co. District Meeting.

On July 8th Lunenburg Co. Baptist pastor and delegates to the number of twenty-three, met in quarterly district meeting on Tanook Island. Much enthusiasm was evoked at the meeting, displaying itself in an annihilation of the debt remaining against the late Lunenburg Baptist, and a material increase in the special fund accumulating for the support of an evangelist in our county. Gratifying news was presented by pastor Raymond of the proposed organization of a Baptist church in the important centre of New Canada, where student pastor Whitman has been labouring with praiseworthy diligence for the past nine months.

A crowded house and warm attention greeted pastor Raymond, to whom the exercises of the evening had been assigned. His discourse on "The Church—the body of Christ," was most impressive and practical. Through the secretary the pastors of the county express their deep sorrow, and sense of loss in the resignation of pastor Raymond, who has won the love of his people as well as brother ministers, no less by his Christian manhood, than by his special capacity for efficient service. We meet in September, if God will, with session held in New Canada. H. A. FORSTER, Sec.

[Bro. Porter states that his absence from home has prevented an earlier report of the quarterly meeting being sent. It is, of course, very desirable, if such reports are to be published in our columns, that they be forwarded as soon after the meetings are held as possible.]

—Ed.

Halifax Notes.

Summer weather continues, the park and public gardens are having large call from citizens and visitors.

A very large delegation, representing various Orange lodges in Canada, assembled in Halifax and elected their officers for the ensuing year, and to-day the Y. M. C. Association of the Maritime Provinces opened here in the Grafton street church. Dr. F. W. Kelly, Montreal, W. D. Millar, International Sec'y, Evangelist Gale and other prominent workers are to address the various meetings.

Rev. S. W. Stevens, from Philadelphia, occupied the pulpit and preached in First Baptist church recently and Professor Keirstead, last Sunday. Bro. Chute is expected home this week. Dr. Saunders and family are away.

Rev. W. E. Hall and Dr. Kempton still hold the fort.

North church has had the pleasure of listening to Dr. Blazern of Cambridge, Mass., for three Sundays. He is an able preacher.

West End is having visitors. Bro. Jackson from Sackville has visited and preached last two Sundays.

Corwallis St. church (colored) still without a pastor, is having local supplies. Their Sunday school and prayer meetings are being fairly well sustained. These dear people need a pastor.

Rev. J. W. Brown, French Village, met with the district committee and reported from his field. He is finding the field a large one and is making an effort to have a helper, who will take one part. The work is great.

The up for have under consideration the establishing of a day school for the Preston field.

Beach Hill and Africville are having local supply and the people in these places are well looked after by the churches in the city.

Rev. D. G. McDonald made a flying visit this week.

Rev. W. N. Hutcheson, Canning, and Elbert E. Gates, Bennett, N. Y., are having sessions in Halifax.

Corwallis St. church held their annual meeting in North church last week at which time the appointment of officers took place. See B. Y. P. U. column later.

The railway is still under consideration. The city council is being petitioned against permitting the company to lay double tracks on the principal streets.

The widening of Lockman street is being taken under consideration and between these two items it looks as though the city will not have either this fall. More anon. G. A. M.

Golden Wedding.

The following account of an interesting anniversary appeared recently in the Yarmouth Light. It is forwarded to the MESSENGER AND VISITOR with a request for general publication in our columns. In complying with this request we desire to present our congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Patten on the long and prosperous life journey they have, by the blessing of Providence, made together. May there be for them—other happy years to come!

The 25th of July was observed by N. E. Patten, Esq., and his good wife as the 50th anniversary of their marriage, and it was probably the largest gathering of invited guests in this village. Those present were favored to begin to come about 3 o'clock, and at about 6 o'clock nearly 200 had arrived and sat down to tables placed about the grounds, which were furnished with very many delicacies. Upon the tables, however, the chief object of interest was a massive bridal cake, most artistically and beautifully ornamented and bearing the date 1848-1893. This cake was the handiwork of James Cooke, jr., and was certainly a masterpiece of the confectioner's art in a pleasant manner of questioning and in a pleasant manner of questioning and some presents were received.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

Allow me to acknowledge the receipt of ten dollars, on the 6th inst., from some "friend" whose name does not appear in the letter. I take this way, not only of acknowledging the highly appreciated favor, but of tendering my warmest thanks to the "friend" who has thus so kindly remembered me in this tangible way. May the rich blessings of a merciful Saviour be theirs to enjoy.

Mrs. T. M. MURDO.

Tusket, N. S., Aug 7, '96.

S. S. Convention.

The fourth annual session of the Sabbath School Convention of the E. B. Association of N. B., met with the First Hillsboro' church, July 10th, at 2 p. m. Rev. S. W. Keirstead called the meeting to order, short time was spent in prayer; after which the roll of delegates was called. There were found to be delegates present from twenty-five different schools. During the convention statistical reports came in from sixty schools. The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Bro. G. P. Steeves; Vice-President, Bro. J. H. Colpitts; Sec.-Treas. Rev. S. R. Cornwall; programme committee, Bro. John I. Steeves, Rev. W. Camp and Rev. M. Gross.

The modal lesson was then taken up by Rev. W. Camp and carried forward in a very able and interesting manner. Chief thought brought out, "God demands a spiritual and holy worship." Next, encouraging reports were read from parish superintendents, Bro. William Tingley, of Point de But; Sister N. C. Atkinson, of Grandville, Harcourt; Des. Palmer, of Dorchester, who reported two old schools reorganized and other interesting matter; Miss Mary Bacon, from Hopewell parish; also Bro. Samuel Balseg presented reports two new schools organized in Coverdale parish, one at Stony Creek and one at Grand Falls, the latter being a union school. The delegates present from the different schools were now called on and responded cheerfully, giving short but encouraging reports from their schools. Rev. W. Camp then presented a paper, that the interest in Sunday school work among us is deepening and widening.

Evening session opened at 7.30. The programme as previously arranged was then taken up.

(1) Rev. S. W. Keirstead, paper. Subject: "The aims and objects of S. S. work;" introductory thought, "Teach the people to remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." 1. To train intellectually; 2. Moral culture, everything should be done decently and in order; scholars should be taught with high regard for moral character; 3. Highest aim, "The salvation of souls." Then the training for future work. This paper was discussed by Rev. S. H. Cornwall and Rev. A. H. Lavers.

(2) Rev. N. A. McNeil, paper. Subject: "Suggestions to S. S. workers." 1. Necessity of knowledge of the truth we undertake to teach; 2. Should teach with certainty, not hesitancy, but reliable truth; 3. Secure best help but not walk with it; 4. Talk on your own legs; 5. Be plain, use plain, plain language; what you teach, know the scholars, study their disposition, be patient, make them intelligent citizens, pray for them, stand next to their parents—Remember you are to give an account of your stewardship. Discussed by Rev. A. H. Lavers, Bro. Rufus Tingley; Rev. B. N. Hughes spoke of when the children went to school, Rev. S. W. Keirstead emphasized the power of christian living on the part of teachers.

(3) Rev. F. C. Wright, paper. Subject: "The teacher's preparation for his or her work." 1. The S. S. teacher's work Scriptural and Historic; 2. Why should the teachers be trained? Responsibilities of the work. An ignorant man cannot teach, needs Biblical knowledge, should know the contents and contents of the books of the Bible; 3. Knowledge of human nature; 4. Principles and philosophy of teaching; 5. Skill ability to do quickly and at the right time; 6. Spirituality, personal acquaintance with Christ, seeking help from the Holy Spirit; 7. The need of teachers meetings, etc. Discussed by Rev. W. Weeks and Rev. S. W. Keirstead.

(4) Rev. H. H. Saunders, paper. Subject: "The teacher's work in the S. S. school." 1. Hold the time for your lesson undisturbed; 2. Realize the force of the truth you teach in your own experience; 3. Aim to magnify Christ; 4. You must be in earnest; 5. Teach your scholars to practice, apply the truth, etc. Discussed by Rev. A. H. Lavers, Rev. S. H. Cornwall.

(5) Rev. W. C. Vincent being absent, Rev. W. Weeks was called on to take his place, he cheerfully responded and spoke on the following subject: "Indifference of Parents to the Spiritual Welfare of their children." He emphasized the following thoughts: The parent stands nearer to the children than any other teacher. The home of Moses must have been an ideal home. Faith develops action, fruits of dancing and card playing.

So closed the evening's programme, everyone present must have been profited and every Sunday school worker went home resolving to do better work for God the coming year.

Saturday morning session opened by the secretary, prayer by Rev. C. P. [F. C.] Wright. Rev. W. Weeks appointed to answer questions posed in the question box.

Parish officers were appointed for the following parishes, Dorchester, Dea. W. H. Bowser; Salisbury, Bro. D. A. Jones; St. John's, Miss Winnie Harter; Westport, Bro. William Tingley; J. Bonafant; Miss Nettie Lavers; Harcourt, Mrs. W. C. Atkinson; Campbellton, Bro. H. N. Bray; Elgin, I. H. Colpitts; Coverdale, Bro. Samuel Balseg; Hillsboro, Bro. Jerome Dawson; Hopewell, Bro. G. C. B. Olive; Harvey, Dea. C. W. Anderson; Alma, Dea. Rommel; Sackville, Bro. A. C. Sears; Moncton, A. E. Wall. Resolved the secretary have power to add to these others if found necessary. The duty of these officers is to do all in their power to forward Sunday school work in their several parishes, organizing new schools, etc., reporting work done and statistics of schools to the convention annually.

The secretary's report was now called for. Reported Sabbath schools heard

from in this association in all sixty; scholars, 2,594; average attendance, 2,653; teachers, 233; adults, 373; expenses, \$750; benevolent contributions, \$102.80; baptisms, 225; Moncton, 3 schools, 30 baptized; Demoiselle Creek, 1 school, 23; Hillsboro 1st, 23; Havelock, 17; St. John's, 15; Dorchester, 14; Hopewell Hill, 13; twenty-two report, baptisms from 1-10; thirty-eight no baptisms; churches without Sunday schools as far as can be learned, Bayside, 3rd Salisbury, Cossaigne; Port Elgin is reported to have a union school. To the association last year 55 reported. We have heard of three new ones being organized during the year. Report was received and resolved it be read in association.

Rev. W. W. Weeks was now called upon to answer the questions put in the box.

(1) How can we get the S. S. work better in touch with the people? 2. Is it better to have a word (?) teacher of two classes in one? 3. What about Union schools? Answer to No. 2, classes should always have a christian teacher. "If the blind lead the blind they both fall into the ditch." 3. Whenever possible have Baptist schools. A union cannot be a success.

Adjourned to meet in special session Monday morning at 9 a. m.

Monday morning session opened by Vice-president I. H. Colpitts.

Resolved, Secretary attend to publishing minutes and papers read at the Convention.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to consider the question of the reports of the convention placing a general S. S. missionary on the field during a part of the year at least, in order to push our work when necessary in the Eastern Association. Further this committee have power to act in whatever way deemed desirable by them.

Committee, Rev. S. W. Keirstead, Rev. W. W. Weeks and Rev. S. H. Cornwall.

Resolved, That this convention earnestly request pastors and superintendents of schools, whether lesson helps, S. S. papers or libraries be produced by Baptist publishing houses. Adjourned to meet day previous to meeting of Association next year. S. H. CORNWALL, Sec'y.

Quarterly Meeting.

The report of the quarterly meeting of Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska counties held June 21st, has just reached this office. The only part of this report which it seems worth while at this date to publish is contained in the following concluding sentences of it:

The sessions were pronounced by all pleasant and profitable. Total collections were taken to amount of \$15.65. The next meeting will be with the Wakefield church on the 3rd Friday in September. Rev. J. H. McDonald is named to preach the opening sermon on Friday evening, Rev. J. B. Morgan the missionary sermon on Saturday evening, and Rev. Jos. Cahill the quarterly sermon with Rev. Calvin Currie as alternate.

J. B. MORGAN, Sec.-Treas.

Jacksonville, N. B., July 15, 1895.

The Convention.

TRAVELLING ARRANGEMENTS.

The following railway and steamboat lines will carry delegates to the Baptist Convention to be held at St. John, N. B., 24th to 28th of August, at one first-class fare, full local fare to be paid going and return free on presentation of a certificate of attendance, signed by the Secretary, to the ticket agent or purser: Yarmouth Steamship Co. Star Line, Salmon River Boat, Coastal Steam Packet Co., Canada Coals & Convey Co., Central Ry., Salisbury & Harvey Ry., Elgin & Havelock Ry.

The Canada Eastern Ry. will issue return tickets from 22nd to 24th; P. E. I. Ry., 21st to 23rd. On Charlotteown Steam Navigation Co. Steamers and the May Queen ask for a delegates ticket, on your return certificates to be presented to the purser or conductor with the ticket.

If twenty delegates pay fare one way on Bras D'Or Steamers they will be returned free on presentation of certificate of attendance signed by the Secretary.

The Nova Scotia Central Ry. and Steamer Monticello will charge one third fare when returning with certificate of attendance.

The Intercolonial Ry., Shore Line Ry., Canadian Pacific Ry. and Dominion & Atlantic Ry. will provide standard certificates to delegates at the starting station which must be filled in by the ticket agent, in the case of delegates to be present to the ticket agent for a ticket to return. The Intercolonial and Shore Line will return delegates free. The Canadian Pacific and Dominion & Atlantic one-third fare.

W. B. M. U.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR AUGUST.

For our annual gathering that the blessing of God may rest upon every one here and freedom from all sin give us that we may wisely extend His Kingdom.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Woman's Missionary Aid Societies will be held in the Lanster street church St. John, on Friday, Aug. 24th, at 9.30 a. m. Executive meeting on Thursday evening at 7.30.

We are very anxious that as many as possible of the older members of our Societies shall be present and at the Saturday morning meeting tell of the beginnings of mission work in their W. M. A. S. This should be a meeting of great interest and profit. The programme published in last week's issue will give all necessary information concerning the exercises.

A large number of W. M. A. S. and Mission Bands have not yet sent in their reports to Mrs. Margaret Cox, Chipman, Queens Co., N. B. Will not the sisters attend to this promptly? If blanks have failed to reach you, do not wait to send for them at this late hour; but forward immediately to Mrs. Cox the necessary information so that she can prepare her report. We want to hear from every Society and Mission Band in New Brunswick.

The 25th anniversary of the W. M. A. Society was celebrated on Thursday, July 11th, 1895. Programme as follows: Social meeting at 5.30 p. m. opened by singing a hymn. Mrs. Harding read scripture and made appropriate comments, a number of papers were interspersed with music. Our president then addressed us, giving many interesting facts connected with the origin of the W. M. A. Society in the provinces and of the indefatigable work done by Miss Norris previous to her going out to India. What a brave little woman she was and how difficulties receded before her firm faith. But, "with God nothing is impossible." Then came roll call with scripture or other response, and while the meeting was large we still had to regret the absence of many whom we would have been delighted to see.

Mrs. Alex. Christie gave a very fine report of the county convention, held at Port Greville, and Mrs. D. A. Steele and Mrs. C. Christie added some interesting items. The latter told some encouraging things of county work. Mrs. M. A. Logan, Amber Point, Mrs. Hugh Logan and Mrs. W. Bent, Salem, each had something of interest to relate. Mrs. George gave one of her pleasant talks. Nearly an hour was spent in hand shaking and social chat, after which tea was served in the dining room, in the basement of our new church. It was a very enjoyable time. About 75 ladies and a half dozen or more gentlemen were present.

The public meeting at 3 p. m. was presided over by Rev. Dr. Steele, opened with music by choir, Scripture reading and prayer by our pastor. The annual report of Society read by secretary, Dr. Steele made a few remarks and called on Mrs. George, who read an excellent paper, drawing strong contrast between girl life in India and in this country. Miss George sang a very sweet solo. Envelopes were opened by Mrs. G. B. Smith and Mrs. Alex. Christie. A pleasant break in the monotony occurred when Mrs. Smith announced \$25.00 from Mr. G. B. Smith to constitute Mrs. J. Moffatt a life member, and presented that lady with the certificate. A hearty "Praise God from whom" etc. was sung, and opening of envelopes resumed with an occasional scripture selection from the audience. Dr. Steele read extracts from Dr. Boggs's fine missionary paper, published in MESSENGER AND VISITOR. Collection was taken up. The result of donations and collection was \$113.63. Anthem by choir. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Lavers. Benediction was pronounced and meeting adjourned. Thus passed one of the most successful of our anniversaries.

A. E. BLACK, Sec.

The quarterly meeting of the societies in Halifax and Dartmouth were held in the vestry of the North church on August 6th. Mrs. D. G. MacDonald presided, giving us in her own words many helpful thoughts from 2 Kings 5. The year's work was spoken of by representatives from each society. Progress had been made in each case. Five life members had been made, and to the society in the North church, Crusade Day had added twenty two members.

By a unanimous vote the yearly meeting of these societies was changed from January to September. This change has long been necessary and will help greatly to increase our work.

Mrs. Blackburn, of Mass, gave an interesting address from her own personal experience, on "How to interest women and children in the work of Missions."

For the first time in the history of these quarterly meetings we were honored with a visit from one of our brethren, (Brother McDonald), who was cordially invited to a seat with us (as they say in association) and made a telling speech, if a novel one, in his own language was many helpful thoughts from 2 Kings 5. The year's work was spoken of by representatives from each society. Progress had been made in each case. Five life members had been made, and to the society in the North church, Crusade Day had added twenty two members.

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