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**THE LATE CONVENTION AT PICTOU.**

In our present number we publish a deeply interesting account of the spirit and character of that great gathering of delegates from Young Men's Christian Associations, held in July last in the city of Portland, Maine, and known as "the Portland Convention." When we say that the same spirit animated the members and pervaded the meetings held lately in Pictou, we bear strong testimony to the spiritual character and high practical usefulness of the discussions conducted, and of the resolutions adopted there.

This memorable series of meetings opened in St. Andrew's church on Thursday, the 17th ult., with a preliminary prayer meeting of half an hour, after which, at 3 o'clock, p. m., John S. McLean, Esq., President of last year, took the chair, and the meeting organized by the appointment of the necessary office-bearers and committees, and the afternoon was occupied in business and receiving reports of the various Associations throughout the Maritime Provinces.

In the evening an open air meeting was held in the Market Square, and "the Welcome" was given and responded to in St. Andrew's church, which was filled, seats, aisles, and all available space. The Welcome was a meeting of great interest.—Heart-stirring speeches, alternating with songs of praise, filled up the time, and when the closing hour arrived many lingered, slow to leave the place of solemn meeting.

On Friday morning the hearing of reports from Associations was resumed and

a portion of each day was thus occupied, and much valuable information elicited respecting difficulties overcome, and progress made wherever two or three agreed together to pray and work earnestly for Christ.—An hour was most profitably spent in considering "The best method of extending our organization throughout the provinces." Mr. W. N. Rudolf's excellent paper of ten minutes gave the key note to this interesting discussion."

At half-past four the members of the Convention were found on the deck of the steamer "East Riding," en route for New Glasgow, having accepted an invitation from the New Glasgow Association to spend Friday evening in that town. An open air meeting was held at half past six o'clock, and at seven, St. Andrew's Church, the largest in the place, was filled, and for three hours the large audience listened with rapt attention to excellent addresses on "what modes of working for the extension of Christ's kingdom are authorized by Christ, and are they all being employed? or joined with the delegates in hymns of confession, of thanksgiving, and expressive of increased devotion to the work of the Lord. The meeting was a great success, for the Lord's presence was realized. The singing was less artistic than in Pictou, but it was if possible more enthusiastic and universal.

And so the interest went on increasing. Those present at the discussion on Sabbath Schools on Saturdays, and then on Prayer Meetings and the best mode of conducting them, were instructed, revived,