

(Continued from first page.)

at such time as might be most convenient to themselves.

The letter writers were directed to acknowledge respectfully the receipt of the kind invitation, and intimate our acceptance for Friday afternoon from 3 to 5 o'clock.

The Secretary also read a telegram containing fraternal greetings from the Montreal Conference now in session at Quebec. Directed that it be fittingly responded to.

Moved and agreed that a telegram containing fraternal greetings be sent to the New Brunswick and P. E. Island Conference now in session in St. Stephen's. The Conference then proceeded to the discussion of ministerial character with closed doors. After the doors were opened, considerable discussion arose upon a motion to appoint a committee upon systematic beneficence. It was decided however that the only committee that could work efficiently must be a committee of the whole, and it was recommended that each minister should strive to carry out more fully the financial regulations of the Discipline.

The Report of the Educational Committee was on motion laid on the table, preparatory to the educational meeting to be held in the evening. This report showed that the receipts of the Society, \$536.74, were very far from being so large as desirable, less indeed than last year. A letter was also read, in connection with the Report, from the Rev. H. Sprague, Secretary of the Committee of the Educational Fund of the late Conference of Eastern British America in reference to the disposal of funds still remaining to that society. The proposition was to divide those between the Endowment Fund of the College and the Endowment Fund of the Theological Professorship at Sackville.

Considerable discussion ensued during which it was elicited that a number of the brethren had not received their just claims from this fund, and there was besides some dissatisfaction in reference to former legislation upon the subject. It was on motion laid over for further consideration. The remainder of the session was occupied in routine work.

The following report of the Educational Meeting we take from the Chronicle.

The Conference Education Meeting was held on Thursday evening. The President, Rev. R. A. Temple took the chair at 7.30 o'clock. He referred to the fact that the Methodists desire to hold a middle course in reference to the education of ministers. He hoped the day would never come when mental culture would be exalted at the cost of vital piety, nor when it would be thought unnecessary to have educated men to stand in the pulpit and expound the word of God.

Rev. J. A. Rogers said that, when he read a short time ago of a certain gentleman being bidden in a public meeting, he wished he had been there to have quoted the words of Coleridge "when a cold stream of truth is poured upon red hot prejudice no wonder it hissed." To neglect the cultivation of man's moral nature while we pay attention to the lower intellectual is to mistake his position and requirements. Mr. Rogers enlarged upon this thought in his own neat style.

Dr. Allison, of Sackville, held it to be the duty of parents and guardians to provide for the religious training of their children when these have passed away from the common schools. He had never seen it necessary to place a ban on the word of God in Public free schools. He was pleased to see in Philadelphia the other day, in the magnificent Exhibition—intended to show the workings of the school system of that State—the words "every teacher in the State of Pennsylvania is particularly requested to attend to the moral and religious education of his pupils," displayed in various places on the sides of the exhibition building. Dr. A. held that under our circumstances there can be no better provision made for those who desire a liberal education than by providing for the denominational institutions under the care of responsible bodies. He endorsed the remark made in his hearing the other day, by Dr. Warren, of Boston—"The richer any institution becomes the poorer it becomes"—that is the moment one step is taken in advance, others are shown to be necessary.

Rev. J. Borden said that the Methodists have been charged with inconsistency in upholding nonsectarian common schools, while asking for denominational colleges. He showed that they do not make the present common school system a matter of conscience, but it is the best they can have under the circumstances, since they cannot here introduce denominational teaching, because of our peculiar position, but there is no necessity to eliminate it from higher education; nay, here it cannot be dispensed with.

Rev. J. Shenton and Rev. J. Hennigar made but a few remarks, because of the lateness of the hour.

FRIDAY MORNING—JUNE 23.

After a half-hour spent in devotional exercise the Conference opened as usual.

A telegram was read by the President from the N. B. Conference assembled at St. Stephens, conveying fraternal greeting and reciprocating, the kind wishes contained in our message of yesterday. From this message it was seen that Rev. R. Duncan, had been elected President and Rev. H. Sprague, Secretary.

A communication from Dr. Pickard in reference to the Supernumerary Fund was referred for consideration to the Supernumerary Fund Committee.

Rev. G. W. Tuttle presented a memorial from the Trustees of the Stellarton circuit setting forth the great difficulties

under which they were laboring on account of a debt on their church, and asking for Conference aid matter; referred to a special committee.

Rev. Mr. Pickles being desirous of revisiting his native land and attending the English Methodist Conference it was directed that the letter writers prepare the necessary letters recommending him to that body. Letters to the same effect were also directed to be prepared for Rev. T. W. Smith.

The Committee appointed to confer with Bro. England in reference to his course for the present year reported that Brother England be advised to assume a Supernumerary relation and that his peculiar case be represented as clearly as possible to the Parent Missionary Committee.

Conference then proceeded to the order of the day. The following members of General Committee were elected by ballot. Representative to Central Missionary Board—Rev. S. F. Huestis.

Representative to Central Educational Board and Local Treasurer—Rev. C. Jost A.M.

Considerable conversation arose concerning the action of the Transfer Committee participated in principally by the brethren Nicholson, Lockhart and Shenton. There was evidently considerable dissatisfaction with the working of the machinery connected with the transfer of ministers. No Resolution however was passed and Rev. J. S. Sponage was elected member of this committee.

Rev. J. Asbury was allowed three months leave of absence.

The following Ministers were presented by the various districts for ordination as having travelled four years:—

Revs. J. Scott, Wm. Brown, Wm. Ainsley, Arthur Hockin, John Astbury, Jos. M. Fisher, C. M. Tyler.

A discussion arose here in reference to the method of examination and marking of candidates papers. A new plan had been in operation during the past year taking the written examination out of the hands of the District and Conference and giving it wholly to an Examining Board. Doubts were freely expressed in reference to several points and it was finally agreed that the examiners should constitute a Committee for a re-investigation of the whole subject.

The further consideration of the names of Candidates was laid over.

On Friday evening was held the

SABBATH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

The circumstances were most propitious. An almost overflowing congregation—good speaking and excellent music by a gallery full of children ensured a meeting which for interest and we hope for profit will be excelled by few of the gatherings connected with our Confessional Session.

After the opening exercises the Report was read by the Secretary Rev. J. Strothard and is so concise and withal so encouraging that we feel impelled to give it entire, as setting forth more clearly and as briefly as any abstract could the facts connected with our work. It is as follows:

SABBATH SCHOOL REPORT.

While the Church of God rejoices over the general spiritual prosperity of the past year the Conference recognizes the Divine goodness in the large measure of success vouchsafed unto us in our Sabbath School enterprise. There are many features of the work which are truly encouraging and which the Conference records with deep gratitude. It is evident that the interest in our Sabbath Schools is deepening and extending among our people, and the record of the year shows that they are increasing in their number and efficiency. The number of conversions during the year is much larger than the previous year, and for these youthful converts gathering into the fold of the "Good Shepherd" the Conference is most devoutly thankful. Notwithstanding these pleasing facts we feel that our Sabbath-school system is far from being perfect, and in view of the vast importance of early conversion to God, and of keeping our children and youth within the pale of the church, the Conference would strongly urge upon all our people the necessity of supporting, by their sympathy and prayers, the efforts of the ministers and officers to render all our Sabbath Schools still more efficient, and to organize new schools wherever practicable. We have 159 schools, 1255 teachers, increase 110; 8531 scholars, increase 469; 450 conversions, increase 255; 961 meeting in class; 1,6731 volumes, increase 277; \$429.26 for Missions; for school purposes \$2473.77; total amount \$3081.20. Schools using uniform lessons 66; teachers' meetings 14; open the whole year 64.

The speakers were—Revs. G. Shore, C. Lockhart, J. G. Angwin, Sheriff Freeman, of Liverpool, Rev. J. A. Read, and J. R. Hart. Space forbids us to give even an abstract of the speeches. Suffice it to say that Mr. Shore's was good, but long. Mr. Lockhart's, long, but good; and Mr. Angwin's shorter, consequently better. Sheriff Freeman spoke pointedly and forcibly, but his points were like porcupine quills—sticking everywhere. He found fault with the report—with Sunday Schools in general—with ministers, superintendents, teachers, parents, the church, and in short, with everything but himself. This omission, however, was supplied by the speakers who followed. Mr. Read in particular, since the Sheriff had gone for the ministry, deemed it his duty to go for the Sheriff; consequently each one got his portion in due season. Mr. Hart brought the meeting to a very fine point by a speech of a half a minute.

SATURDAY MORNING—JUNE 24.

Conference opened as usual. A little time was occupied in settling the matter of Sabbath appointments, after which the business of the day was taken up. At this stage there arose the most general and extended debate of the session. The Examining Board, who had been appointed a committee upon the general subject of written examination, made its report. It was as follows:—

Resolved That the mode of examination for the present year be continued for the

coming year, with such changes in the Board as may be necessary to fill up the places of brethren who may be absent.

Also—that a meeting of the Examining Board be appointed among the Preparatory Committees to be convened on the day previous to the opening of Conference.

Also—that with a maximum standard of 1000, the minimum for a passable examination be fixed at 500; provided, nevertheless, that exceptional cases among the probationers may be recommended by the Districts for the favorable consideration of Conference.

A long and warm debate ensued, in which a large portion of the Conference took part. The principal points questioned were whether this Board should have power to arraign a candidate or probationer, or simply hand him over to Conference with its report. Secondly, Should there be any difference between candidates and probationers in this respect; and thirdly, whether candidates ought not to appear before Conference at their reception into the work. The last question was not connected with the report, but it came in very fully for discussion. The report was finally accepted by a very small majority. Mr. Angwin then gave notice to move a vote of reconsideration, and the whole matter will probably be up for the third time.

Dr. Allison spoke a few words previous to leaving the Conference, referring to our work at Sackville. His account of progress, both in the Male and Female branch of the Institution, was of the most cheering kind. He defined the position of Board of Governors in reference to the University of Halifax. It had expressed its approval of the scheme, not, however, as anticipating a Central Teaching University, but as a finality. It was also in favor of taking from the Government the additional thousand dollars, not with the idea that it was to be taken from them at the end of five years. It was fully committed to the principle of Denominational Collegiate Education, and deemed itself entitled to this sum as an acknowledgment in part of their service in the educational field.

He then gave a lucid and quite lengthy explanation of a matter concerning which he conceived there might be some misapprehension in the minds of members of Conference. That is concerning the funds remaining to the old Educational Society, referred to on a previous day. In his remarks he made it very clear that all required from Conference was a sanction of act passed by the Conference of E. B. A. at its last session; but whose decisions the Board appointed at that time hesitated to carry out without the express sanction of the individual Conferences. At the close of his very interesting remarks, a resolution was, after some conversation, laid on the table, according to the request of the Secretary as previously reported.

The Conference then adjourned.

On Saturday evening was the

SERVICE OF PRAISE.

Certainly there could scarcely be a time or place in which a service would be more appropriate. From us as a Conference, the close of a year of most successful labor, called for the song of thanksgiving; from the inhabitants of Windsor as a people, the blessed outpouring from on high during the past winter rendered fitting what we believe is daily offered, the tribute of gratitude and praise. The house was filled as usual. Indeed this is one of the characteristics of our meetings here. Never, we believe, have we attended a Conference where there has been a deeper interest manifested in the public services. Even the preaching at 6.30 a.m. draws quite large congregations.

Bro. Huestis led the meeting. The speakers were, we believe, as generally happens on such occasions, wholly ministers. It was cheering to hear from the lips of these workers in different parts of the Master's vineyard the tidings of success. It was the joy of harvest—the song of the reaper returning laden with the sheaves for which he had waited and wept and toiled. May the coming year be as fruitful in blessed results as the past, and the place chosen for our next meeting as fully baptized from on high and as completely permeated with the spirit of devotion and peace.

SUNDAY, JUNE 25.

The day was filled with services from 6.30 o'clock a.m., till 10 p.m. First preaching by Bro. Ainsley, a candidate; at 9 a love-fest; at 11 a.m., Conference sermon by ex-president Nicolson, at request of Conference. At 2.30 p.m., Sabbath School Meeting; at 6.30 p.m. sermon by Bro. Lathern, followed by Conference Communion Service. Those of the services which we were able to attend were certainly most excellent, and those which we were obliged to neglect were set forth as equally good. The Conference sermon was such as lifts such an occasion, both in subject and matter. Text—"And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me." Subject—the exaltation of Christ and the manner and means by which he accomplishes the great object of his sufferings and work—the drawing of all men unto Himself. It was ably dealt with and listened to with deep interest.

The Sabbath School meeting was very interesting, excellent speeches from Brethren Pickles, Sargent and Sutcliffe interspersed with singing by the school was sufficient to ensure this. The most attractive feature, however, to our mind, was the School itself. It occupied the central part of the church, we were told, almost exclusively, but with the exception of a few pews filled with small children, it could not by the age, size, or appearance of the scholars be distinguished from an ordinary congregation. Some 70 or 80 adults, if we remember rightly, were stated to belong to the Sabbath School—a large part of whom were heads of families. Young men and maidens, old men and children meeting together to study God's word. Would that all our churches would hear the command "Go and do likewise."

We did not hear Bro. Lathern's sermon. It was not necessary to do so, however, for the purpose of reporting, as no one would

believe us if we should say that it was any thing else than excellent. We came from another service at its close to be present at the communion. We met the congregation, as we thought, leaving the Church, but it was a small one in comparison with the congregation of communicants within. The season was one of sweet delight. To ministers these annual occasions are always like milestones on the pathway heavenward, but at this time there was the additional element of the "great crowd of witnesses." As we saw the table filled and refilled again and again and again by those on whose hearts the vows of consecration were freshly resting, and thought of the other congregations which had received the like outpouring, we felt that truly the Lord had "much people in this city." There were two and three hundred communicants—the largest number, we believe, in the history of our Conference Communion for many years, except that of two years since at Charlottetown. May great grace be upon them all.

MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 26.

After the opening exercises and the passing of the minutes, several letters directed to be written were read and approved. The young men recommended for ordination were then subjected to the usual oral examination, after which their names were taken up in order. Some were passed at once and others laid over till the afternoon.

The names of the probationers not to be ordained were then passed under review with the following results:—

Recommended as having travelled three years—Richey Bird, E. R. Brunyate, John Craig, D. W. Johnson, A. B. Charles Nicklin, Wm. Purvis, C. W. Swallow.

These have travelled two years—J. H. Davis, W. G. Lane, John C. Ogden, Jos. Robson, Robert Williams, J. W. Shepherdson who will be allowed his third year when he completes the studies of the same.

These have travelled one year—Wm. L. Cunningham, Arthur Black, Benj. Hills, George F. Johnson, Robert W. Smith.

These were received on trial—Frederick W. Wright, James Sharp, who also has the year allowed him, Charles Peppys, George O. Robinson, who has the year allowed him, Howard P. Doane, and Samuel Thompson.

Students allowed to attend the Institutions—Benjamin Hills, John C. Ogden, George F. Johnson, George O. Robinson, Arthur Black.

Continued at the Institutions—Byron C. Borden, John Gee, Geo. Johnson, (B.)

In the case of Joseph M. Fisher and C. M. Tyler, who are in Bermuda, and whose examination papers have not come to hand, it was resolved that the Ex-President A. W. Nicolson proceed to Bermuda and ascertain them if their examinations be found to be satisfactory.

At the close of the session, Rev. A. W. Nicolson called the attention of Conference to the fact that Bro. J. Lathern was about to leave them, and gave expression to his feelings of regret on account of it, feelings which were evidently shared by the whole Conference. A resolution expressive of sorrow at his leaving, and kind wishes for his future happiness and prosperity was passed unanimously.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The question of candidates for ordination came up for consideration. After some conversation, those recommended were passed.

The motion for reconsideration of the Report of the Examining Committee having passed, the whole matter was up for discussion for the third time. The principal objection to it seemed to be that it established a new authority, which had power to intervene and prevent a candidate going up to District or Conference however great his examination in other respects, who might fail in his written examination. A motion to require this Board to report, not authoritatively, but for consideration of the District, after considerable warm discussion, was met by an amendment moved by Bro. Jost, seconded by the ex-President, that the Board present its report to Conference only. By this plan the written examination in April, which was not objected to, would be retained, but the Board would not report to the Districts at all. Indeed there would be no official statement of the standings until the Report of this Board is presented to Conference simultaneously with the report of theological examinations from District Committees. The arrangement seemed to give very general satisfaction, and is probably a settlement of this much vexed question.

STATION SHEET, 1876.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE.

R. ALDER TEMPLE, President.

STEPHEN F. HUESTIS, Secretary.

I.—HALIFAX DISTRICT.

- 1. Halifax, North. BRUNSWICK ST.—R. Brecken, A. M. KAYE ST.—E. R. Brunyate. CHARLES ST.—D. W. Johnson, B.A. Edmund Botterell, Supernumerary. 2. Halifax, South. GRAFTON ST.—Wm. H. Heartz. COBURG ST.—William Purvis. Henry Pope, Supernumerary.

CONFERENCE OFFICE:—A. W. Nicolson, Editor and Book Steward.

- 3. Dartmouth. Godfrey Shore; Supernumerary—T. Angwin. 4. Windsor. S. F. Huestis; Supernumeraries—M. Richey, D.D., John McMurtry, James England, Roland Morton, and T. W. Smith. 5. Hantsport.—Caleb Parker, to change with Windsor. 6. Horton. Joseph S. Coffin, Frederick Wright; Supernumerary, George Johnson, [A.]. 7. Kentville. I. E. Thurlow. 8. Newport. Ezra B. Moore. 9. Avondale. James Strothard. 10. Burlington. George F. Day.—One to be sent.

- 11. Sambro. Charles Peppy, under Superintendence of Bro. Borden. 12. Margaret's Bay. James Scott. 13. Bermuda. (Hamilton and S. Herset), Robt. Wasson, Chaplain to Wesleyans in Army and Navy—Jos. M. Fisher. 14. ST. GEORGE'S AND BAILEY'S BAY. W. C. BROWN, Chaplain to Wesleyans in Army and Navy—C. M. Tyler. A. W. NICOLSON, Chairman. W. H. HEARTZ, Financial Sec.

II.—TRURO DISTRICT.

- 15. Truro. Jabez A. Rogers. 16. Onslow. W. L. Cunningham, under the Superintendence of Bro. Rogers. 17. Acadia Iron Mines. Jesse B. Giles. 18. Pictou. Cranswick Jost, A.M. 19. Stellarton. G. W. Tuttle. 20. River John. D. B. Scott. 21. Bay Head. One wanted; to be supplied from River John. 22. Maitland. G. O. Huestis. 23. Shubenacadie. Eben E. England. 24. Middle Musquodoboit. J. A. Mosher. 25. Musquodoboit Harbor. R. O'B. Johnson. G. W. TUTTLE, Chairman. C. JOST, A.M., Financial Sec.

III.—CUMBERLAND DISTRICT.

- 26. Anherst. R. Alder Temple, President of Conference; James Sharp, Supernumerary, I Sutcliffe. 27. Nappan. R. B. Mack. 28. Mimic. One wanted. 29. Wallace. A. D. Morton, A. M. 30. Pictou. Thos. D. Hart. 31. River Philip. W. Alcorn, Richey Bird. 32. Wentworth. W. G. Lane, under Superintendence of Bro. Morton. 33. Parrsboro'. R. A. Daniel. 34. Maccan and Five Islands. W. D. Baines. 35. Athol. Joseph Hale. 36. Advocate Harbor. Robert W. Smith, under Superintendence of Bro. Daniel. R. ALDER TEMPLE, Chairman. A. D. MORTON, A. M., Financial Secy.

IV.—GUYSBORO' & C. B. DISTRICT.

- 37. Guysboro'. J. R. Borden. Supernumerary. James Buckley. 38. Canso. J. G. Bigney. 39. Manchester. James R. Hart. 40. Country Harbor. H. P. Doane, under Superintendence of Bro. Borden. 41. Sydney. Joseph G. Angwin. 42. Sydney. (MISSIOX). 43. Sydney (North.) W. A. Bennett, A.B. under Superintendence of Bro. Angwin. 44. Gabarus. John Astbury. 45. Port Hawkesbury. J. B. Hemmeon. 46. Port Hood and Margaree. One to be sent, under Superintendence of Bro. Hemmeon. 47. Ingonish. Wm Brown. J. G. ANGIN, Chairman. J. R. BORDEN, Financial Secy.

V.—ANNAPOLIS DISTRICT.

- 48. Annapolis. Richard Smith. 49. Granville Ferry. John L. Sponage. 50. " West. To be supplied. 51. Bridgetown. A. S. DesBrisay. (MISSIOX)—John Craig, Supernumeraries, Thos. H. Davies, J. F. Bent. 52. Wilmot. Joseph Gaetz, Jos. Robson. 53. Aylesford. A. S. Tuttle. 54. Berwick. C. Lockhart. 55. Canning. John J. Teasdale. Supernumeraries, M. Pickles, J. G. Hennigar. 56. Scott's Bay. J. W. Shepherdson, under Superintendence of Bro. Teasdale. 57. Hillsburg. Wm. Sargent. 58. Digby. Elias Brettle. 59. Weymouth. Chas. Nicklin. 60. Digby Neck. R. Williams, under the Superintendence of Bro. Brettle. 61. Westport. To be visited once a month by the Digby Neck Minister. E. BRETTE, Chairman. JOSEPH GAETZ, Financial Secy.

VI.—LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.

- 62. Liverpool. Job Shenton. 63. Milton. C. W. Swallow, under Superintendence of Bro. Shenton. 64. Caledonia. Robert McArthur. 65. Port Mouton. John Johnson. 66. Mill Village. John S. Addy. 67. Petite Rivere. Paul Prestwood. 68. Lunenburg. Thos. Rogers, A.M. J. H. Davies. 69. New Germany. Arthur Hockin. 70. Bridgewater. John Cassidy. JOHN S. ADDY, Chairman. JOB SHENTON, Financial Secy.

VII.—YARMOUTH DISTRICT.

- 71. Yarmouth, (South) John M. Pike. 72. " (North) John Read. 73. Acadia. Robert Tweedy. 74. Hebron. W. H. Evans. 75. Barrington. F. H. W. Pickles. 76. Port La Tour. James Tweedy. 77. North East Harbor. John W. Howie. 78. Shelburne. James Taylor. 79. Lockport. William Ainsley. JAMES TAYLOR, Chairman. F. H. W. PICKLES, Fin. Secy. John Lathern and Geo. B. Payson transferred to New Brunswick and P. E. Island Conference. A. F. Weldon has leave of absence for a year.