

Indian summer. And here we are with the snow lying thick o'er all the landscape, huge snow-banks in our yards and in our streets, with paths and sidewalks to clear, the jingle of sleighbells in our ears, a sudden demand for furs and overshoes and everything that goes with a mid-winter experience. Several inches of snow fell Saturday night and it continued snowing a good part of Sunday. After threatening rain for a time in the afternoon, it turned colder, with more snow and a very strong gale at night. Probably about nine inches of snow has fallen here. It is drifted a good deal in places, but if it should continue cold there is enough for good sleighing.

—The Baptist Year Book of the Maritime Provinces for the current year has appeared, and the Committee of Publication are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts to have it issued this year within a reasonable time after the meeting of the Convention. The make-up and contents of the Year Book of 1899 follows quite closely those of previous years. The quality of paper used is hardly what it should be, otherwise the mechanical work seems satisfactory, and the proof-reading has been carefully done. A few errors in this respect are almost unavoidable. Everyone who wishes to be well-informed in respect to the undertakings and the accomplished work of the denomination should make himself familiar with the contents of the Year Book. Here we have, besides a brief record of the proceedings of the Convention and the several Associations, the reports of the Secretaries and Treasurers of the several Boards connected with the Convention, the reports of Committees on Temperance, Sunday Schools, Obituaries, State of the Denomination, etc., the list of ordained ministers and licentiates, with much other information which every intelligent Baptist should have at hand for convenient reference.

—The New Brunswick University is in serious difficulty over a matter of discipline. The trouble arose some weeks ago in connection with the "hazing" of the Freshmen by the Sophomores. The Faculty took cognizance of the affair and imposed a penalty upon the offending students, which in some quarters has been regarded as much more severe than the nature of the offence and the interests of good order demanded. It appears that in matters of discipline there can be an appeal from the Faculty to the Senate of the University. The result of such an appeal in the present case has been to modify very seriously the penalty imposed by the Faculty, and, as a sequel and consequence to this, three of the professors of the University—Messrs. Raymond, Stockley and Dixon—are said to have resigned. Such a condition of affairs must of course interfere very seriously with the work of the school, and it is said that as a consequence of the situation a considerable number of students will withdraw from the University. It seems to us that the regulation permitting an appeal in matters of discipline from the Faculty to the Senate is a mistake, since the reversal by the Senate of the Faculty's action must humiliate the latter before the students and tend to bring its discipline into contempt. Whether or not the Faculty's first action in the present case was wise is another question. The practice of hazing is certainly to be condemned and the authorities of any school deserve to be upheld in the endeavor to abolish such a custom among its students. But in many schools irregularities of this kind have been treated with much leniency in the past, and it is said that in the N. B. University offences against discipline of a grayer character than that which has caused the present trouble have incurred no serious punishment. If the Faculty of the University had determined to deal with all cases of hazing with a stern hand, it seems that it would have been only fair to all concerned to have made a public announcement of it beforehand, and, as the Senate is constitutionally the body of final appeal in matters of discipline, the Senate should have been associated with the Faculty in such announcement, and then the students and their friends and guardians would have known what to expect.

Annuity and Ministerial Relief and Aid.

The reports of these two Convention funds for the past year show that thirteen widows, fourteen ministers and two children received help from the Annuity fund, and

nine widows and three ministers drew from the Ministerial Relief and Aid fund. From the Annuity fund the amount granted was \$1,058.22, and from the Ministerial Relief and Aid fund \$627, making a total voted to beneficiaries and annuitants of \$1,685.22. It would appear that twenty-two widows, seventeen ministers and two children were helped from the two funds, but four widows and two ministers of the Annuity fund draw also from the Ministerial Relief and Aid fund. This leaves the total of widows eighteen, ministers fifteen and children two, or in all thirty-five persons were helped from these two sources of relief. But it must be taken into account that in the families of those receiving help there are perhaps three times the number of those whose names appear as beneficiaries and annuitants.

This takes no account of the Bradshaw trust and the number participating in it. Add the \$600, the product of that fund, to the two Convention funds and the total distributed last year would be \$2,285.22.

The assets of the Annuity fund in the treasurer's report of last year are:

Mortgages,	\$10,450.00
Real estate leased to donors,	800.00
A subscription paying interest,	1,000.00
Other subscriptions,	170.00
Balance of capital on hand,	1,280.57
Total,	\$13,700.57
Ministerial Relief and Aid mortgages,	6,848.67
Total assets of the two funds,	\$20,549.24
Add to this the Bradshaw capital,	10,000.00

And the grand total is, \$30,549.24
Most of this is bearing interest at six per cent.

It is an unspeakable satisfaction to the denomination that so large a sum has been collected and is now bearing interest, and that it affords so much help to those who are not in active service. Two of our ministers who have lately passed away, one in middle life and the other known as a young man, had put a small amount into the Annuity fund. Their widows now sorely need the proceeds of the maximum sum allowable in the fund, viz., \$300, but like others in health today, they did not think that their lives were so near their close. This is sad, and the widows and children must receive every consideration, but one feature of it is satisfactory the blame is not on the denomination. A fund has been established. It has been for more than ten years past available to all the ministers of the denomination in active service under sixty-five years of age, but its advantages have not been secured by a number of ministers now discharging pastoral duties, neither for themselves nor their families in the time of need. Who is to blame for this? At whose doors is the blame, if blame there is, for this neglect. The dead cannot answer, but the living ought to consider it and give a practical reply now while they can do so. The wife of one of your ministers said to me a few weeks ago, "My feelings of relief are indescribable since my husband put in the last payment of the \$300 into the Annuity fund." So anxious was he to protect his wife and children that he borrowed a part of the amount he put into the fund. I know of nothing so keenly felt as for a minister's wife and her children to be compelled on the occasion of the sickness or death of her husband to step out of the warm embrace and kindly attentions of a pastor's wife, a change however painful nevertheless inevitable, and then find herself not only cut off from this official relation, in the sunshine of which she has lived for years, but under the shadow of sickness or bereavement that never grows less by the lapse of time. Here is a husband sick or dead, salary gone, relation of pastor's wife to the church at an end and no adequate provision for procuring the necessities of life for her children and herself in this day of shadow and sorrow. The denomination has thought this all out. Their duty in the matter has been borne in upon their hearts. Tardy though they have been yet they have done something substantial in the way of making provision for their sick and aged ministers and their families. What have some of the ministers for whose families these provisions have been made done in the way of co-operating with the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces in their benevolent undertaking? So far as I can see they have contented themselves with apparent indifference or a casual adverse criticism of a very mild type. But a little enquiry now and then or indifference which is not disturbed even by mild criticism does nothing toward responding in an appreciative way to the brethren and sisters who have given the funds now amounting to about \$30,000 for ministers' widows and children.

This element appeared in the Methodist body. It is a genuine expression of overweening independence. But when deaths occurred and these ministers who had taken risks for themselves and their families died the Methodist body had to bear the odium of widows and children unprovided for. The Conference said, and rightly, too, according to their system to living ministers you have no right to make such inflictions on the body as leaving widows and children not provided for. Now we will put a stop to this. So when a young man is ordained he cannot get the laying on of hands until he has promised among other things, to become a member of their Annuity fund, and to pay regularly into its treasury. We do not advocate this for the Baptists, and yet it would not be unreasonable if made in a guarded way, for here it is an example of how other denominations are regarding this

most important part of denominational work.

If some Baptist ministers could for a time denude themselves of a false independence and take into account that they have become a part of a great public body which is to be honored or dishonored in the course they take in providing for their families in the case of sickness, old age or death then they would see that there is inherent in their denominational connection an obligation to co-operate with the whole body in this undertaking. Well, more than a hundred have already done so by becoming members of the Annuity fund. Others, who are not yet able to pay into the fund, have cheerfully co-operated with the body in taking collections and in otherwise showing their sympathy for the good work. Still it is to be feared that some are taking risks, as in the case of the two instances referred to in this communication, and they are not the only ones. This ought at once to come to a perpetual end. A first duty of a minister to himself, family and to the denomination is to connect himself with this fund, and then seek in every way possible to enlarge it till it is more than double its present size. Last year the contributions of the ministers to the capital fund was \$910. They put in round numbers \$1,000 at interest for all time to come, thus providing for themselves and their households. The way is open for others to do likewise.

It becomes necessary to write thus plainly now, for we have no way of communicating with ministers in heaven, and if we had no good could come of it, for they could send us no remittances of gold and silver to their weeping widows and children on earth.

E. M. SAUNDERS Sec'y.-Treas.

The Associated Alumni of Acadia College.

Will the members of our Society give me their attention for a moment. I am just in receipt of a communication from the Treasurer of the University requesting \$200 on account of Alumni professor. But all the Secretary-Treasurer of the Alumni has received since Anniversary week is \$65. Fellow Alumni is our record of the past few years to continue? We have been making sad history, is history to repeat itself? On June 1, 1899, our debt to the Board of Governors was \$2,098.10. That is bad, and would be bad if it were remaining at that figure from year to year. But the deplorable feature is that we are adding to our debt, and adding to it by an increasing amount every year. Last year we received in fees \$179 and in subscriptions \$248.25, while our total receipts were \$492.85. How does that compare with the past. Omitting the New England Alumni contributions our receipts were in,

1895	\$ 995.66
1896	817.66
1897	1105.62
1898	704.59
1899	492.85

I do not wish to intensify the message of these figures. Without any emphasis of mine they reveal the emergency of our position and the imperative duty of our membership. Fellow Alumni, do you not see that unless we arise we will most seriously impair the success of the magnificent Forward Movement so heroically inaugurated and prosecuted by Pres. Trotter. One great aim of that movement was the removal of debts and the increase of endowment, so as to prevent the annual leakage. Yet year by year we are forcing the Government to carry a debt on account of the Alumni Professorship, and so in a degree are making impossible what we hoped the Forward Movement would accomplish. Is it our intention so to act. Before the request of the Treasurer of the University for the 1st quarter's payment of \$200 had reached me, I had sent forward \$35. At present there is in the Alumni treasury \$30. Who will help to bring this up to \$165 within the next ten days? Kindly forward all money to the Sec'y.-Treas. of the Alumni.

W. N. HUTCHINS, Sec'y.-Treas. Alumni.

Canning, N. S.

Collections for Ministers, Widows and Orphans.

The First church at Yarmouth has made its collection for the Ministers and Widows Fund. Will the clerks or pastors of the other churches follow this good example, and remit the amounts collected to the treasurer. A thousand dollars, in addition to what comes from other sources, will be needed at the beginning of the year to meet the wants of those looking to the Board for their allowances. Please act promptly.

Halifax, November 4. E. M. SAUNDERS, Treas.

The Companion for the Rest of 1899.

During the remaining weeks of 1899 The Youth's Companion will maintain its fresh and varied interest for young and old by presenting articles from the pens of eminent men and women and stories from the most gifted writers of fiction.

Among these contributors will be Frank R. Stockton, who presents a droll story, "The Wolf and the Wheelbarrow;" James Bryce, author of "The American Commonwealth," who offers "Hints on Reading;" W. D. Howells and Jane Barlow, each of whom contributes a serial story; Bret Harte who recalls an early California experience in "How I Went to the Mines;" Mary E. Wilkins, who tells of "Sereny Maria at School;" and Henry M. Stanley, who under the title, "For Life and Liberty," relates a thrilling adventure of his travels in Darkest Africa.

The November and December numbers containing these features are given to every new subscriber for the 1900 volume free from the time subscription is received, in addition to the Companion's exquisite Calendar for 1900—the last Calendar of the century and the most beautiful one ever given to Companion subscribers.

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