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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FIRST CONVENTION

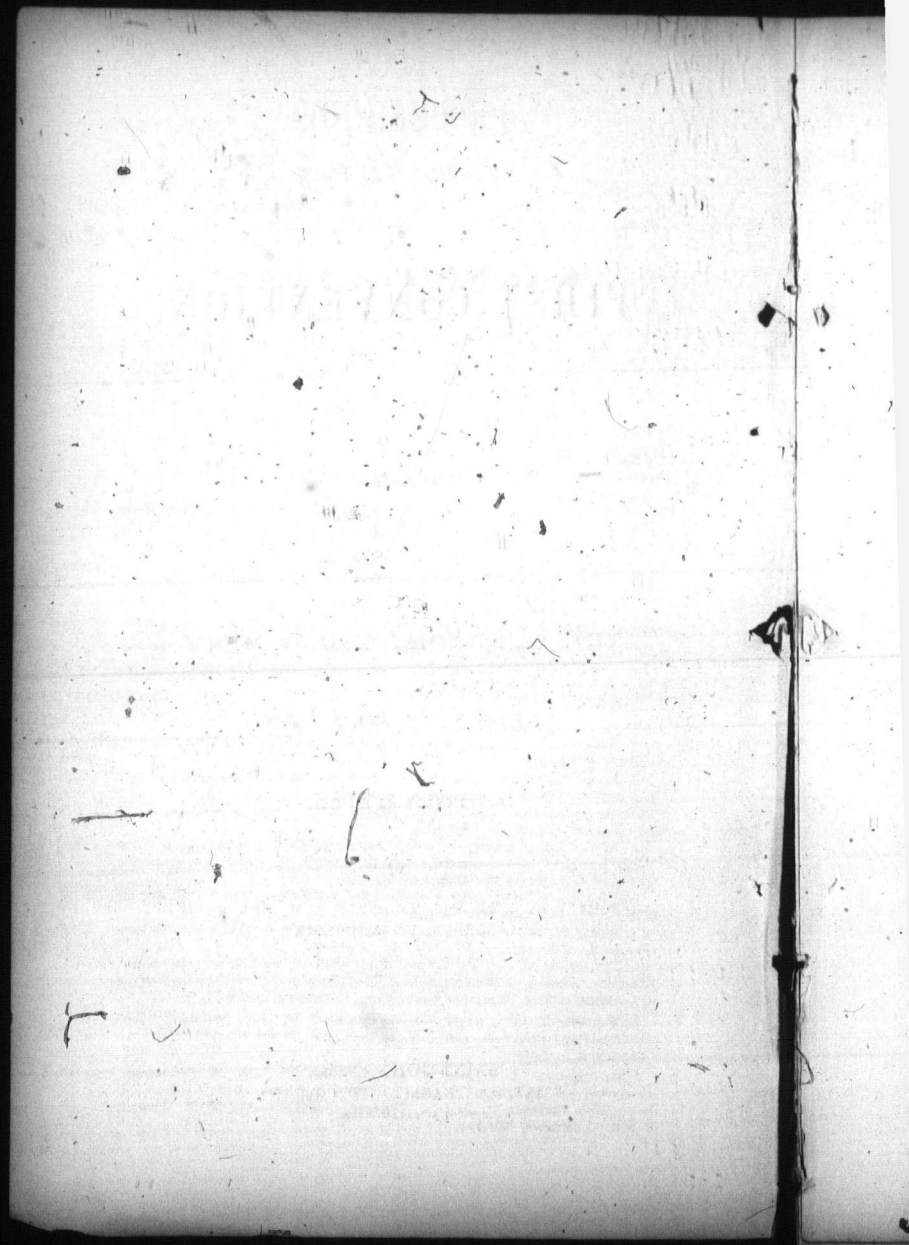
HELD AT
SAINT JOHN, N. B.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
THE SAINT JOHN YOUNG MEN'S
CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION,

OCTOBER 1869.

REPORTED BY MESSRS M. McDONALD, G. W. BURBRIDGE,
R. A. BORDEN, AND W. PUGSLEY.

SAINT JOHN, N. B.
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1870.



PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CONVENTION.

ST. DAVID'S CHURCH,
October 14th, 1869. }

A devotional meeting; from half-past 2 to 3 o'clock, P. M.,
presided over by J. B. MORROW, of Halifax, preceded the
meeting of

ORGANIZATION.

At 3 P. M., WM. WELSH, President of the St. John Association, took the chair, when the hymn, commencing,

"A charge to keep I have,"

was sung, and prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. HOUSTON.

J. E. IRVINE, Secretary of the St. John Association, was then appointed Secretary, *pro tem.*; after which, on motion of GEO. BERTEAUX, St. John, seconded by E. McLEOD, St. John, the following Rules were unanimously adopted for the guidance of the Convention:

RULES.

1. The Officers of this Convention shall be President, five Vice Presidents and two Secretaries.

2. Immediately after the election of the above officers, the President shall nominate four standing committees, consisting each of five members: one on Business (including all business of a general nature), one on Devotion, one on Associations, and one on Credentials.

3. All resolutions submitted to the Convention shall be in writing, and after being proposed and seconded, shall be referred to the proper committee, who shall have power to transmit or reject.

4. The usual rules of order in deliberative assemblies shall prevail, and the ruling of the chairman shall be final.

5. Speakers shall be limited to five minutes each, and shall not speak more than once on the same subject, without permission.

6. The order of each day's proceedings shall be as follows:—Devotional Exercises, Reading of Minutes, call for Resolutions and Propositions, Reading of Communications, Reports of Committees, Unfinished Business.

E. McLEOD, St. John, moved, GEORGE BERTEAUX, St. John, seconded, "That a Committee of twelve be appointed to nominate permanent officers for the Convention." Passed.

Chair nominated E. McLeod, St. John; S. Welsh, St. John; W. Rosborough, Newcastle; K. McKenzie, Moncton; F. Beattie, Pictou; Jas. Woodrow, St. John; Geo. Berteaux, St. John; J. Chappell, Charlottetown; W. H. Wiswell, Halifax; J. Mosher, Windsor.

H. B. WHITE, of St. John, announced that H. J. CAMERON, of New Glasgow, Nova Scotia, had received intelligence, by telegram, of the sudden death of a sister, and would consequently have to return home.

The President, in appropriate language, expressed the sympathy of the Convention, regretting that Mr. H. J. CAMERON had to leave us so soon under such painful circumstances.

President called upon REV. GEORGE ARMSTRONG, of St. John, to offer prayer on behalf of Mr. CAMERON and his mourning friends, after which, the hymn commencing—

"Only waiting by the River."

was sung.

H. B. WHITE, St. John, moved, R. C. QUINN, St. John, seconded, "That a Committee of five, on Credentials, be appointed." Passed.

Chair nominated John McMorran, G. Priehard, and G. H. Burtis, St. John; John Chappell, Charlottetown; H. D. Charters, Moncton.

H. B. WHITE, St. John, moved, W. ROCHE, Halifax, seconded, "That a Committee of five be appointed on Business." Passed.

Chair nominated

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS.

George Berteaux, F. W. Jones, St. John; W. H. Wiswell, Halifax; E. McLeod, St. John; J. Mosher, Windsor.

C. L. DARROW, St. John, moved, R. C. QUINN, St. John, seconded, "That a Committee of five on Associations be appointed." Passed.

Chair nominated

COMMITTEE ON ASSOCIATIONS.

C. L. DARROW, St. John; W. Roche, Halifax; A. S. Matthews, Boston; F. Beattie, Pictou; H. McDonald, Boston.

J. CLAWSON, St. John, moved, W. ROCHE, Halifax, seconded, "That a Committee of five on Devotion be appointed." Passed.

Chair nominated

COMMITTEE ON DEVOTION.

Monson Goudge, Windsor; D. Palmer Howe, Newcastle; J. W. Cromwell, Fredericton; Henry Furness, Boston; George W. Milner, Charlottetown.

Committees granted leave to retire.

E. McLEOD, St. John, Chairman of Nomination Committee, submitted the following report:

PRESIDENT.

WILLIAM WELSH,.....St. John.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

J. B. MORROW,.....Halifax.

GEO. M. MILNER,.....Charlottetown.

HENRY FURNESS,.....Boston.

H. B. WHITE,.....St. John.

KENNETH MCKENZIE,.....Moncton.

SECRETARIES.

J. E. IRVINE,.....St. John.

JOSHUA CLAWSON,.....St. John.

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JOHN S. McLEAN, Esq., having by request of Mr. WELSH, taken the Chair, asked the meeting if they were ready for the nomination of President. He paid a warm compliment to Mr. WELSH for his services to the cause. REV. NEIL McKAY moved that the meeting adopt the nomination, which was agreed to by acclamation. Mr. WELSH then delivered the following

ADDRESS.

Brethren of the first Annual Provincial Convention of Young Men in the Province of New Brunswick:

Brother Delegates from the Sister Provinces and United States:

Grace unto you, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Members of the Y. M. C. Association of this City, feeling that there was a great necessity for devising some means whereby a greater interest might be awakened in the Christian welfare of the Young Men of this City in the heart of the Christian community, and also of quickening the zeal and faithfulness of each individual member in the work of Christ, and of stirring up an anxious inquiry in matters of religion among young men themselves; and being also desirous that a like interest should be stirred up throughout the Province, have called this Convention for the purpose of considering the best means to be adopted for the accomplishment of these objects, and have invited Brethren from the Sister Provinces and the United States, who have already profited by such Conventions, to give us the benefit of their experience and counsel in our deliberations.

Brethren, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." God is the source of all wisdom; in all our proceedings may we have an eye single to his glory, and an earnest desire for the good of our fellow-men, and seek to be directed by his unerring wisdom; that our labor may not be in vain.

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Let us therefore be "kindly affectioned one to another, with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another," and in all our discussions exhibit Christian courtesy and love.

Brethren, let a spirit of deep earnestness and attention pervade our meetings, that we may go from this place better fitted than heretofore to work faithfully in the Master's vineyard. "Let us look to Jesus," and may his wondrous love stimulate us to love him, and thus by his love constraining us, we shall be enabled to perform faithfully the duties devolving upon us, his professed followers.

Brethren, "Pray for me." And may our united prayers ascend to the throne of Divine Grace, that there may be an abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our Convention, that from it an influence for good may extend throughout the land, and be practically shown in the establishment of many Young Men's Christian Associations, and in great gatherings of young men into them and into the Church of God.

The other Nominations were then put by the President, elect, and unanimously adopted.

LETTERS

from Major General HOWARD, Mr. A. M. McLEAN, Boston, and CEPHAS BRAINERD, Chairman of the National Executive Committee, of New York, expressive of regret at not being able to be present at the Convention, and of interest in it, were read.

FRATERNAL GREETINGS.

On motion of Mr. FURNESS, it was resolved to send the Christian Greetings of the Convention over the wires to a similar Convention then in session at Lowell, Mass., and to request an answer. Mr. FURNESS and Mr. E. McLEOD were appointed a Committee to take charge of the matter.

Ten minutes were then spent in mutual intercourse; after which, the following telegram was adopted and despatched to the Convention in Massachusetts:—

To the Young Men's Christian Convention at Lowell, Mass:

The Young Men's Christian Convention at St. John, New Brunswick, send Christian greetings. Hebrews 13 chapter, 20 and 21 verses, "Now the God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever, Amen."

GEORGE BERTEAUX, Chairman, presented the following partial

REPORT OF BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

Meeting of Welcome at the Centenary Church, at half-past 7 o'clock.

Hours of meeting for the Sessions of Convention on Friday:

Morning Session, from 9½ to 12½ o'clock; afternoon, from 2½ to 5½; evening from 7½ until pleasure.

Subjects for discussion:

Friday Morning—"The best method of organizing and sustaining Young Men's Christian Associations."

Opened by Mr. W. Roche, of Halifax.

Afternoon.—"What are the causes of apathy in young men towards religion?"

To be opened by Mr. W. Welsh, of St. John.

Evening.—"The necessity for Young Men's Christian Associations."

To be opened by Mr. J. Clawson, of St. John.

One half hour will be occupied in devotional exercises, after which an hour to receiving Reports from Associations, and where no Associations exist Reports from the Delegates respecting Christian work in their several localities, and the feasibility of forming Associations in those places; after which, discussions on subject for discussion, for remainder of the time.

This Report was adopted.

Mr. MATTHEWS, of Boston, then reported that the Association with which he was connected, was progressing very favorably, holding three prayer meetings daily, morning, noon and night, from which many conversions had resulted. The membership is about 1,900; of which above 1,200 are active members and 700 associate members. The active members are all members of churches. On Sunday mornings they meet at half-past 8 o'clock, for a few moments prayer, and then go out to scatter tracts and good books; then they have preaching on the Common, under a tent, owned by the Association. The field was very wide, but their work was being owned and blessed of God.

Mr. JAMES FOWLER, of Bass River, reported that the scarcity of young men in his district, would preclude the possibility of establishing an Association in that place at present, but a field was open at Kingston, Kent County, and he hoped that it would be taken advantage of.

Mr. McLEAN, of Halifax, made some remarks on Associations in general. In New Brunswick there are but three Associations, while in Nova Scotia there are thirty-five; the work was new in this Province, but a commencement had been made, and he believed that it would go on and prosper. This Convention could do much to aid it, and Young Men's Christian Associations would arise to aid the churches in the great work of saving souls. There was nothing to be made out of such a work of a political character, but it was nevertheless a glorious work, having for its object, the saving of young men from ruin and leading them to Christ.

Mr. BEATTIE, of Pictou, Nova Scotia, reported in his County fourteen active Associations. One of these in a sparsely settled country for eleven years, had kept up their meetings, a few young men animated by a self-sacrificing spirit had kept the movement in life, and much good was constantly resulting, and he hoped this would be an encouragement to the young men of Bass River to go to work with the small materials to their hand and do their best.

Mr. HOWARD, of Bass River, thought it would be a good plan for the Association to send delegates to scattered districts and strive to work up the young men to a sense of their duty in this matter.

Mr. FURNESS, of Boston, said that much was done in the States by holding rallying meetings in various places.

JOHN McMORRAN, Chairman of the Credential Committee, made a partial report that the names of twenty-six delegates had been handed in. This did not include the delegates of the St. John Association, nor many others in the city, but not at the meeting. Report adopted.

Mr. J. B. MORROW, of Halifax, spoke of the necessity he felt for such occasions to warm him up, and urge him on to greater exertions; and he knew that they were admirably calculated to stir one to renewed labor in the Lord's vineyard. He found in the Associations of Boston and New York, that young men going there as strangers, were welcomed and made at home at once, and if of good character, would be cared for and got into employment if it was needed.

Mr. ROCHE, of Halifax, said that people often saw in shop windows the inviting notice, "Try it." This motto he commended to those who thought that Young Men's Christian Associations could not be established. None should say "can't" in the Lord's work, but "try" what could be done, and persevere till it was accomplished; and he hoped to see this spirit at work till an Association was established in every town in New Brunswick.

Mr. McDONALD, of Boston, urged the necessity of personal effort with young men for their conversion.

Mr. FURNESS, of Boston, showed the benefits resulting from those organizations, illustrating his remarks by instances which had come within his own knowledge during seventeen years membership in the Boston Association.

Mr. D. P. HOWE, of Newcastle, Miramichi, expressed the sorrow he felt that no such Association existed in the town whence he came, but he trusted that

next year he would have to report one in working order. Difficulty and trial were calculated to urge on to overcome them. He was sorry to learn that there were but three Associations in the Province, and he hoped that next year, a very much more encouraging statement would have to be made.

Mowson Goudé, Chairman of the Devotion Committee, reported that a prayer meeting would be held on the mornings of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, in the Rooms of the Association, at quarter past seven o'clock, for half-an-hour; and also that each day's session be prefaced by half-an-hour's prayer meeting. Report adopted.

Mr. WISWELL, Halifax, suggested the propriety of holding open air meetings during the Convention.

REV. MR. MCKAY supported this by proposing that open air services be held on Sunday at the Marsh Bridge, on King's Square, and near the Barracks.

This matter, was, however, left with the Devotion Committee.

The early morning prayer meeting to be conducted by the delegates: That of Friday morning, by J. S. McLEAN, of Halifax.

The Session was closed by singing, and prayer by the Rev. GEORGE M. ARMSTRONG.

MEETING OF WELCOME, IN THE CENTENARY CHURCH.

THURSDAY EVENING, October 14.

Mr. WELSH, the President of the Saint John Young Men's Christian Association, was in the Chair; he was surrounded by His Honor Lieut. Governor WILMOT, the Clergy, and Delegates from various parts of this Province, Nova Scotia, and the United States.

The proceedings commenced by singing the

CORONATION HYMN.

All hail the power of Jesus name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all.

Ye Gentile sinners, ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall;
Go, spread your trophies at his feet,
And crown him Lord of all.

O, that with yonder sacred throng,
We at His feet may fall;
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown him Lord of all.

After which, the Rev. Mr. HILL (Episcopalian), read the

3rd chapter of Proverbs, and offered prayer, invoking the blessing of God upon the meeting, the Convention, and the Christian Association of St. John, and in other places. Then came the

HYMN:

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes;
Our mutual burdens bear;
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.

The President then, on rising, said: "Christian friends, we have met here to-night to extend to the Delegates here assembled, a hearty and a Christian welcome, and it affords me great pleasure to introduce to you the Rev. Mr. Lathern, who will tender you an

ADDRESS OF WELCOME,

on behalf of the Pastors and Churches of the City."

Mr. LATHERN said—He rose on behalf of the Pastors of this City, to speak words of welcome. Not in mere form, but with earnest, loving words, he would bid those here assembled, welcome, thrice welcome—welcome for their sakes—welcome for the Master's sake, and welcome for the great objects they sought to promote.

Conventions, he said, are becoming a marked feature of the times. Churches have Conventions; learned Societies have Conventions for discussing scientific and social questions; the Pope has summoned a Convention to meet at Rome to discuss issues vital to the Roman Catholic Church; and though this Convention of Christian young men may have less of pretention, less of prestige, it has, nevertheless, to deal with important interests, and it involves great results. Some kinds of work could best be done personally in our own sphere of life; there are kinds of work which can best be done by Churches singly; but there are other enterprises of Christian effort which can be best accomplished by representatives of all the Churches; and, therefore, you are summoned for united counsel, and, if possible, for organized aggressive effort. You need much heavenly wisdom; and, he trusted, to each might be given, not the spirit of fear, but of power, of love, and of a sound mind.

He welcomed them as *Christian brethren*—brethren in Christ; not all of the same name, but all committed to a common cause. And if we, as Gospel heralds, meet you in the way, as we do meet you now, we do not ask for the same regimental colours, the same denominational badge, but we ask, Are your hearts as ours in sympathy with the soul-saving purposes of the Redeemer? Then give up your hands, and in this opening service, let us, with clasped hands and hearts pulsating as one, with the consciousness of high and hallowed obligation, consecrate ourselves anew to the service of the Lord Jesus Christ.

He welcomed them as *fellow-warriors of the Cross*. Their places in the ranks awaited them, and summoned them to the conflict. Referring to the summoning of the Scottish clans, by the "Cross of Thane," the Rev. speaker went on to say, not with the same symbol or ceremony had they been gathered. Their

fealty had been given to the Redeemer. The Cross was the sacred symbol of their faith. Would they be traitors to that Cross? faithless to the Saviour? recreant to the sacred trust they had received? No! that Cross must take precedence. They could not rest until it had been borne through the length and breadth of the land. Who of them all with loyalty for the crown-right of Jesus, had not caught the inspiration of that opening hymn—music to the ear, and more than music to the heart:

"All hail the power of Jesus' name."

He welcomed them as *Christian young men*. It is of the utmost importance that our young men of all Churches should be thoroughly committed to the service of the Redeemer. Let them take as their motto, the last words of a now sainted man, "Stand up for Jesus." He greatly desired to see our best young men—those of the highest culture and greatest influence—standing up for Christ. They had need of young men like those who went with Saul from Gilboah—a band of men whose hearts God had touched—young men of the stamp and standing of the first messengers of the Cross.

It was almost impossible to over-estimate the influence of one gifted, cultured, consecrated life. McCheyne was instrumental in bringing thousands of souls to Jesus, and yet he only lived until he was thirty years of age. Henry Martyn, whose influence lives along the years, was only thirty when he died. The eloquent and apostolic John Summerfield died at twenty-eight. Oh! that the same spirit of Christian chivalry and devotion to the Redeemer—the spirit of a Martyn, of a McCheyne, of a Summerfield, might again stand forth in the ranks of Christian young men.

The Spartans, to stimulate patriotism, were accustomed to have a procession, in which the old men came first, saying—

"We have been in days of old,
Wise and generous, brave and bold."

And the middle-aged men bearing the burdens of state, with the wreaths of victory still fresh on their brows, came next, saying—

"What in days of old ye were,
That we at the present moment are."

And the young men took the last place, learning to emulate the noble deeds of their fathers, saying—

"Hereafter, at our country's call,
We promise to excel you all."

At the Church's call, in the name of Jesus, our young men are accepting important responsibilities, and he coveted for them an ambition unbounded, and to not unhallowed, to prove themselves worthy of so honoured an ancestry, and to carry with unyielding energy and concentrated purpose the great enterprises of Christianity to a great and glorious consummation.

Finally, he would welcome them as *fellow-workers* in arduous toil; but he could not illustrate the thought; his time had already expired. "Work, brothers, work, hand and brain," and your work shall not be in vain in the Lord.

Having once again, in behalf of the Pastors and Churches of this City, bade them welcome, the reverend gentleman resumed his seat.

The Choir then sang—

Joy to the world, the Lord is come,
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy.

The President then introduced, for an Address of Welcome, on behalf of the Association—

Mr. GEORGE BERTHAUX, who said he had only one source of regret, viz. : that this welcome should come so roughly, as it must necessarily be, from his mouth. He said there was a little, rough, rocky island in the mouth of our harbour—a fit place for the appliance of the mighty agent, steam. When the land was obscured, the steam whistle sent forth its notes over the waters, and the sound, though not euphonous, but harsh, and without melody, was a welcome sound to the approaching mariner. So he hoped the welcome tendered by him from the Association would be no less a reality on account of its plainness. Young Men's Christian Associations are a power already, and they are destined to become a greater power. In 1866 the membership in North America was but 16,000; in 1867 it was double that number; at the Detroit Convention, in 1868, more than 70,000; while now it exceeds 100,000. Of their usefulness there could be no doubt. The conversions (3,500) of last year alone, effected through their instrumentality, were sufficient to establish that. He did not feel called upon to prove the Convention necessary, any more than to prove that the sun shines. In these assemblies good resolves are not only awakened, but nourished and cherished as well. Should we in New Brunswick, be behind, in this respect, our neighbours in the United States, in Nova Scotia, and in Prince Edward Island? There they are encouraged by all Christian denominations and Churches. They are founded on the Rock, Christ. So there are less that fosters Christianity in this Province than among our neighbours? Must we descend into the darkness of some denominational ravine, or endeavour to crowd all the beatitudes of Christianity into a high box pew, and there complacently assume that "*we only*" are the workers for Christ. While we believe in the oneness of Christ, let not a want of sympathy be longer felt among our Churches. The evil is amongst us; let us acknowledge it, and set to work to correct it. One of the first steps is to meet together on this one Rock, Christ. It is firm enough to sustain us; and while we fully retain our Churches, we shall find room enough on that sure foundation if we will only draw nearer to each other. There is a keen sympathy among young men. We wish to utilize this, and thus assist the Churches—not break them up or take their places. "We would welcome you, pointing you to that motto, '*LOOKING UNTO JESUS, THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF OUR FAITH.*' In the name and for the sake of our common Master we bid you welcome."

The Choir then sang:—

"Soldiers of Christ, arise,
And put your armor on;
Strong in the strength which God supplies,
Through His eternal Son.
Strong in the Lord of hosts,
And in His mighty power;
Who in the strength of Jesus trusts
Is more than conqueror."

The REV. NEIL MCKAY, of St. David's Church, was next introduced by the Chairman.

He said that he had his heart's desire for once; he was so glad to find that he experienced a difficulty in getting from the rear to the front of the platform, through such a host of men upon the platform, possessing, as they did, the talent and ability to speak ably of the cause in which they were all engaged.

He felt more like turning a summersault, under such circumstances, than making a speech. His duty was to speak a few words to the assemblage upon their duties as Christians, and he hoped his young friends of both sexes would adopt and act upon what was suited to them, and he advised them not to pass too much over their shoulders to their neighbor. The work, he said, of turning from our sins and evil ways, was one of the most glorious in which humanity could engage, and the benefits derived from such a course, were such as to call forth all our efforts and earnestness, that the desired end might be accomplished. He pictured the satisfaction and joy there was to be experienced in turning others also, and spoke of the light of the Sun of Prosperity, which pointed the way of those, who fearing no obstacle and contemplating no failure, pressed on in the work, leading others to the path of the Christian. He knew well what were the misgivings and fears of young men when first setting out to preach the Gospel, and taking a firm and bold stand on the side of truth and Christian light. There were times, he said, when timidity was a virtue, but it was a crime when it stood in the way of and conflicted with the performance of Christian duty. He was glad to see before him so many who had come up and by their presence guaranteed their continued interest in the work of the Association. It was a lamentable fact, that those of the community whose efforts were most needed and whose assistance would be most valuable, were they who were among the scornful. It was the duty of every individual to extend the invitations of the Gospel to those around them. We should all point to the Lamb, and whether others would bear or forbear, our duty was the same, and we were required to perform it. The Association had at first been kept up by the work of four or five of its most earnest members, who had to sustain it, and they labored night and day, and prayed that it might succeed. How they had succeeded, that church filled as it was, on the seats and on the platform, with the presence among them of the Lieutenant Governor, attested, and the present Convention now begun, would be one of the proudest triumphs in the history of the Institution. It would have a good influence in the future of St. John, surpassing anything of the kind, he hoped, which had taken place here or elsewhere over the continent. He asked if we were worthy of the British blood that ran in our veins, and that which was the next best thing, the American blood of which some of us could boast, and could we lay down our arms and forget such examples as those of Marlboro, Colin Campbell, Arthur Wellesley, Washington and Howard? Because we are brave, let us stand firm, and gathering strength, we will soon move against the tide, parting its waves and advancing for Christ and Humanity. He next referred to the number of illustrious names upon the rolls of the Christian Associations in the United States. He spoke of Thane Miller, so well known to his hearers, and whose name was dear to them, to General Howard, Generals Fisk and Dodge, of New York. Next he spoke of the little town in Nova Scotia, where the Convention of that Province had met. Meetings had been held, prayers had been offered, and earnest efforts were put forth. The glorious results are seen; the whole community is moved and the careless are awakened, and many girding on their armor are laboring in the great cause with heart and soul. He referred to the ardor with which Christians had started out, laying the foundation of our reli-

gion two thousand years ago. He said we had lost faith. He asked the young men of St. John to lift their hearts in prayer for the Divine blessing on the present meeting and Convention, and urged all who had not done so, to join in the work of the Association—to be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast and unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord; forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

The Chairman next introduced Rev. G. M. W. CAREY, of Germain Street Baptist Church.

He said the present assembly was a very delightful one, composed as it was of representatives from Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, the United States, and from various parts of our own Province, welcomed and greeted so warmly by so large a number of the christian people of St. John. The words of the Psalmist were suggested, "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." It was evident that the churches of the city, with their pastors, were not indifferent to the work contemplated by the Young Men's Christian Association. This meeting proved beyond a doubt, that they wished the young men "God speed" in their labors of love, and works of faith and patience. The speaker rejoiced in the tidings brought from the Convention at Portland and Pictou, and hoped for great results from the efforts about to be put forth in this city. He hoped it would not be forgotten, that there was a great difference between a profession of religion and the practice of its precepts—between enrolling our names and going out to work faithfully for the Master who had said, "Go work to-day in my vineyard." We may have a creed like the stars, clear and cold, sending no warmth to our own hearts, and kindling no love in the hearts of others. He exhorted the members of the Association not only to talk, and sing, and pray in their rooms and at their large meetings, but from day to day to go out as opportunity offered, into the lanes and streets of the city, and lovingly urge young men to turn from their sins and follies, and give themselves to the Lord Christ, whose yoke is easy and whose burden is light; whose service is the highest dignity and the greatest freedom. There should be more of the spirit that animated the great Jesuit—Francis Xavier—who, as dangers thickened around him, labored more and more earnestly to enlist recruits for the Society of Jesus. So should we all strive to win souls for Christ—gems for his crown, and stars for our own. He earnestly desired that the Association might aid materially, laboring with the church of God, to bring in that brighter and better day, spoken of by Prophets, and sung of by our Laureate—

"Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old;
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

"Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land;
Ring in the CHRIST that is to be."

At the conclusion of Mr. CAREY's remarks, the following verses were sung :

Come let us join our cheerful songs
With angels round the throne ;
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
And all their joys are one.

Worthy the Lamb that died they cry,
To be exalted thus !
Worthy the Lamb, our lips reply,
For he was slain for us.

The President next introduced his Honour the Lieutenant Governor, who spoke nearly as follows :

MR. CHAIRMAN AND CHRISTIAN FRIENDS :—When we were singing that beautiful hymn of what John saw in his vision, I thought how many of us will meet around the Throne to sing it there. Thank God, we may all sing it there. The work of Young Men's Christian Associations is in harmony with the spirit of that song; but our hearts must be in harmony therewith—without that, we can never sing it there. Let us all remember this. Sixty winters have passed over my head, and I now speak from the threshold of three-score years, and I testify that all the way through, my chief happiness has been from the faith of Christ. That way was always a way of pleasantness and a path of peace. When trouble came, it was because I left that way. I knew a man who said to his son when he was fourteen, "I would rather see you in your grave, than that you should turn out a bad man." The son did not understand it then, but he understands it now. That man was my father, and I was that son. Many years ago I joined a section of the Christian church, and one year after I entered political life. In all the storms and struggles incident to public life, this has been my sheet anchor—the Bible and my eloset were my only stay. I can commend this way to you. Young man, go on. You must succeed, for Christ is with you. Call to your assistance any proper help. A mother's influence is very great. Perhaps there is a mother here who has a son exposed to life's temptations. Tell him to join the Young Men's Christian Association. No one can estimate a mother's influence. From the green hills of Connecticut, a young man was going to sea. His mother earnestly spoke to him. She had heard a good deal of sailors, and had learned that intemperance was their besetting sin. She followed her boy to the garden gate, and took his hand in hers, and said, "Promise me that you will never drink." "Mother," he replied, "I promise you that I never will." Forty years he wandered over the world, and a drop of liquor never passed his lips. "I never saw a glass of liquor," said he, "but I saw the image of my mother at the garden gate, and felt the warm clasp of her hand, though that mother has been laid low long ago." O, who can estimate the influence of a loving mother!

I have heard that there are delegates here from the United States. I am glad of that. I have a scheme on foot. Let the Christian young men of both nations cultivate each other's acquaintance, and say, *Let there be peace*. You have heard of the young American of British parentage, who was recently led out to be shot in Cuba. Young men wrapt him in the banners of the two countries, and saved him. As the weapons were levelled at his breast, they interposed those flags between him and death. Young men, wrap those who

are exposed to yet greater danger, in the banner of the love of Christ. There is work for you all in the various fields of Christian usefulness, and especially in Sabbath Schools. Fill your schools with love, and they will not fail to be attractive. Go on. The reward may be nearer some of you than you think. It will come to all in due time. We may climb Parnassus sometimes, but we ought to dwell at Jerusalem. We may sometimes visit Athens, but our home should be at Jerusalem, wherein we should often visit Calvary and Gethsemane. There is need for earnestness in this work. Could I draw aside the veil and disclose the hidden scenes behind the curtain—how many hearts and homes are mourning, when there should be joy and peace—we would all be startled at the disclosure. O, these dens of iniquity! Young men, can they not be rooted out?

Here His Honor made a telling reference to the subject of education, quoting an inquiry made by an enlightened educationist into the history of thirty young men who were brought up in the Young American style, allowed to do as they pleased—to go to school, or stay away, as they felt inclined; every one of whom, so far as ascertained, came to a wretched end. He also referred to thirty young men, who were reared under proper though somewhat old-fashioned educational restraints, one of whom in thirty years became a member of Congress, one a Judge, two Circuit Judges, three physicians, four lawyers, fourteen were dead, the others were farmers. Not one was ever brought before the courts on a criminal charge. He then said:

Religion is the only safe guide for a man's life. I love that chapter in Proverbs we have been reading. "Wisdom will lead a man when he walks, and keep him when he sleeps." What more does he want? She will keep him when he sleeps, and converse with him when he wakes. I do not ask you to pronounce my Methodist Shibboleth. Away with your party names! I rejoice in the success of my Baptist friends, foremost in the evangelisation of India; I rejoice in the success of the Presbyterians, always bold and brave, and never to be conquered: great fellows they are, and I rejoice in their success. I am glad to find the Ministers of the Gospel here. The pulpit has a most important work to do. I would rather be a herald of the Cross, if my head and heart were fitted for the work, than be monarch of the greatest Empire in the world. You all love our noble Queen, in whose breast beats a heart as great and good as ever beat in the breast of a woman. Well, it was Christianity gave us that Queen. When William IV. expired at midnight, the Archbishop of Canterbury hastened to the residence of the youthful Princess Victoria, rang the bell, and asked to have the Princess called immediately. When she came, he told her that William was dead, and that she was his successor, and Monarch of the greatest nation in Christendom. She clasped her hands and said, "O what shall I do? will you pray for me?" and he did. They both knelt, and he prayed that God, who called her to her exalted position, should fit her to occupy it to his honor. That prayer was answered. Is it any wonder she succeeded? When tidings of the Colliery disaster recently reached her, she sent to the stricken ones a message: "My heart bleeds for you." Did ever heathen monarch send such a message? She has worthily worn an earthly crown, and a brighter crown will be her's hereafter. The time

allotted to me is more than exhausted, and I must stop. Young men, my heart is with you. May the blessing of God be with you. I shall deem it the proudest day of my life when I shall be assured that the young men and young women of this my native Province are among the excellent of the earth, sanctifying all societies by their presence, and prepared to pass to brighter and unending joys.

RESPONSES OF THE DELEGATES.

J. B. MORROW, Esq., of Halifax, returned thanks for their kind reception. It was just the outbeatings of Christianity, and illustrated that injunction, "Let the same mind be in you which was also in Him." He wanted to know if the laymen he had heard speak were the homespun spoken of by one of them, what the silk and fine texture men were like. He told a story of a child in a mine, who amused himself with lighting candle ends about him, which rejoiced his heart so much that he sung. Even so it is with us. In the dark we cannot sing. We want the light that cometh from above—the light of Him who said, "My peace I give unto you,"—a light that cheers the heart in all trials. Our Associations are composed of men who have seen the light. Wherever Associations are formed, there you will find light and love. He called earnestly upon young men to come and join them. The object of Associations was their eternal good. Come with us, and we will do you good, for the Lord has spoken good of Zion.

MR. HENRY FURNESS, of Boston, followed in a speech of the most elevated and warm-hearted Christian character. He said the Boston delegates would return to their homes deeply impressed with the kindness they had received, and inspired with a more earnest determination to fight against the common foe. It had been his lot during the last seventeen years to take many a young man from the City of St. John by the hand. He had introduced several at their Boston meetings, led some to join Christian Churches, and parted with several whom he hoped to meet in heaven. It was pleasant to him to see faces here that he knew, but it would be pleasanter still to meet above where partings would be unknown.

MR. D. PALMER HOWE, of Newcastle, Miramichi, responded for that section of the Province, thanking the ministers who had received them, the Governor who had given them so much good advice, and the Christian people of St. John who had so kindly welcomed them. He urged the necessity for such an organization; bad men were banded together for evil, and why not Christian young men, whose object was to make bad men good, and good men better. He regretted that the movement in New Brunswick was so weak; but he believed it would yet grow till the Associations were counted by hundreds, and its members by thousands.

The following verses were then sung:

There is a fountain filled with blood,
 Drawn from Immanuel's veins,
 And sinners plunged beneath that flood,
 Lose all their guilty stains.
 Dear dying Lamb, thy precious blood
 Shall never lose its power,
 Till all the ransomed Church of God
 Be saved to sin no more.

THE CONCLUDING ADDRESS

was delivered by the Rev. GEO. M. GRANT, of Halifax. Referring to the Governor's speech, he said that he had respected Judge Wilmot much from the time he had met him at a little prayer meeting, on board of one of the Atlantic steamers; but he respected Gov. Wilmot more after hearing his speech that evening. The Halifax delegates accepted their kind welcome, and were sure it meant far more than words could express. He need say no more on that head; but, he would ask, Why had they come there? Why had such men as John S. McLean and J. B. Morrow, whose time, any Halifax merchant would tell them, was very valuable, come to the Convention? It was not to hear or make speeches; it was not to boast—he was afraid of boasting, for they might have members, and not effect much. They came because they realized the fact that Jesus Christ was the same yesterday, to-day, and forever, and they came as brothers to consult as to the best means of realizing His presence, and doing His work. He lives, and we approach him; for Satan also lives, and we see his works around us, and desire to destroy his kingdom. It was Christ's cause and the peoples', and we come to aid in it. In was it was not customary to reject help from any quarter. Besides the regulars, there were the militia and the volunteers—the gentle ministry of woman, and the kindly acts of children, and behind all, the sympathy and support of the people. What man would be so base that he would not take up arms to defend or free his country? but here we saw man enslaved by sin, indifferent to their own condition, and would we not take up the fight on their behalf?

"For freedom's battle once begun,
Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft, was ever won."

It was so at the Reformation, that great outburst of freedom; it was so when John Wesley preached to the colliers, and promoted the spiritual enfranchisement of England. Then and now it was Christian warfare by the people for the people. One word more. Had all present listened to a message from beyond the visible and tangible? Had they laid it to heart, and were they now living Christians, prepared for the last summons whenever it might come? Why did he put that question? It was because one of his dearest young friends had been killed that day in Halifax. [Mr. Grant, who was very much affected, was understood to refer to Mr. Gilbert Sutherland, a young gentleman of 23 years of age, son of the Recorder of Halifax, Superintendent of Stairs' Ropewalk, who had been killed on that day, as Mr. G. had learned by a telegram from Mrs. Grant.] Suppose he had not spoken to him of his soul—suppose he had neglected the salvation in which he (his young friend) rejoiced, what would now be his (Mr. G.'s) feelings? He referred to a different class of cases. He recalled the case of thirteen young students who had all gone down to dishonoured graves. They had missed the real joys of this life, and how would it be with eternity? Why could not their warm affections and their fine intellects have been won for Christ? Why could not all young men be thus won? They might say he was sermonizing. Well, so he was, but he could not help it! He wished to deal with realities. He wished to be practical, and to say something useful to all. What calling was there that Christianity would not ennoble and enable a man to fill it better? They wanted this Association,

non-professional in its character, to give every man, and especially every young man, an opportunity of speaking to his brother man on these themes. So far from that Association being unnecessary, he would say, give us a new organization every year, if only it will reach new cases. What right or privilege had any man compared to this, that of having his heart gladdened with the love of Jesus? It was because he felt this so strongly to-night that he pressed it on their notice. Mr. Grant concluded a most powerful speech, of which the above contains only a few thoughts, amid loud applause.

After singing the

HYMN.

With one consent, let all the earth,
To God their cheerful voices raise;
Glad homage pay with awful mirth,
And sing before Him songs of praise.

Convinc'd that He is God alone,
From whom both we and all proceed;
We, whom He chooses for His own,
The flock that He vouchsafes to feed.

The President made the following

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The morning prayer meeting would be held daily from 7.15 to 7.45 o'clock, in the Rooms of the Association. The forenoon session would be held in St. David's Church, from 9.30 to 12.30: subject for discussion, "The Best Method of Organizing Young Men's Christian Associations." The afternoon session from 2.30 to 5.30: subject, "The Causes of Apathy in Regard to Christian Work." The evening session from 7.50 until pleasure: subject, "The Necessity for Christian Associations."

To all these meetings the public were freely invited, and the President trusted that many would attend.

Prayer was then offered up by the Rev. Mr. WILSON, of Sheffield; the vast congregation joined in singing the Doxology, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," and the Benediction was pronounced by the Rev. JAMES BENNET.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

Devotional exercises were held in St. David's Church, from 9½ to 10 o'clock; presided over by Mr. S. S. MATTHEWS, of Boston.

At the close of the prayer meeting, the President took the chair.

The Minutes of the Meeting of Organization were read and approved.

It was then moved by Mr. JOHN S. McLEAN, seconded by Mr. FURNESS, "That members of the St. John Association, all Evangelical Ministers, and visiting

members from Associations, be made members of this Convention." Carried unanimously.

The President then called for

REPORTS FROM DELEGATES.

MR. MILNER, of Charlottetown, reported on the state of the Y. M. C. A. in that place. He said that the report of their delegates on their return from the Picton Convention had reanimated the Association. He felt himself moved to devote himself more earnestly than ever before. He considered Y. M. C. Associations an institution peculiarly adapted for the work of Christ, in which the people have a deep interest, and what the people take hold of cannot fail, especially when assisted and supported by God's good Spirit. A Convention, such as he then was taking an humble part in, he said could not but be successful. In Charlottetown they have about 100 active members, and 160 associate members, but hope for a new impetus and a large increase on their return from the Convention.

MR. CROMWELL, of Fredericton, reported that no Association has been formed in Fredericton; that he came to be made acquainted with the mode of conducting Y. M. C. Associations; and that he hoped to assist in establishing one on his return. He felt satisfied that it might do good, and he thought it the duty of our young men to take hold and help forward the movement. He was stimulated to renewed action in religious work by a visit to a Y. M. C. A. Prayer Meeting which he lately attended in Boston, and he was again encouraged at the Meeting of Welcome here in St. John on Thursday evening. There is, said he, tangible evidence of God's goodness around us, and we should have more faith. In conclusion, he would do all he could to assist in organizing Branch Associations.

The President stated that the Lieutenant Governor had expressed his willingness to help the young men of Fredericton in establishing an Association, and maintaining it. He also said that the prospect of the Annual Convention being held there about the end of August next year, would be an additional help to them.

MR. ROCHE, of Halifax, reported that the membership of the Halifax Y. M. C. A. for last year was 441, and this year it had increased to 507; that last year their Library contained 1,461 volumes, and this year it had been increased to 2,180, mainly by books contributed in response to a circular distributed, asking the citizens to assist them in augmenting their collection of books. Since the Picton Convention they have had Prayer Meetings daily, from 4 o'clock to 4.30 P. M., besides holding a weekly Prayer Meeting, which has lately increased in the average attendance from 15 to 35. They have for some time past held also a monthly Prayer Meeting on Sunday, which is always well attended. They have divided the City off into districts, in each of which they assign to a member the duty of distributing Tracts. In this way they have already disposed of 16,000 Tracts. They have been accustomed also to send their members to the Asylums and Prisons to minister to the spiritual wants of their inmates. They have sent out lay preachers upon the wharves and to the Cemetery. They have established a course of original Lectures for this winter, and they hoped to get some one from Saint John to help them. A Special Committee has been appointed to visit the sick, and a great power has been wielded in this way. They have appointed a Committee whose duty it is to solicit situations for deserving young men. In all these duties every one follows his own leading as to the mode he sets about the work.

After the singing of a hymn :

"Work, for the night is coming,"

MR. WISWELL, of Halifax, added to the remarks of the previous speaker, and said that their Literary Committee, all of whom were active members of the Association, regulated the Literary proceedings, which, in winter especially, are a prominent feature in their Association; that they had a Social and Musical Committee, to whose exertions much of their success was due. Their social gathering drew in many who cannot otherwise be reached; and at the Literary entertainments, the discussions were instructive and elevating in their tendency. They had a monster social gathering last winter. At one place there were more than three hundred assembled last Sunday to listen to the lay preaching of some of their members. When this practice was first engaged in, the people were sometimes noisy; but of late they have been perfectly orderly, and much affected, as well as interested.

MR. McLAM, having been specially called for, said that a number of gentlemen in Halifax have been induced to contribute annually to the funds of the Association \$20 each, but that they do not attend the meetings; that last winter they, by circular, invited all those to a Social Meeting, which proved a feast of reason to more than three hundred guests. There were no edibles or drinks; but they went round in the most cordial manner, and were all entertained in a free, conversational manner.

The President said that a social entertainment was in contemplation for this winter in St. John; and that, thanks to their Treasurer, MR. McMORAN, there would be something more than "a feast of reason and a flow of soul."

REV. MR. CERRY, of Upper Gagetown, said they had an Association in that place. He had been much pleased and edified by what he had heard in these meetings, and he would carry home with him many good suggestions for pushing on Christian work. He believed that if, in the country districts, ministers and Church members would unite together, large and interesting meetings might be held, which would be productive of good results. He regretted that there was not a larger representation from country districts; for, had they come, he believed their hearts would have been so warmed up by the soul-stirring appeals that had been made, that at the next Convention in Fredericton there would be a large representation from Associations all over the country.

The Rev. MR. PAYSON, of Gagetown, said they had no Association there. He had attempted to have one established, and it was strongly opposed,—the object not being well understood. He hoped, however, the young men would be brought to see the importance of the work, and that he should see one organized soon.

A Hymn was then sung—

"Blest be the tie that binds."

And then fifteen minutes were very pleasantly spent in general conversation, and in introduction to strangers.

Order being called, another Hymn—

"I'm not ashamed to own my Lord,"

was sung; and at five minutes past 11 o'clock the first sub-

ject for discussion was taken up, namely : "The best method of organizing and sustaining Young Men's Christian Associations."

The President announced that the speakers succeeding the opener should be limited to five minutes each. He then called upon Mr. ROACH, of Halifax.

Mr. ROACH read an original paper on the subject of the resolution. He showed that our young men should be gathered together, so that they might mutually assist each other. A knowledge of the aims and objects of the Institution should be extended, by means of the press ; then the members should show, by their life and conduct, that they are epistles of Christ, known and read by all men—labouring to plant societies, even in the most scattered districts. Difficulties and discouragements would be met ; but perseverance and reliance upon the Divine Spirit would overcome them all. He narrated the story of Ahab and the Assyrian host, which came up against Samaria, and urged upon young men the necessity of taking the matter boldly in hand, ordering the battle, and fighting manfully. The first step to be taken was to secure the aid of the ministers and most active Christian members. The best young men should be sought out, and talked to on the subject. The work should even be carried into their commercial letters. Let your own light shine before men. Do not let a sneer, or a "want of time," be an excuse for not acting. Call together a local Convention. Set them to work. Plenty of excuses will be made, till, perhaps, yourself and two or three others are all that are present. Ask God to bless you. Think of the souls to be saved or lost. Urge those present to begin with you. Make earnest appeals to the public, and call a public meeting. Have a constitution sketched out before hand. Appoint a Committee to go to work at once. Elect good office-bearers—they should be well qualified Church members ; not simply "big-wigs," or M. P. P.'s, but the best young *workers* you can find. Do not employ a travelling lecturer. People will look upon him as a paid agent, a book peddler, an insurance agent, or a temperance lecturer. To sustain an Association, it was necessary to have large and ample rooms, well supplied ; a good, active invitation Committee ; a good library ; well conducted literary and debating classes ; social gatherings, with ladies present ; lectures, delegations, and Conventions, and interchange of visits ; reports and pamphlets ; and cash to sustain it. Keep out of debt. Spiritual means are necessary ; active spiritual life in membership. Bible classes and prayer meetings, with prayer, singing, and speaking, that will give and keep up the vigorous life of the Society, attended by those who understand human nature, and can win by their Christian geniality and love of souls. The office bearers should be good young men, alive to the work, kindly and cheerful, not cold, too young, or too stiff. If you meet a man, shake hands with him. Don't be ashamed to speak to a young man at the Church door, or on the street, even in the presence of your wife and daughters, even though he be a mere clerk or mechanic. Young men are sick with the Christianity that calls them brother in prayer meetings, and gives them the cold shoulder in the street. Visit the sick ; perform visitations from house to house, diffusing good words and kind acts. A muscular, vigorous Christianity was needed by the young men of to-day. There is a Christian body, as well as a Christian soul.

The Rev. NATHANIEL McKEAY rose, and said this paper bore upon the vital points, and just such as were needed in this Province, where the organization of new

Societies was much needed, and he hoped those present would ask questions of a practical nature, to be answered by the President or some member of the Convention appointed for that purpose.

The President requested that those who wished to put questions, would be kind enough to write them out and place them in a box, which had been put upon the table for that purpose.

MR. DARROW, of St. John, said he thought that delegations from Associations were a great means for the establishment of new ones; these could gather around them their friends, and by gaining assistance from some older Association, they would by prayer and labour soon find they could get a start made.

REV. MR. WILSON, of Sheffield, said there was a feeling abroad among some ministers, that these societies would eventually injure the Church and cripple its operations, and he thought the first thing in building up new Associations was to gain the active assistance and co-operation of the ministers. He should be glad to see a successful attempt made to establish a Y. M. C. Association in Sheffield. He related a fact in connection with a Society forty years ago in Glasgow, where nine out of twelve members became missionaries to the heathen, and the other three were only prevented by ill health.

REV. MR. FOWLER, of Bass River, said he was pleased with the meetings held the previous day, and especially delighted to see the Governor giving his influence and efforts to aid so important a movement. He was pleased also with the character of the Convention. He said if the two young gentlemen who had spoken after him on the previous day would come to Richibucto, he would spend a whole week, with horse and carriage, driving them about, and he would guarantee them a good meeting every night, and give them an opportunity to find out for themselves how to spell the word *can't* (with or without an apostrophe) as applied to the Richibucto and Bass River District.

MR. ROCHE said he would accept the invitation and go; but not this fall, as he could not leave now. He would go next summer if no Y. M. C. A. existed there then, and help to establish one or more in that section.

MR. ROSEBOROUGH, of Newcastle, Miramichi, said the ministers of the Episcopal, Presbyterian, Baptist, and Methodist Churches of his town, had agreed to unite their efforts to aid an association of young men, if established. He spoke of the high character of many of the young men of that place, and the noble qualities exhibited by them. He thought a good organization could be established there; but he needed to know more about the methods to be pursued in carrying it on, and would be thankful for any suggestions given him.

MR. MATTHEWS, of Boston, said that they, in Massachusetts, strike while the iron is hot. They move immediately after a Convention, while the Delegates are still warmed up for the work, and they send out "workers." "We must work," said he; "we must lose sleep in the cause, as we would if we were going to make a thousand dollars." We must have men of spirituality, who have the saving power about them already—the grace of God itself—and not something like an Insurance Policy, that will be good by and by.

MR. McLEAN, of Halifax, said young men all over the country were yearning to know how to organize these societies. First, the minister should be interested in the work. There was no antagonism with the Church; but, on the contrary, it was a means to bring men into the Church. Associations must be officered by active Christian workers, and if only one could be got, he should be

made President. Then they should have a room, even if they had to rent somebody's parlor once a week; never accept the vestry of a Church, for every vestige of denominationalism must be cast aside at once. Men must work, as well as talk. He told of a man in the States who devotes a third of every year to the establishment of Sabbath Schools in his State, and finds his business increased from year to year; and if time were devoted to this work, it would not be lost, even in a temporal form. They should send to some one in St. John or Halifax, and get a little book of directions for forming Associations.

Mr. D. P. Hows, of Chatham, took up the offer of the brother from Bass River, and would go and labour with him for the winning of young men to Jesus. He urged the necessity of using the secular press, which had already shown its willingness to assist the young men in this movement, as the means of sending out information all over the country. He pressed upon the delegates the necessity for prayer and labour in this work.

Dr. BORSFORD said past failures taught wisdom. He had been actively connected with the former Association in St. John, and he knew some of the reasons why it failed: First, they made a mistake in letting the Society get into debt, and then they failed to carry out their distinctive principles. These two principles, so essential in the foundation and prosperity of our Associations, he commended to the notice of all, "Owe no man anything," and "Work while it is day."

REV. MR. MCKAY said he was satisfied there was very little real ministerial prejudice against Young Men's Christian Associations in this Province.

MR. WISWELL, of Halifax, said he thought the officers should not be too elderly. Old men could not take that interest in the movement which younger men would do, and could not work so vigorously or sympathize so keenly. He also thought the ladies should not be ignored; but that their efforts should be enlisted and used for so good an object. Joe Howe always speaks to the ladies first—a good example for us. Then, every member of an Association should be made to work. A circular should be sent out declaring the principles and benefits of Associations before the public. There was plenty to do, and every member should be diligently engaged in active effort. The elderly Christians ought to be made honorary members, so as to secure their influence and labours.

The President then announced that the time had come for adjournment, and that they would assemble at half-past 2 p. m., for prayer meeting, and that "Books of Directions" would be ordered from New York, and sent to each of the delegates present.

A hymn was then sung—

"Come, let us join our friends above,"

The session was closed with prayer and benediction by the REV. D. M. WELTON, of Windsor.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention met in prayer, at the appointed time ; which was led by MR. D. P. HOWE, of Chatham.

MR. WELSH, the President, took the Chair at 3 o'clock. The hymn—

"A charge to keep I have,"

was sung. The REV. MR. HARLEY, of Saint John, read a portion of the 119th Psalm, and led in prayer.

The Minutes of the Morning Session were then read and approved.

The following Resolution was then offered by MR. W. H. WISWELL, of Halifax, seconded by MR. HOWE, and passed:

Whereas—It is highly desirable that some practical results should arise from the meeting of the present Convention;

Therefore Resolved—That, in the opinion of this Convention, it is the duty of delegates, upon their return home, to use their most strenuous efforts to establish Young Men's Christian Associations in their respective localities, and for that purpose to ask the co-operation of the resident or officiating clergymen.

Referred to Committee on Associations. It was also resolved that open air services be held under the auspices of the Convention, on King's Square, from 4 to 5 o'clock, on Sunday next.

The Business Committee reported in favour of holding the Sessions on Saturday, at the same hour, and that the questions for discussion shall be, in the morning:

"How can the Church and Young Men's Christian Associations best mutually aid each other?" to be opened by MR. GORDON, of Windsor, N. S.

AFTERNOON.—"The best agencies for promoting Christian work," to be opened by MR. FURNESS of Boston, followed by REV. MR. PITHLADO, of St. Andrews.

EVENING.—"Characteristics of Christianity in daily life," to be opened by MR. McDONALD, of St. John, followed by REV. MR. ARMSTRONG.

The Report of Delegates who had not yet reported, was then called for, by the President.

The REV. MR. BLAINEY, of Elgin, regretted that there was no Associations in his locality, but hoped to see one established. There was a great work to be accomplished by these organizations, and he regarded their introduction as an answer to the prayer for more laborers to be sent into the Lord's vineyard.

MR. MCKENZIE, of Moncton, said that although he felt that some one better qualified than himself, should have been sent from his district—he thought that if he had not come, no one else would ; and now that he was here, he could not but rejoice to be present at the Convention, feeling it good to be there, and he promised that on his return home he would do his best to organize and maintain an Association in Moncton. Great apathy was manifested by the youth of that place to religious matters, they could not be got to the Sabbath School, or to the Churches, and many when they did go, although they listened to, and appeared to respect the sermons, they avowed themselves by their conduct to be almost infidels ; but he trusted that very soon a change would take place, arising from efforts which they might put forth.

Mr. TAYLOR, of Moncton, said he was happy to hear Mr. McKENZIE, and could endorse his utterances. Mr. McKENZIE had long been a co-laborer of his in the Sabbath School and Church, and he attested to his earnestness in good works. He thought a great deal depended on earnestly trying to accomplish a good work. There was a field in Moncton for Young Men's Christian Associations, and they would try to form one; they would do their best, and if they did fail, they would do so, still trying. Such a low state of religion did not always exist, for he could remember the day when young men were not ashamed to stand up and speak for Jesus. Moncton, he said, was peculiarly situated with regard to this matter, and there were many local obstacles to be met and overcome. He had been often cheered by letters from foreign lands, written by those who could trace a successful career to the possession of religion. The Rev. Mr. DUNCAN had some time since organized a Society in Moncton, which he named "The Moncton Methodist Mutual Improvement Association." He did not like the sound of the name; it was too sectarian, though there was no intention on the part of the founder to make it anything of the kind. The exercises were religious and scriptural in their nature, as well as devotional. The membership was about sixty-two; and, he was sorry to say, young men formed a very small per centage of that number. He had, himself, thought to stand back, not on account of apathy, but because he wanted to be out of the way of young men, who would be able to infuse more life into the institution than older men, who might advance old and stereotyped ideas and expressions. He now intended to go back and suggest that the Association be made a Young Men's Christian Association, and he had the hope of seeing it a part of the great organization. The speaker then referred to the idea advanced by some, that the Church was doing all that was needed in the reformation of mankind, and that we needed nothing more. He said ministers had their place in the work, and now filled it, but we were inclined to become men-worshippers. New ministers came to a congregation, and if people did not worship strange gods, they were sometimes led to worship strange preachers. He said we too often heard such expressions as "That's a fine speaker," or, "He prays a good stick," or some expressions of admiration of the music; while the great object of it all was forgotten. The fervor and spirit of these meetings had shown him the world was not entirely gone adrift, but there was great hope that it might be won to Jesus. He would return a wiser and better man, and do his best to organize an Association in that place.

Mr. McKENZIE, of New Glasgow, was next called upon, and said that he did not expect to be placed in his present position, as Mr. CAMERON was to have represented their Association; but on account of the news of the death of a sister, he could not take his allotted place. The Association of New Glasgow had been two-and-a-half years in existence; and after its organization, it had progressed slowly, and nearly gone down. He, like several others, had kept away, and let apathy take hold of him. After a year, they rented a large Hall, in the middle of the town; and when their Delegates returned from the Convention, they organized a Reading Room, and the interest began to increase. He, and many others, went back, and their Association now numbered one hundred and twenty. They held meetings every night except Thursday, when there was a prayer meeting in a Church in the town. He said he was not a fit man to properly represent his Association; and he didn't know why they had sent him, unless it was to warm him up. He referred to a brother, who was now in Boston, who was taken by the hand and led to attend the Association there, and

to other institutions, where he received the benefits of religion. The speaker believed that in all our small towns such Associations should be formed to welcome and care for the strangers who are coming amongst us.

Rev. Mr. Warr, of New Glasgow, followed, endorsing the facts stated by the last speaker. He said there was no Association when he went first to New Glasgow. He saw the necessity that existed for it, and he began to talk about it. Then the young men took the matter into their own hands; and, as in many other new societies, mistakes were made. They had returned from the Portland Convention, and new life had been infused into their ranks. Instead of thirty, they had swelled their numbers to one hundred and twenty. There was a difference in the appearance of things about the town. The young men used to lounge about the corners, and the natural evils of apathy and idleness were experienced. He was glad to say there was a decided change for the better. He thought it the duty of every minister to warn persons of this class, both publicly and privately. Each Convention, as it had taken place, had seemed to infuse new life into the organization. He claimed for Young Men's Christian Associations the sympathy of every community and Church. They had no reason to make any apology to any one; they were working for and in the same interest as the Church itself; they were doing the Lord's work; and if they did sometimes trample on the corns of men outside the Church, they need not be afraid of the consequences, but must press on in the work, acting independently of men's prejudices.

The time being up for receiving Reports of Delegates, a few verses of the Hymn—

"Tell me the old, old story,"

were sung, and the REV. MR. MORRIS offered prayer.

Then five minutes were spent in introductions and conversation.

The meeting was then called to order, by MR. J. B. MORROW, of Halifax, in the Chair.

The Hymn—

"Shall we gather at the river,"

was sung.

The question for discussion, for the afternoon, was then taken up. Subject:—"What are the Causes of Apathy in Young Men towards Religion?"

Mr. WILSON, President of the St. John Association, opened the discussion of this subject. He said the question was one which caused anxious thoughts in the hearts of many; and to them it was a subject of the deepest importance. He would present only a few thoughts on the cause of the apathy manifested.

The first was, neglect of the youthful education of children; and, after quoting many passages of Scripture covering Divine commands on this subject, he said, that in spite of all these, and their Divine origin, parents neglected them. He referred to the multitudes of young children who were allowed upon our streets to go their own way, without proper restraint, and commented upon the results of such neglect. The second cause was the way in which family devotion was conducted. He said that many parents made religion wear a gloomy aspect, as if it was intended to make one sad—to hear men talk, one would think

it was something to be sorrowful about. We should speak joyfully of it, and be happy in its possession, like Paul and Silas, who, in prison, sang the praises of their Master. Children, too, were tasked with long lessons to learn, and compelled to listen to family prayer, which, too often, instead of being what it should, was only something which they were made to look upon as tedious and meaningless. The third cause of apathy was a want of consistency in professing Christians. The example, before the world, of professed Christians, in their worldly walk and conversation, was such as to lead too often to the expression, "If that is your Christian, I don't want to be one." Their visits to improper places were very bad examples, and there were too many of them seen in the theatre, billiard room, and many other such haunts, which it should be their study to avoid. Men, too, who were professing Christians, were often guilty of questionable business transactions, which produced a very bad effect on the cause they professed to represent. The next cause was the indifference of the Church toward young men and boys. There was not sufficient interest manifested by Churches in the young strangers and others who composed their congregations; they were not made to feel at home. Church members held aloof from these; and too often they went away because there was no drawing near to them, and no sympathy was extended to them. Employers, too, seldom interested themselves in those in their employ, and too seldom was the social board, the family circle, and the pew in the Church open to them. Employers were too selfish. The remedy, to his mind, was to "Train up a child in the way he should go;" this was a duty which, if performed, and followed by prayer, God would bless. Make religion cheerful, make the family circle and family prayer pleasant, the lessons light, and the singing joyous. If a man loves Jesus, and follows him professedly, let him be consistent. Let him be actuated by honesty and integrity in life—his conduct being guided by the Word of God. Let no man put a stumbling block in his brother's way. Let our Associations and their individual members be sensible of their duty to young men; let them receive strangers, and extend the brotherly hand; let the family circle be opened, and let us look more to our Christian duty, and we can remove many obstacles.

REV. MR. PITBLADO, of St. Andrews, followed. He was delighted with Mr. WILSH's address, and was particularly interested in the reference made to the indifference manifested toward young men, because it dealt in a practical way with a matter that needed to be well looked into. Many of them found fault with the way, too, in which they were approached on the subject of religion; they did not like the style, and they were sometimes right. A young man had told him to say to the Convention, that one reason was, that ministers did not preach aright. There was, perhaps, something in this, but there was also much in the young men themselves. The dull and dogmatic would not do, though the loving and tender might. Then there was great ignorance of what religion was. They thought it might do for old people; but to them it looked like going out of a palace into a dungeon—out of a flower garden into a desert. They had not time for it; it was a foolish idea. The speaker said it took more time to serve the devil than to serve the Lord. The tendency of the age was skeptical; and while many of the young men would read the works of Paine and Emerson, they were not honest enough to read the other side of the question. They were not earnest enough; their religion was of the tongue, instead of the heart; and it was hard for us to expect others to be alive, when we were not ourselves.

MR. KNOWLES, of St. John, said the great cause of disobedience was want of love. Parents, if properly actuated by it, would train their children properly; and, from the same motive, Christians would be more consistent, and the Christian Church would be altogether nearer what they should be, if prompted by this great motive.

MR. BEATTIE, of Pictou, thought it was too largely because Christians do not walk worthy of the vocation wherewith they are called. He said that had he been guided by the public character and acts of professing Christians, he would never have come to Jesus. A young man said to him, "If all Christians are like those I meet with, God forbid that I ever should be one." It was the duty of Christian professors to be full of the love of Jesus, living consistent lives before all men.

MR. BURNS, of St. John, said that in a few hours the Church would be filled by those who would give evidence that much good work had been done, and he claimed that there were business excuses which kept many from coming up with them. Such meetings as these would do much to remove the apathy felt, as they showed there were many Christians who had a deep interest in their welfare. We should not look around too much to see what our neighbours were doing, but each should put forth individual effort. He referred to the large Catholic element which could not be reached.

REV. MR. HARLEY said the cause of causes for this apathy in spiritual matters was, they are out of Christ. All the things named were influences acting upon young men; but the great evil was, that young men have no Christ. He deplored the evils existing, and the lack, even in the pulpit, of presenting Christ as the one altogether lovely. Some of them were entirely out of the pale of religious effort, and it was the duty of Christians to go to them and tell them of Christ; and when the Spirit of the Lord operated upon the heart, revealing Jesus as the hope of glory, this apathy would cease. Children must be brought to Jesus. He referred to the story of a child, four years old, who was converted, and prayed with other children, and sought their salvation. All excuses would cease when men came to Jesus.

MR. J. B. MORROW, of Halifax, wanted to get an answer more practical yet. The passage which forced itself upon him was, "My people doth not know, they will not consider;" and he believed that the reason for the apathy shown, was that young men would not think. They would not entertain serious thoughts, but drive them away, and the main point should be to try to get them to think and ponder the things relating to Jesus. Once get the seed sown in the soil of the heart, and it would grow till men were brought to a knowledge of Jesus.

THE REV. MR. CAREY rehearsed passages from the Bible, bearing upon this point, preferring to hear what God says than to say anything himself.

MR. McLEAN, of Halifax, said there was no doubt that the great cause was the depravity of the human heart; but he wanted to know how it was to be removed. He remembered, when a young man, that he would have given anything to go to some one, and ask how he could learn of Jesus. His minister never asked him about his loving Jesus. All he did was to ask him questions out of the Shorter Catechism, which he answered as he did questions from his arithmetic. Many young men had the same experience. Ministers should remember that many in their congregation are sinners. If a young man is taken

and led to the Bible class, or meeting, they will be won. It was the want of sympathy and active love for souls that was the great evil. There is in the mind of man something that cannot but respond to the loving appeals of the active Christian.

Mr. FOSTER, of Oromocto, thought that it all resolved itself into the fact that Christians did not do their duty. The apathy in professing Christians begat the same feeling in others. A man should carry his religion into every day life, and seek to bring all about him under the influence of religious training. Every feeling and sentiment was hallowed and purified by Christianity. It was something to live by and to live out, and not only to die by. Everything done by a Christian should be well considered before done, and what it will do and how far it will go before entered upon. Ministers should show a deep and loving sympathy with their young men, coming down to them and exhibiting an interest in their welfare.

Mr. FURNESS, of Boston, said the way to encourage young men and lead them to Jesus was to show them that we are in earnest, and that we mean something. He took a Bible Class about a year ago, and he at once told them that he desired their conversion, and should labour and pray for that object; and now more than half of them are converted to God. If they had not gone after young men, and shown them that they were in earnest in seeking their salvation, the Boston Association would have done very little. The young are ready to go to Jesus, if they are taken by the hand.

Mr. WISWELL, of Halifax, thought one cause of apathy was a self-complacency they feel that because they do not lie, and cheat, and steal, they are pretty good, after all. They live, outwardly, a moral life, and rest with that; but if they can be brought into Associations like these, their influence will be brought to bear upon them to show them the necessity of Christ being formed in their hearts. They should all labour, in every way, looking to Jesus who is the author and finisher of faith.

The Rev. Mr. WATT, of New Glasgow, spoke for two minutes, and gave some account of his own training and experience.

The Afternoon Session closed by singing the Doxology, and the Benediction by the Rev. Mr. WATT, of New Glasgow, N. S.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION.

Convention met at half-past 7, P. M.

Half hour devotional exercises, conducted by J. Mc-MORRAN, St. John, preceded the Business Meeting; which opened by singing the Hymn, commencing—

"A charge to keep I have,
A God to glorify."

Prayer by J. B. MORROW, of Halifax.

The President invited His Honor the Lieutenant Governor to a seat on the platform.

The Secretary read the Minutes of the Afternoon Session, which were approved.

MR. FURNESS, of Boston, announced that he had received a response to the despatch sent to the Convention sitting at Lowell, Mass. It was as follows:

"To the Young Men's Christian Association of St. John:

"Your Christian greeting is received, and heartily reciprocated. 'I thank my God upon every remembrance of you. Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, for your fellowship in the Gospel from the first day until now; being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you, will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ; even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the Gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace' (Phil. i. 3-8).

(Signed)

"A. S. WOODWARD, *President Third An. Convention.*

"LOWELL, October 15, 1869."

Reports were then made from the Delegates.

MR. FOSTER, of Fredericton, said he had no Association to report, but hoped that one would speedily be started, and that next year at Fredericton they would be given as warm a Christian welcome as the Delegates had received from the brethren in St. John. He had come to have his spiritual strength renewed, and he had been warmed and strengthened by finding young men with strong, earnest effort, striving for the one great object of saving souls. He believed in these Associations, and the great good they can accomplish. All that was needed was an earnest faith, and strong labour, to accomplish much good.

MR. BEATTIE, of Pictou, N. S., said they had an Association, resulting from the Convention at Halifax, which has grown in numbers and influence from that day to the present. The grand result was due to prayer—faithful prayer for guidance in the work they had undertaken. The Convention, held on the 18th of September, was an era in its history. The Spirit of God was present, and but a day after its close the blessed news was received that souls were being converted. A prayer meeting had been held in the Rooms every evening, and every evening young men were found standing up and witnessing for Jesus. Professing Christians had also been revived, and the formal character of their religion had been changed to earnest, lively spirituality. A new convert sent this message: "Tell them at the Convention of the old, old story;" and now he would, therefore, point all to Jesus who taketh away the sins of the world.

MR. PECK, of Petitedisac, reiterated the statement of other delegates that they had no Association; but he had come to gain information, and on his return he would labor to have one formed, and by the aid of the ministers there, he trusted the many young men of the place would be able to sustain it and get it in thorough working order.

The first and last verses of—

"The old, old story,"

were then sung. JOHN S. McLEAN offered prayer.

The question adjourned from the afternoon was then taken up.

The Rev. N. McKAY thought the real bone and sinew of the apathy of young men in religious matters was the seduction of the heart of man from God by the evil one in the garden of Eden, and since that time man regards God as his foe and banishes him from his thoughts as much as possible. Man must have impressed upon his heart that God is good, and that he loves him and has sent His Son to save and His Spirit to sanctify. This truth must be impressed upon men's hearts, and when this is believed, man cannot longer lift up the arm of rebellion against God. The root of evil is in unbelief, and the root of all the good that can be done is salvation by faith in Christ. This was the gospel he wished to preach; and if believed, it would turn the world upside down.

MR. ROACH, of Halifax, quoted the saying of Naaman, the Syrian, "Are not Arbana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel?" and said that a similar spirit of pride was the cause of the apathy of young men to religion. If great wonders were done openly from heaven, or anything out of the ordinary way, they, the talented and men of genius, would accept and do. But the selfishness of the heart, and the pride of life, keep men from Jesus. Could a man live a great life like the men of Christian genius and philanthropy, he would have it, but to have the religion of the charwoman who sweeps out his office, he will have none of it. His love of the world and pride must be rooted out, or the blessings of religion cannot be felt. There is something in Religion that is not for the dying day, but for the active life, to be preached by example, that men be witnesses for Christ, in however lowly a sphere.

MR. TAYLOR, of Moncton, thought some of the outside causes of apathy were the inconsistencies of professed Christians. He divided men into two classes, the naturally hard and impenitent, and the naturally amiable, but who stand aloof because of seeing the inconsistencies of professed believers. He heard a young man, a son of pious and praying parents, say that all he wanted to know of a man, and the worst that could be said of him, was that he was a praying man. He said, on being closely questioned, that he could not apply it to all, but he had seen the inconsistencies of religious men, and was opposed to religion because of it. He believed religion to be a personal vital thing, to be believed and acted in daily life.

MR. SKINNER, of St. John, said the last speaker had struck the right cord. It was necessary that Christians should show by their lives, words and actions, that they are indeed followers of Christ. He appealed to young men to leave the service of Satan and consecrate their lives and hearts to the service of Jesus.

HIS HONOR THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR said, he was glad to meet with the young men on an occasion such as that which had called them together. Light had come into the world, but men—young men, old men, and women too, loved darkness rather than light. The carnal mind was enmity with God. Worldliness drew man away from God, while He did everything to draw man to Him. Young men are afraid, said he. They love darkness rather than light through the hardness of their hearts, which is at the bottom of the apathy. The want of zeal in others keeps many young men back, while the sterling example of the truly righteous was convincing beyond words. He instanced this by a happy anecdote from "The Professor," of John Angell James—a book which he said every young man ought to have in his library. He asked how many fathers could now beg pardon from their own children. The evil of the heart could only be overcome by being born again. The Saviour's blood alone could

cleanse. Young men feared that there must be something very dull in religion, but well the true believer knew it was consistent with the highest worldly enjoyment. There was no excuse for this apathy. The promise was to be a *son*—nothing less. The Convention was another opportunity—another event in the life of all present—for which they were all accountable.

This closed the discussion.

Hymn, commencing—

“To our Redeemer’s glorious name,”

was sung, and REV. G. M. GRANT, of Halifax, offered prayer.

The next question for discussion, opened by JOSHUA CLAWSON, of St. John, was—“The Necessity for Young Men’s Christian Associations.”

MR. CLAWSON expressed the pleasure it afforded him to see the interest taken by the Christian public in the meeting of the Convention. The necessity of these Associations was apparent from the fact that young men would form other societies for pleasure, or mental profit. They combine in a great deal that is noble, and a great deal that is base; but these Associations called upon young men to combine for the object of rescuing their fellow young men from the evils to which they are exposed. Pastors of Churches might ask the question, Why these Societies were needed? He believed that the position of a minister of the Gospel was the most dignified that man could occupy on earth, and that they are specially set apart to proclaim the news of salvation through the cross of Jesus. Our Young Men’s Christian Associations preach the Gospel in a certain degree. There were some, however, who thought the Association was calculated to withdraw the energies of young men from the Churches; but he thought it would be found that the most active members of the Association were also the most active members of the Church. It is an auxiliary to the Church. This Association fills a place the Churches do not. It was admirably calculated to promote unity among the members of the various denominations. It was, in its operations, attractive to young men, and tended to lead them to Christ. If the Association done no more than cultivate the graces of charity and brotherly love among the different sections of the Christian Church, it would accomplish a great work. Young men in stores are subject to great temptations and perils; and it was to save them from falling by them, that these Associations were organized; and this was one reason why they should receive the active support of merchants and employers. The motto of the Society was, “Looking unto Jesus,” and this carried out in the life would save them from perils in this life and fit them for that to come.

The Hymn, commencing—

“Awake and sing the song,”

was then sung.

The REV. MR. WILSON, of Sheffield, said he would bring forward three facts, bearing upon this subject. A vast amount of influence is lost for want of such agencies as these Associations. He told of a young man in Manchester, England, in the Church of Rev. Mr. Griffin, who, by personal effort with strangers, was enabled to introduce to the Church one hundred and thirty converts in two

years. This shows what personal effort would do. Another young man, of Sheffield, went to Montreal, and was taken in hand by the Association there, and when under conviction of sin, a young man came and took him to the vestry to Dr. Wilkes, and he believes that his conversion is due in a large degree to the conversation there held. The speaker was lately on a mission to Cape Breton, and at Pictou he went to the Association Rooms there, and as he wore colored clothes he was not taken for a minister. A young man spoke to him, and at once asked him if he ever thought seriously of his soul. He said he had, but did not tell him at once who he was or what he was, but his heart was filled with joy at finding a young man taking such an interest in the eternal welfare of an old man like himself. These facts, he thought, spoke strongly for the necessity of these Associations.

The Rev. Mr. HARLEY, of St. John, was a firm believer in Young Men's Christian Associations. He thought that there was very little prejudice in the minds of ministers against them, but they were very anxious that what is done should be done to the glory of God. But that which proves itself successful, proves itself necessary; and Young Men's Christian Associations had proved eminently successful, both in England and America. He impressed upon the minds of all the necessity of keeping in mind the motto of the St. John Association. Political discussion and literary excellence were good; but the knowledge gained by a devotion to the interests of Jesus, was better than either. If rested and grounded in the love of Christ, much good would result from their labours. He believed that this Convention would cause Christians to work, and labour, and pray more earnestly for their success.

Mr. PUGSLEY, of St. John, said that if a good, moral life was necessary for a happy and prosperous life, then it was well to use every means to promote such a life in the young. If there was no evil in the world, then there would be no need of such agencies; but alas, the evils and displays of vice on every hand, proved the necessity of using every appliance for the saving of the young from the evils that surround us.

D. P. HOWE, of Newcastle, said one of the chief necessities for these Associations was that public men are passing away, and the boys and the young men must step forward to fill their places. And these should be brought to the side of Jesus, that every position of life should be filled by Christian men—from the boot-black to the Governor of the Dominion. He wished to see the flag of the Cross side by side with that of his country.

Mr. EDGETT said the platform of the Association was so broad that whenever they were in the path of duty they were standing upon it. Sin was rampant on every hand, and this showed the great necessity of such an organization. He bade them stand by their motto, and constantly look to Jesus.

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR WILMOT wished to give one word of advice. He would urge them to study the word of God. There was more in it than young men thought. As he pondered some text he had frequently passed over with indifference, some thought would strike his mind which would make him exclaim, "Oh! the depths of the wisdom of God." He bade them study the prophets of old, and beware of infidels and infidel works, even though written by a Bishop Colenso. Gibbon, the infidel, unwittingly confessed to the truth of prophecy, as he recorded the decline and fall of the Roman Empire. He urged them to study and stand by the Book of Books. Jesus said, "The words I speak they are spirit and they are life." Never should it be given up, as it could

not be dispensed with by any Christian. Moses at one end of the Book, and John at the other; the one with flaming sword guarding the Tree of Life, and the other with the offer, "Whosoever will, let him come, and taste freely of the water of Life." He asked them to remember his last words, and receive nothing but as it is supported by the Great Book. Stand by it in life, and then at last they would give God the glory in a world of eternal blessedness.

The REV. MR. LATHEEN then offered prayer, and the Hymn, commencing—

"Shall we gather at the river,"

was sung; after which the Benediction was pronounced by the REV. MR. HILL, and the meeting closed.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

The 7.15 prayer meeting was largely attended; the Hall of the Association being well filled.

The regular Session for the day, opened at the usual hour, in Saint David's Church.

Half an hour was spent in prayer; a number of requests having been sent to the Chairman for prayers to be offered for young men who had attended the meetings, and also for relatives and friends of delegates. The meeting was deeply interesting, and was led by MR. G. BERTEAUX.

At 10 o'clock, the Chair was occupied by the President, and the Hymn, commencing—

"Blest be the tie that binds,"

was sung, and prayer offered by MR. J. MORROW, of Halifax.

On the reading of the Minutes, MR. McLEAN, of Halifax, expressed the pleasure it afforded him and the Convention to listen to the full and able reports made by the Secretaries from day to day.

The following Resolutions were moved, and referred to the Committee on Associations, by which they were afterwards recommended to the favourable consideration of the Convention. They were all unanimously adopted.

Moved by W. H. WISWELL, Halifax:

Whereas, It is highly desirable that some practical results should follow from our meeting together:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, it is the duty of Delegates, upon their return home, to use their most strenuous efforts to establish Young Men's Christian Associations in their respective localities; and, for that purpose, to ask the co-operation of the resident or officiating clergymen.

Moved by MR. ROCHE, of Halifax :

Resolved, That within one month from date, all Delegates from towns and villages in which there are no Young Men's Christian Associations, shall report to the Secretary of the St. John Association, what exertions have been made towards forming a new Association in their vicinity, their successes and need for help. That a quarterly report be forwarded from each Association heretofore formed, and to be formed, to the St. John Association, giving details of meetings held, progress made, number of prayer meetings and general work done. And further

Resolved, That each District give the name of a person with whom the St. John Association can correspond.

Moved by MR. IRVINE :

Resolved, That in this the first Annual Convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations held in this Province, we have reason for encouragement of success in the great work in which we are engaged. That in view of this success and the power and influence which these Associations are exerting for the present and eternal welfare of young men, we pledge ourselves to labor with greater zeal and increased faith in God in their behalf. That in all our efforts, we rely not upon the power of man, but upon the presence of the Holy Ghost, and that in Christ we are one.

Moved by MR. HOWE, of Newcastle :

Resolved, That the members of this Convention, earnestly endeavor in humble dependence upon God, either in the family circle or in the Sabbath School, to train the young in the knowledge of Christ, and lead them early to cast in their lot with His people, and at the same time use their best efforts to induce others to follow a similar course.

And further, That it is our bounden duty to watch and pray, lest we, the professed followers of Jesus, put a stumbling block or an occasion to fall in our brother's way.

And further, That we shall strive to take a more active interest in the spiritual and temporal welfare of young people in general; and show by acts of kindness and words of hearty sympathy and counsel, that that religion, which we profess, is a religion of love.

Moved by MR. IRVINE :

In order that the practical good intended to be done by this Convention to the different Associations in these Provinces may be attained, be it

Resolved, That Associations be recommended to discuss the subjects embraced in the "printed circular" for the Convention.

Moved by MR. IRVINE :

Whereas, A great obstacle to drawing young men into Religious movements exists in the present system of long hours of business,

Resolved, That the members of these Associations use their influence in their respective positions and localities, on behalf of early closing.

Moved by MR. MATTHEWS, of Boston :

Resolved, That one or more of the most active members of this Association visit the towns and settlements of this Province, to labor with the Delegates to the Convention in the immediate establishment and organization of Young Men's Christian Associations.

MR. FOSTER, of Oromocto, moved the following Resolution :

Whereas, We firmly believe that the sale and use of intoxicating liquors, as a beverage, are, in their effects, directly opposed to the genius and spirit of our Christian religion;

Therefore Resolved, That this Y. M. C. Convention earnestly recognizes the urgent necessity of all its members using every influence under God for staying this tide of iniquity, and aiding sincerely every means for the furtherance of Temperance and the principles of Total Abstinence.

Reports were then made by the Delegates.

REV. MR. PITBLADO, of St. Andrews, reported no Association in that town, but trusted to have one established shortly after his return.

MR. BARKER, of Sheffield, said he expected the meetings of the Convention would be interesting and profitable, and he had not been disappointed. Though the population in his neighbourhood was sparse, yet they had several Churches, and in his own they had maintained for years, without inter mission, a Prayer Meeting twice a week. They had kept up a Temperance Society for twenty-two years, and he had little doubt of the success of a Young Men's Christian Association, if established there. He said also, that a private conversation on religion, held between young men themselves, often sank deeper into their sympathies than if the words were spoken by a minister.

MR. GEORGE U. HAY, of Norton, reported that there was no Young Men's Christian Association in the locality which he was sent to represent (Springfield); but from what he had seen and heard, he had made up his mind to become a member of one at the earliest opportunity. He hoped every young man present at any of these Sessions would carry home with him *all* his present enthusiasm, and act upon it. He expressed the pleasure he felt at the warm-hearted greeting extended to him, both at the Association Rooms and at this Convention.

The President said he wished permission for the St. John Report to be given during the evening Session, when a large number of the citizens would be present. Permission was granted, and the Business Committee was allowed to retire to prepare a Report.

THE REV. D. M. WELTON, of Windsor, reported that four years ago an Association was formed there, but that it dwindled and died in two years, because there was not enough prayer used, and not enough real work set for its members to do. After a time it was re-organized, but it was nearly snuffed out of existence again during the late political campaign. They have, however, at length taken hold of the work with a will, and with fair prospects of success. They have engaged a Room in the Clifton Block, and are about to expend \$60 in papers and periodicals, chiefly of a religious character. They hold a prayer meeting every Saturday evening, from 8 to 9 o'clock, and it has been decided to send put members into the neighbouring villages and settlements to stir the people up to a greater zeal in religious work.

A Hymn was then sung; after which, MR. BERTEAUX, from the Business Committee, reported a Resolution, providing that the opening speech upon any of the subjects of discussion, should be limited to ten minutes, and others to three minutes. An amendment, by Rev. MR. HARLEY, to make the latter five minutes, was preferred, and the resolution thus amended, passed. The question—"How can the Church and Young Men's Christian Associations best mutually aid each other," was then discussed.

MR. GORDON, of Windsor, said that he hoped in future, the subjects for discussion, would be placed in the hands of Delegates beforehand, that they may be prepared to speak upon them. He believed that Churches should aid Young

Men's Christian Associations; they are worthy of their support, and not deserving of their apathy or prejudice. A family was the earliest form of association; and as the family and its training aid the Church, so can Young Men's Christian Associations aid the Church. In the one case, the head of the family is or should be the first, so to speak, of that little association, and thus a like training is received at the fireside with that which is carried on on a grander scale in the Church itself. He said that the literary attractions of a Young Men's Christian Association called young men together, and afforded an admirable opportunity of reaching their hearts. If a soup kitchen was established for the poor, surely Churches could not object to the person who established it, supplying at the same time, the guests with a little spiritual food.

MR. CHARTERS, of Moncton, said there were three Christian agencies that should receive every support, and they were the Sabbath School, the Young Men's Christian Associations, and the Church. It was very important that when a youth left the Sabbath School, there should be a Young Men's Christian Association to which he could go, and there, free from sectarianism, he could work and labor for the church with which he might choose to connect himself. He regarded the Church, the Association, and the Sabbath School, as mutually adapted to aid and assist each other.

MR. ROSBOROUGH said he wished to read Exodus xvii. 8-12 verses inclusive. Do our ministers' hands ever become heavy? As Moses' hands were supported by others, so may Young Men's Christian Associations support and help them in their work, and pray for them according to the recommendation of St. Paul. The grand aim of the members of Young Men's Christian Associations, should be to uphold the ministry.

MR. FOSTER, of Oromocto, believed that the Church and Young Men's Christian Associations could best mutually aid each other, by forming between them a close bond of union, to labor and pray for the one great object of saving souls. He referred to the aid, sympathy, and support, a band of young men could give to their minister, and the great good that would result. He thought there should be a regular gradation from the child in the family, through the Young Men's Christian Association to the Ministry, and finally to glory.

REV. G. M. ARMSTRONG said he thought the Young Men's Christian Association could aid the Church, by providing aid to destitute Sabbath Schools, by promoting the prayer meetings in their respective branch of the church; the branch in the young man's field in which he should labor, and then return to the Association and tell what is being done, so that other branches might be encouraged. These Associations should pray for the outpouring of God's Spirit upon Churches, and labor with those of them that may be deprived of their pastors, and pray that some good and holy man be raised up to fill it.

REV. MR. MCKAY said that they must not forget that the work in which they were engaged, was essentially a supernatural one; that no conversion can take place without the operation of the Holy Spirit, and that it is by relying for strength upon the Divine Arm that Churches and Associations alike must succeed.

MR. CALHOUN said one great way in which the Church and Young Men's Christian Associations could aid each other, was by refraining from saying anything that would hurt the prejudices or predilections of those Christians with whom they mingle and labor.

The Hymn—

"Oh! for the death of those that die, like sunset in the West," &c.,
was then sung.

MR. J. B. MORROW, of Halifax, regarded Associations as part of the Church. It was like bringing up different regiments against one common enemy, and when all united, all peculiar differences were merged in the one great desire to fight under the leadership of the great Captain of our Salvation. The work of both these agencies was one, and in every way mutually aided each other.

MR. MATTHEWS, of Boston, said that to succeed, the Association must be regarded as only the handmaiden of the Church. He looked upon it as a sort of West Point, or training school, where young men are brought forward and taught to labour for the Church.

REV. MR. PITBLADO, of St. Andrews, said these Associations must be regarded as skirmishers in the army of the Church. Young men were opposed to the pulpit and to the Church; but these Associations came in and showed them that they were engaged in a great work, and led them to aid in that same work. They fed the Church, and aided it by supplying men to fill out-stations for preaching and Christian effort.

MR. FURNESS, of Boston, said the Christian Associations in the States had been found great aids and promoters of religious revivals; the active, earnest members of Associations being found to be the most ardent labourers in the Church.

MR. ROCHE, of Halifax, said the Young Men's Christian Association was a perambulating porch to the Church, through which young men were enabled to enter. They could mutually aid each other by the minister occasionally dropping into their meetings, and encouraging the young men; and the young men can uphold and strengthen him by a grasp of the hand, a word of encouragement, and prayer for his success. Ministers cannot be everywhere at once, and young men can aid them by visiting from house to house, and assisting to do the work which is too onerous for them to perform.

THE REV. MR. HARLEY said these agencies should be careful not to have their meetings clash, but by a wise arrangement of their meetings, they may aid each other. Then again they can aid the Church by tract distributing, preaching the gospel out-doors, and at out-stations. The Church can aid the Association, first, by the minister occasionally preaching sermons in their support, and by taking up collections for the furtherance of their work. His prayer was that God would bless Young Men's Christian Associations.

The Hymn, commencing—

"Before our Father's throne,"
was then sung.

REV. MR. GRANT, of Halifax, was called on, but said he did not want to say much, as he intended to review the whole matter in a lecture on Monday night. He said these Associations were formed just because it was believed that the Church was not doing the whole work it was designed to accomplish, and they should, therefore, work with all the powers they have, to diffuse truth and righteousness. He urged the necessity of their taking the position of a handmaiden, and aid the Church by encouraging young Christians to offer public prayer, so that they may come out in the Churches, and to engage in outside efforts of good; thus aiding the Church in its own proper work. He wanted them to work actively in every department of religious labor.

Mr. McLEAN, of Halifax, said in Halifax they united all the great religious, benevolent enterprises. City Missions, Tract Societies, Industrial enterprises; all used their means for holding these meetings, and these were assisting the Church in their great works of philanthropy. He urged the necessity of the young men taking part in the meetings of their Church. The Church had the first claim to their allegiance and effort, and they should be careful to allow no Associational matters to clash with church operations.

Mr. WISWELL, of Halifax, suggested the propriety of embodying the idea of Mr. McLean in the Constitutions of the Associations.

Mr. BERTEAUX, from the Business Committee, reported the following Resolutions, which were adopted:

1st. That this Convention request the different clergymen who shall officiate in the city pulpits to-morrow, to refer in special terms to the branch of Christian work represented by our organization.

2nd. That the delegates present be asked to visit generally the different Sabbath Schools of the City.

3rd. That the Farewell Meeting be held to-morrow evening, in the Centenary Church, at half-past 7 P. M.; that addresses, on behalf of the City Churches, be delivered as follows:—Revs. Timothy Harley, Jas. Bennet, G. M. Armstrong.

Responses to be made as follows:—Rev. Mr. Pitblado, of St. Andrews; John S. McLean, Esq., of Halifax; Mr. S. S. Matthews, of Boston; Mr. Beattie, of Pictou; Mr. Foster, of Fredericton; Mr. Mosher, of Windsor.

The President appointed MR. GOUDGE to conduct the Prayer Meeting, and a closing Hymn (No. 3 of the selections) was sung. REV. MR. CADY, of Portland, offered prayer and pronounced the Benediction.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The afternoon prayer-meeting, from half-past two to three o'clock, was conducted by Mr. GOUDGE, of Windsor. After a Hymn was sung, he read the 15th chapter of St. John, and made some comments on it. He said that it and the two chapters preceding it, formed the most beautiful part of the New Testament. He then engaged in prayer; after which a hymn was sung, and prayer was offered up by MR. BEATTIE and the REV. N. MCKAY.

MR. S. S. MATTHEWS rose, and said that he had met a young man in the street, whom he, in a few minutes conversation, had convicted of sin, and he wished some one there present, to pray for the conversion of that young man.

The REV. MR. TITUS and MR. McMORRAN engaged in prayer accordingly.

Immediately after the singing of another Hymn, the President took the Chair, asked the Vice-Presidents, Secre-

taries, and Reporters to take seats on the platform, announced a Hymn to be sung, and asked Mr. McMILLAN to offer the opening prayer of the Business Meeting.

MR. IRVINE, one of the Secretaries, read the Minutes of the Morning Session, which were adopted. It was agreed that the Report of the Committee on Associations stand over till evening.

REPORTS.

MR. CHAPPELL, of Charlottetown, having been called on for a report, said that for a few months during the earlier part of the season, their Association was not so prosperous as previously. They had a splendid Library, a Reading Room, and a course of Lectures during the winter. They used to think their Literary exercises the most important, but their Delegates from Pictou reported that the Prayer Meetings and Bible Classes were the most truly valuable; and, from the energy thence derived, they had high hopes for the future. Already they had appointed a Committee to solicit subscriptions to purchase the Temperance Hall, and he had no doubt of their success.

MR. GOUDGE reported on the Windsor Young Men's Christian Association, much the same as Rev. D. M. Welton had done during the morning session. The ministers there were faithful, and were doing their work well. Last winter they had Monthly Meetings and Lectures, but the political contest in the spring nearly broke them up. They sent Delegates to Portland to attend the Convention there; and, on their return, a meeting was held which was effectual. Another meeting was held since, at which Mr. John S. McLean and Mr. W. Roche, of Halifax, were present, and it was still more successful. He hoped and looked for a change in and around Windsor, in which their Association would be instrumental to a great degree.

MR. MATTHEWS, of Boston, said, besides what he had before related, they held a Prayer Meeting every Monday on board ship; they had a Bible Class, a Pledge, an Employment Committee, a Sick Committee, a Literary Class, Free Lectures, Public Lectures, and Social gatherings.

MR. CHARTERS, of Moncton, replied that there was no Association in Moncton, but had plenty of material, if it could be utilized, and he was assured that if an effort was made, a useful organization could be worked up. They would receive assistance also from the Christian young men on the Coverdale side of the River, as soon as the Bridge is repaired. He thought that field a good one to which to send a delegate, and was sure he would be gladly received. The St. John Association must be a missionary one, sending out its operations all over the country.

MR. MOSHER, of Windsor, said he was warmed up by what he had heard and witnessed while in St. John. He was Clerk of the Sessions, and at the last sitting in Windsor, they refused to grant licenses by a vote of fourteen to thirteen, produced chiefly through the influence of members of their Young Men's Christian Association. He was glad to see a Temperance Resolution introduced into the Convention. He had met an hour or two before, and was pained to see, a native of his town, hand-cuffed, being taken down to be examined on a criminal charge, all through excessive drinking.

REV. MR. WILKINS, of Truro, said he did not appear as a Delegate from the Truro Association, but expressed his pleasure and satisfaction at being present at the Convention, and his determination to give more of his time and labors for promulgating its objects in future than in the past.

REV. MR. CHRISTIE, of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, said he was not a Delegate, but was glad to be present, and would tell his Association on his return home what he had seen and heard. He read a few notes he had taken down, founded on his observation, containing advice to young men engaged in the work of Christian Associations, and urging to diligent and constant effort in the fear of the Lord.

The Hymn—

"Soldiers in the ranks of Jesus,"

was then sung.

The Credential Committee submitted the following Report :

The Credential Committee beg leave to report the reception of forty-two Delegates to our Convention, as follows :

Rev. James Fowler, Bass River, N. B.
 Henry Furness, S. S. Matthews, and H. McDonald, Boston, Mass.
 Rev. Wm. Wilson, Chatham, N. B.
 John J. Chappell and Geo. W. Milner, Charlottetown, P. E. I.
 Wm. McKay, Earlton, N. S.
 Geo. E. Foster, J. W. Cromwell, and Rev. Mr. Blakeny, Fredericton, N. B.
 Lachlan P. Ferris, Grand Lake.
 Rev. G. B. Payson, Gagetown.
 J. S. McLean, Wm. Roche, Jr., A. Patterson, W. H. Wiswell, J. B. Morrow, and Rev. G. M. Grant, Halifax.
 Howard D. Charters, Kenneth McKenzie, and E. Taylor, Moncton.
 D. P. Howe and James Rosborough, Newcastle.
 Wm. F. McKenzie, Hugh J. Cameron, and Rev. J. B. Watt, New Glasgow, N. S.
 Elias Peck, Pettitcodiac.
 John Ross and Francis Beattie, Pictou, N. S.
 Rev. E. O. Cady, Portland, St. John.
 William G. Jones, Salisbury.
 Joseph Barker and Rev. Robert Wilson, Sheffield.
 Geo. U. Hay, Springfield.
 Rev. O. B. Pibblado, St. Andrews.
 Rev. W. S. Wilkins, Truro, N. S.
 Rev. D. M. Welton, W. H. Blanchard, D. Mosher, and Mr. Goudge, Windsor, N. S.
 Rev. J. M. Curry, Upper Gagetown.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN McMORRAN, Chairman,	} Credential Committee.
G. R. PRICHARD,	
JOHN J. CHAPPELL,	
G. H. BURTIS,	

The Report was, on motion, adopted.

MR. BERTEAUX, of the Business Committee, submitted the following recommendations.

The Business Committee recommend the adoption of the following vote of thanks at the Farewell Meeting on Sunday evening :

1. That the heartfelt thanks of this Convention be tendered to the St. John Young Men's Christian Association, for calling together Delegates from different localities in this and the sister Provinces, and for their praiseworthy efforts to make its meetings pleasant and profitable to all.
2. To the Convention Committee of that Association, whose excellent arrangements have contributed so essentially toward the happy and successful results of this undertaking.
3. To Christian friends in the City, for the cordial and courteous manner in which they have received and entertained the Delegates while in St. John.
4. To the Trustees of St. David's Church and the Centenary Church, for the use of those places of worship for the meetings of the Convention.

5. To the Clergymen and other brethren, for the inspired and practical addresses delivered before this Convention.

6. To the Railway authorities, and Steamship and Coach proprietors, for reduction of fares to Delegates.

7. To the Editors and Proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Morning News*, and the *Presbyterian Advocate*, for directing public attention to our meetings, and especially for an extended and reliable report of the addresses, essays, and general business of the several Sessions of the Convention.

8. To the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, and the several Committees, for their effective and valuable services on behalf of the Convention.

The Business Committee desire to call the attention of the Delegates to the appointment by the General Convention of Young Men's Christian Associations last year, of an Executive Committee of Management of their affairs, composed of eleven members, selected from various localities, to whom all Associations are to report quarterly upon their establishment, standing, progress, and other details, as set forth upon proper Blanks, which will be furnished on application to the Secretary, W. B. McNUTT, Esq., Halifax.

REV. MR. HARLEY said that he was very glad to see a reference made to a portion of the City Press. The report in the *Daily Telegraph and Journal* was wonderfully full and complete.

The discussion of "The Best Agencies for promoting Christian Work," was then taken up.

MR. FURNESS, of Boston, opened the discussion on this subject. He said—If there is any one agency, besides preaching the Gospel, which, more than another has been effectual in the suppression of vice and crime, in the deliverance of youth from degradation, from ignorance and debasing habits, that agency is the Sunday School. It goes to those who would otherwise never hear the preached Gospel; it is suited to their capacity, and prepares their minds, and feelings, and hearts for the Word of God. In our crowded cities and neglected country districts, it modestly but fearlessly enters into the contest with sin. It undermines ignorance, hastens the downfall of error, and by revealing the light of truth, discloses the hideousness of iniquity. It brings communities, as well as individuals, to the saving knowledge of the truth. It restrains Sabbath breaking, and throws a protection around the morals of youth. It creates a taste for studying the Word of God, and this conduces to form the character after the Christian model. It erects not only the School Room, but the Church of the living God; and while, in many cases, it lays the foundation, and carries up the walls of the temple of truth, it prepares the living worshipper to become God's spiritual building. The gathering together of thousands of children, the opening of Schools in many neglected neighbourhoods, the introduction of the Word of God to hundreds of thousands, the circulation of millions of excellent books, the founding of Churches, the moral training of multitudes of youth, and the preparation for glorious revivals of religion—these are institutions so signally blessed by God, and calculated to promote Christian work. He said other instrumentalities had to grapple with established habits and prejudices; while the Sabbath School finds the youthful mind unbiassed, and ready to receive the truth. Some one has said the Sabbath School is the hope of the world. From it will rise those faithful men and women whose influence will go far towards spreading the Gospel and leading the world to Christ. Another of the chief agencies for the promotion of Christian work, is the social meetings of the Church—our weekly and Sunday evening prayer meetings. Without the prayer meeting our Churches would not long retain their spirituality. These two agencies the speaker considered greatly instrumental in hastening the blessed

day when all nations shall unite in one song, and children's voices from all lands shall sweetly blend in the heavenly chorus, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain."

The Rev. Mr. LATHEEN said the great inquiry in these Associations should be, as in all others for Christian labour, "Lord, what wilt thou have me do?" Work was the great thing to do. Hundreds might be brought into the Churches by the efforts of the Young Men's Christian Association visiting from house to house. He thought, also, good books should be distributed. Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress could be bought for \$20 a thousand; Fox's Book of Martyrs for the same price; the Dairyman's Daughter, and others, at almost equally low prices. These should be scattered, by thousands, all over the Province. Above all, copies of the Word of God should be distributed.

Rev. Mr. HARLEY said that the great instrumentalities were Tract Societies, Sunday Schools, and Young Men's Christian Associations. A pedlar gave a tract to Richard Baxter, which was the means of his conversion; he wrote the "Saint's Rest," which converted Philip Doddridge, who wrote the "Rise and Progress of Religion in the Soul," which converted Robert Wilberforce, who wrote a work which was the means of converting Leigh Richmond, who wrote the "Dairyman's Daughter," which has been translated into thirty-nine languages, and has proved the conversion of thousands. This was one instance of what might be done by small efforts.

Mr. McMORRAN brought forward the subject of Sabbath Schools as one great means for promoting Christian enterprise, enforcing his remarks by illustrations which had come under his own notice.

Rev. Mr. GRANT thought the best agencies were the human heart and the human hand. Personal and hearty work was needed; it was no easy thing to do; but it had to be done to get at the hearts of the people. Tracts should be read before being distributed; but the best thing was conversation with and prayers for those intended to be reached. If every Christian would only say, "I will spend half an hour, or even five minutes a day, in talking with sinners to bring them to Jesus," then a great change would be seen in St. John within a year.

Mr. BERTEAUX said conversation was one of the most effectual means of conversion. He thought we should throw into the work a great deal of the means used by business men. He related an anecdote of the use of oysters and strawberries, illustrating that hospitality would reach some hearts not easily got at by any other means.

Rev. Mr. CAREY spoke of the great use of personal influence, by conversation and the exercise of hospitality.

Mr. E. T. C. KNOWLES said that love which would prompt utterance was a great agent in promoting Christianity.

Mr. HOWS said there must be personal contact; that kind, loving words, spoken at a proper season, and a frank shake of the hand, have a wonderful effect for good.

Mr. BEATTIE thought prayer was the great agent. We should pray in our closet for young men, and go from that and speak to them. Preaching was a great power also.

Rev. Mr. PITBLADO spoke of clerical visiting as highly important. Tracts were important, too, even though some of them were burned. He had known persons converted by reading a part of a Tract used in lighting a pipe.

MR. FOSTER said careful, earnest training at home, as an efficient means of grace—particularly at a tender age—was highly to be prized. The Press—religious newspapers—were of great worth. Preaching and lecturing were good; but they were better if supplemented by conversation and reasoning with those whom it was intended to influence.

REV. MR. WATT, of New Glasgow, believed in tracts, and in hospitality, if properly applied. Of the Church he need not speak. What concerned a man most, he would talk about, and if the heart were right, he would and ought to work. He thought Foreign Missions should form one of the objects of Young Men's Christian Associations.

This closed the discussion.

MR. FURNESS offered a Resolution in effect that Sunday Schools were potent agencies in promoting Christian work; but an amendment passed, requesting that gentleman to prepare and present at the Evening Session, a Resolution embracing all the agencies that had been elicited during the discussion just closed.

The Session closed by singing the Hymn—

"Oh! happy, happy place," &c.,

and prayer by REV. MR. CAREY.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION.

Prayer Meeting at half-past 7; led by MR. FURNESS, of Boston.

At 8 o'clock, the President called the meeting to order. The Hymn—

"Blest be the tie that binds,"

was sung. Prayer was offered by the REV. MR. LATHERN, of St. John.

Minutes of last Session were read and approved.

MR. GEORGE BERTEAUX then read a Report on the work and affairs of the Young Men's Christian Association of St. John.

The membership, he stated, was at present 353. The meetings which the Association holds, are as follow:

Every Friday evening a Prayer Meeting; three in a month were for young men alone; and there was one every month, which they called their Union Meeting, at which ladies were admitted; the attendance at the three for young men was from twenty to thirty, and at the Union Meeting from sixty to seventy.

There was a Bible Class, held on Sunday afternoon, at half-past three, presided over by Doctor Botsford; the attendance at which numbered from twenty to thirty.

Every Monday evening they devoted to Musical Exercises.

Their outside work was quite a feature in the Association. The City was divided into districts, in each of which two young men had to labour. They went to the South Wharf, York Point, Lower Cove, Marsh Bridge, and wherever there was a chance of doing good. They had got ten thousand tracts from New York, some of which they distributed every Sunday morning among the vessels in port. They had, also, an Employment Committee, whose duty it was to find places for young men coming to the City; and the Committee often took hold of these on their arrival, and by bringing them to the Association, did much good.

The Visiting Committee visits the sick, and provides, when needed, the comforts which are sometimes kept away by poverty.

The Literary Committee's duty was to arrange the work of the weekly (every Tuesday evening) meetings. The exercises at these meetings were debates, essays, &c.; and many of the latter, which had been prepared and read before the Association, were well worthy a more extended publicity. The Debating Meetings had failed in a great degree to fulfil the mission intended; and they had organized what they called a Parliament, having a Governor, a Government, and an Opposition, composed on a Parliamentary basis of organization, and this had worked admirably, and at its fortnightly meetings the room was crowded.

The Mendicity Society, connected with the Association, had its mission in common with similar organizations, in connection with the different Churches, and occupied a field almost exclusively its own.

They had also established a Reading Room, which was open all day.

One of the most pleasing acts of generosity, in connection with the Association, was the offer, from some gentleman unknown to them, of \$500, to be spent in furthering the interests of Christianity on Western Extension Railway. The gentleman had confidence in the Association's ability to carry out his wishes; they had accepted the work, and a Committee had been appointed to carry it out. The Society hoped also to have a large place in which to meet; and a Young Men's Christian Association Hall in St. John, was a thing they looked forward to at no distant day. The same unknown gentleman had intimated that for this object he would give as much as \$1,000. Mr. BERTEAUX recommended this style of Christianity and benevolence, and said it was admirably suited to perform some branches of their labour.

MR. C. L. DARROW, of St. John, read the Report of the Committee on Associations. The Resolutions of this embodied the following recommendations:

The organization of Young Men's Christian Associations wherever practicable.

That reports on this subject be sent to the St. John Association within one month after meeting of present Convention.

Also, Quarterly Reports, giving details of the success met with.

That young men hand in to the Secretary of the St. John Association the names of persons in their locality who are competent and willing to carry on correspondence.

Total abstinence and early closing were recommended, though it was thought the latter should be a subject left entirely to the young men themselves, in their respective localities.

On motion of MR. BERTEAUX, of St. John, seconded by MR. CHAPPELL, of Charlottetown, the Report was adopted.

MR. FURNESS, of Boston, moved a Resolution, that the Convention recommend preaching of the Gospel, Tract distributing, and Sabbath Schools, as the best agencies to further the spread of religion.

REV. NEIL McKAY wished that Family Training be included with the other three agencies, which was agreed to, and the Resolution adopted.

The discussion of the fourth subject on the Committee's circular, "Characteristics of Christianity in Daily Life," was then opened by—

MR. M. McDONALD, of St. John, who said that the subject would be dealt with by him in its individual sense. The characteristics of different Christians were, and must necessarily be, as varied as men's tastes, and it was not reasonable to look for the same degree of grace in one man as in another, as circumstances governed in this case as in every other matter. He instanced the characteristic of benevolence, as evinced by the affluent and the poor man; and yet the cup of cold water from the latter, was oftentimes more acceptable in the sight of God than the great gifts of the former, because of the spirit prompting the act. Too many had kept the moral law from their youth up, and thought they had no need of reform; and indeed it would be difficult to find any citizen, bad though he might be, who did not exhibit more or less of the characteristics of Christianity; and yet, when measured by the true standard, he is found to want many of its essential elements. There was too much of the appearances of religion, without the reality; and there was too much occasion for the taunts which mere professing Christians, by their life, brought against the cause. We should not be satisfied until we knew the true source and meaning of our Christianity; and to this end there must be an anxious inquiry after truth. There were hosts of vacillating Christians, because they did not know where they stood. They should go more to the Bible, and be directed by it. It stood for them, like the beacon light on the rugged rock, warning the weary voyager of approaching danger, and at the same time pointing him onward toward his haven. There must be, also, a submission to the will of God. No shame, no womanly fear, that people would suspect them of being tinctured with the doctrine of Christianity, but a pride in the fact that they were in the ranks of the Lord of Life and Glory. The virtues, Faith, Temperance, Patience, Charity, &c., would be exhibited. Men should be honest with themselves and their neighbours in their principles and dealings. Lastly, they should work for Christ, for only by works could men be judged, for "by their fruits ye shall know them." There was ample room for work, to hurl from their high places the sins of vice, crime, intemperance, and passion. Young men of bright intellect and genius were bowing down to passion and vice, and it is the duty of young men to turn to the work of reclaiming their fellows. There were no excuses valid on account of a young man's position in society.

This is not the requisite qualification. None so high but he has a sphere for his labours; none so low but he has abundant opportunity. Position in life is not necessary to act the noblest deeds, or show forth some of the grandest principles of our nature. Napoleon was a great man, and possessed some noble qualities; his banner waved in triumph over many a bloody scene; but the little child who wandered over the battle field, in the twilight hour, even after his most triumphant charge, and wet with water the lips of the dying soldier

there, did an act far more noble in the eye of heaven than did Napoleon Bonaparte. Do you seek true honour? go raise the fallen, bind up the broken-hearted, help the needy. Do you ask for reward? you have a portion here in the assurance that you have been the means of doing good. Napoleon died a broken-hearted man, a forlorn exile, with none but the sullen waves to chant his last requiem. But he who exhibits these characteristics of Christianity in his daily life, be that life ever so lowly, or the ear ever so unused to worldly fame, a sweeter music far will steal into that death chamber, while the memory of a good act will kneel by that dying couch, and do its homage there.

REV. G. M. ARMSTRONG expressed himself pleased with the words of the last speaker, and said that the characteristics of our Lord were those which should distinguish the Christian. Prayer was the great support of Christian work; it taught us to love God as our Father, and to love man as our brother. Actuated by this feeling, man will go forth to labour, and be able to meet and enjoy communion with his fellow-man. Practical devotedness to God's will, in doing what we found was placed before us, depending upon God for results, humbly trusting in Him, was an obvious duty. Through losses, disappointments and trials, this spirit would support us—the spirit of forgiveness and watchfulness; forgiveness of our erring brethren and fellow-men, and prayer to ward off the temptations of the world. We should seek to promote, as far as possible, the glory of God, not minding our falls by the way, but asking forgiveness for our brethren and ourselves, to press on in our Christian duties.

MR. W. H. WISWELL, of Halifax, said there were two graces which a Christian should exhibit—Humility and Forgiveness. He urged them to fight against pride of heart, and to follow Christ's example in forgiving his enemies.

MR. ROOME, of Halifax, said there were three ways a Christian should look, viz.: in, out, and up. He should look into his own heart to see if the image and temper of Christ were there; looking out daily for some one to whom the love of Christ may be made known, and for the poor to minister to their wants; and looking up to God for every blessing, for pardon and for strength.

MR. EDGERT, of St. John, spoke of self-sacrifice as one of the note-worthy characteristics which had animated and influenced the greatest and best of men, as it did of Christ on earth.

REV. MR. GRANT, of Halifax, was very practical in his remarks, and told the story of the little girl in the graveyard, who asked her mother, on reading the tombstones, where all the bad people were buried? He said they had been talking too much on first principles, and the great masses didn't understand their Christianity. He said that men in different stations in life should be governed by different virtues especially. Merchants should be honest; not trying to drive hard bargains, and *doing* customers from the country, &c.; tradesmen should be honest too. Earnestness was what was wanted,—to fight hard and talk hard on whichever side you were placed. Meet men on their own ground; and, as far as possible, identify yourself with them, in order to gradually bring them up to your level.

REV. J. LATHEEN thought that the merchants and business men were a power of great weight in the community, and they should be brought to interest themselves in our young men, that they might live to Christ and for Christ. We ought to be careful how near we go down to the level of the wicked, and be sure of our ground.

Mr. Monnow told of a little boy in Ireland who had gone to service in a wealthy Protestant family, and became converted. He used, on his return home, to be sneered at as one who had forsaken his faith, but the buffets he received made him meek, and at last his good example had the effect of winning many of his friends over to truth and light. He also told of two sailors from the Orkney Islands, who, by holding prayer meeting on the voyage to Halifax, had been instrumental in converting the whole crew.

Mr. Knowles, of St. John, thought love and consistency were main and indispensable characteristics of a Christian. He illustrated, by the story of Sir Walter Raleigh, his acts and death.

Rev. Neil McKay thought the way in which the discussion was going on, some would go away and write hard things against themselves. He thought that the soul mourning over the dissimilarity between itself and Christ showed the light of true Christianity. His argument was very closely drawn.

Dr. Borsford read the Scripture, beginning: "Blessed are the poor in spirit," and thought these were the true characteristics of a Christian.

Mr. Skinner, of St. John, quoted, "Let your light so shine," &c.

Mr. Foster, of Fredericton, thought that we should have an ideal of Christianity. Ideals were the same in morals and Christianity as in business. Christ should be our ideal. He deprecated convenient Christianity, and urged sincerity and principle.

Mr. McLean, of Halifax, said that the noble, warm-hearted, kindly gentleman, who went about the world knowing his own failings, and giving the helping hand to his erring brother, was, in his opinion, the man who showed the brightest characteristics of the true Christian.

The President closed the Convention in a few earnest words of entreaty that the Delegates would determine to work more thoroughly and faithfully, relying upon Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. He also called upon all Christians to aid and assist the young men in their laudable endeavours to do good.

The Minutes having been read and confirmed, the President adjourned the Convention, to meet at such time and place next year as the Managing Committee of the St. John Association may determine and announce.

The Hymn, commencing—

"One sweetly solemn thought,"

was sung, and the closing Prayer and Benediction offered by Rev. N. McKay.

THE SUNDAY SERVICES.

The large number of Ministers and Christian laymen visiting the City yesterday, made themselves useful in various ways, occupying the pulpits, and engaging in other religious efforts. In the afternoon the Delegates visited the different Sabbath Schools, and in some cases addressed the children.

The day was stormy, and altogether unpropitious for outdoor labour; yet at four o'clock, a large number of people assembled in front of the Court House, on King's Square, to listen to an outdoor service. The delegates, ministers, and friends occupied the steps, and the congregation, numbering at one time probably three hundred and fifty, stood attentive and earnest listeners on the sidewalks, in the street, and on the square. The service was in charge of MR. MORROW, of Halifax, who gave out the Hymns, read the Scriptures, and offered prayer. The speakers were MR. ROCHE, of Halifax, MR. BEATTIE, of Pictou, REV. MR. PITBLADO, of St. Andrews, and REV. MR. MCKAY, of St. John. Their addresses were short, but stirring appeals to the people to be free from sin, to believe on Jesus, and to live holy lives. The singing of several Hymns occurred between the addresses, and prayers were also offered by MR. W. WELSH, MR. IRVINE, and REV. N. MCKAY. The whole services lasted one hour.

The REV. G. M. GRANT, of Halifax, preached in the afternoon, at three o'clock, to a large congregation in St. Stephen's (Presbyterian) Church.

The REV. MR. PITBLADO, of St. Andrews, preached a sermon to young men in the Exmouth street (Methodist) Church in the evening.

The REV. D. M. WELTON, M. A., of Windsor, preached at three o'clock, in the Pitt Street Baptist Church, to a large and attentive congregation.

The REV. S. S. MATTHEWS, of Boston, occupied the pulpit of the Congregational Church, both morning and evening.

FAREWELL MEETING.

The Farewell Meeting was held on Sunday, October 17th, at half-past 7 P. M., in the Centenary Wesleyan Church. Long before the hour, the commodious Church was crowded to excess. Upon the platform were ministers of the different denominations, prominent Delegates, the Secretaries, and Reporters of the Press. The Chair was occupied by MR. G. BERTHEUX, of St. John. The Hymns printed on slips were scattered well over the Church, and the singing, led by the Choir of the St. John Young Men's Christian Association, was heartily engaged in by all the people.

The services commenced by singing the Hymn—

"All hail the power of Jesus' name," &c.

The REV. MR. LATHEEN read the 19th Psalm, and offered prayer.

The President, MR. WELSH, announced that the room in the Basement was also filled, and requested REV. MR. GRANT and others to go down with him, and address the audience there.

The Secretary of the Convention then read the Resolution of thanks to the various parties, passed on Saturday, and recorded on pages 41-42.

The Hymn, commencing—

"Blest be the tie that binds," &c.,

was sung; after which the Chairman briefly addressed the audience on the solemnity of a parting meeting like that, and then introduced the

REV. MR. HARLEY, of St. John, who said although he loved the word "farewell," yet, on account of the associations and the occasion upon which it is used, it possesses a sad interest. He bade the Delegates from Boston, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and the various parts of New Brunswick, a kindly and hearty farewell, and trusted they would fare well in their bodies, in their temporal concerns, and in their spiritual interests. In their sphere, as members of Young Men's Christian Associations, he said he wished them to fare well. They were placed in an important position in reference to their fellows, and he wished them all success and deep earnestness in that worthy undertaking. He urged upon them the necessity of continuing their efforts and labours in the great work of winning souls to Jesus. He bade them, in their daily life, to show, in their several spheres, that they were in earnest in their profession, and in their active endeavours to rely upon the aid of the Holy Spirit. He told of the great good resulting from the circulation of a little book called "City Life," which was scattered by thousands, by the Young Men's Christian Association of London, illustrated especially by the conversion of a

young French deserter, who became subsequently a preacher of the Gospel. He concluded by calling down the blessing of God upon the Delegates, for this life and that which is to come, hoping that, if God will, they might return again and assist in doing the people good.

One verse of the Hymn—

"Nearer my God to Thee," &c.,

was then sung.

The Rev. Mr. BENNET, of St. John, said he performed the duty assigned him with sorrow, mingled with joy; sorrow because of the parting, but joy because of the Convention which had been held. The Delegates had afforded the people of St. John an opportunity of hearing soul-stirring addresses, which had done good. None could listen to their singing, their fervent prayers, their earnest appeals, and see their warm-heartedness, without having their zeal awakened, for they had benefitted those to whom they had come. In his own name, and in that of the Churches, he would not only say, "Farewell," but "Heaven bless you." He did not want to live life over again much; but he would like, if young again, to do more for his Master. Young men had conquered worlds; but to do it required genius; and although he would not say the young men of the Association were geniuses, yet he would say they possessed a divine nature, for they were young Christian men, associated together, forming a strong band capable of changing the moral face of the community. In an eloquent strain he depicted the influence such a body of young men could wield upon posterity. He warned them that they would make a poor Church without the old and the children of both sexes, but they could do a mighty work in the Church. He looked to these young men as those who should become the bishops, presbyters, elders, and deacons of the Church, and he looked for a glorious Church in the future, which should excel that of the days of the Apostles. He closed by urging young men to bear in mind in all their communications with others that men have souls; and to labour in view of that important and awful fact.

Two verses of the Hymn—

"Jesus, thy blood and righteousness,"

were then sung.

The Rev. G. M. ARMSTRONG, of St. John, was the next speaker. He did not appear to give in his adherence to the Young Men's Christian Association, for he had done that long ago. He had, in the meetings of the past week, experienced much pleasure, feeling assured that they were admirably calculated to do much good. He urged upon young men to connect themselves with the Association. In saying to the delegates the good old English word "Good bye," he would add the blessing of Paul to the Galatians, "Grace be with you and peace." He enlarged upon grace, desiring for all forgiving grace, sanctifying grace, progressive grace in faithfulness, in prayer, in acquaintance with the Scriptures, and in good works. He urged those Delegates returning to sparsely settled, as well as those in populous districts, to labour personally for the salvation of those they met. He prayed, too, for peace to be with them—a lasting, holy peace.

A verse of the Hymn—

"Let saints on earth in concert sing."

was next sung; after which the Chairman announced that the Delegates would respond.

RESPONSES OF THE DELEGATES.

The Rev. Mr. PITBLADO, of St. Andrews, was the first to respond to the Chairman's call. They said farewell, to go home to their respective fields to work. The meetings held during the week past had done much to cement the Churches; they tended to impress young men with the power they possess, with their moral importance, and with the fact that they wield a religious influence upon whoever they meet. They should be ever animated by a noble soul purpose, which should stamp itself upon all about them, and that purpose should be to glorify God, by labouring for the good of others. He appealed to young men to work for Christ, with many flowers culled in the fields of poetry, history, science, and philosophy. What he said of great purposes, and how they filled the same—what he said of concentrated mind, as resembling air, water, or light, gentle in its ordinary affections, all powerful in its concentration in the storm, the mighty waves, the earthquake—was very fine, and deserves to be published at length. The burden of his appeal was that all had influence, and that there was work for all. Thomas Barber, whose name was not much known, had been the means of Dr. Adam Clarke's conversion, and Robert Vernon, another obscure name, was the spiritual father of Dr. Kitto.

The meeting then sung the Hymn, beginning—

"Come, let us join our friends above."

Mr. ROCHS, of Halifax, next responded on behalf of the Halifax Association. He expressed their gratification at the kindly and Christian greeting they had received. They had met the friends at their homes, and Christian fellowship on every hand had been extended to them. He thanked the Christians for their generous hospitality, the ministers for their counsel and aid, the Press for its assistance, the young men of St. John for their excellent arrangements; and he prayed that God would bless them all, and enable them to aid in Christian work. It was not great genius that was needed; if they had that, men might give glory to man; it was not by the flowers of human rhetoric they hoped to succeed, but by appeals to the conscience, brought home by the Spirit. One member of the Convention had gone home to hear the solemn words, "Dust to dust;" he trusted none others would have to hear the same sad words. They were going back to work, and he trusted those who remained behind would do the same. He was glad to find the Association was progressing, and he hoped it would go on progressing; but he especially desired to hear that the members were diligently engaged in tract distributing and visiting, and praying with the sick of body and soul. He referred to the heroism of the younger Cælius, who sacrificed himself for the saving of Rome, and said that the chasm of sin and vice in St. John could not be closed till the most precious things had been cast into it. The blood of Jesus must be cast into it by the young men of the City; and then when men were brought to feel an interest in that, a bright day would dawn, which would only be excelled by the dawn of a celestial day. He called upon the Christian public to come up to the help of the young men in their good work.

Mr. FOSTER, of Fredericton, followed in a brief address, pressing upon the young men the importance of remembering to tell, wherever they went, the "old, old story," of the love of Jesus. He besought them to prepare themselves for the work of supporting and carrying on those great principles of freedom and religion which our fathers laboured and died to secure. The old were passing away, and the young must fill their places. A great battle had to

be fought; heathenism, mormonism, and infidelity were debasing and ruining mankind, and they had to be driven back and subdued by the religion of Jesus. The young men had come to learn wisdom from their elders, and they would return home, having received much good; and he prayed they might go forth to work with a spirit better fitted for that work. He bade them a kindly and christian farewell.

The Hymn—

"Work, for the night is coming," &c.,

was then sung.

MR. MCSHER, of Windsor, would not yield to any of his brethren in the gratitude he felt for the christian hospitality he had found in the hearts and homes of the people of Saint John. He should return home glad that he had come, and rejoiced to know that there was such a band of earnest christian labourers in the Province. He was assured that the next Convention would show a grand result for the year's labors.

MR. BEATTIE, of Pictou, followed, saying that though they parted yet they could often meet in spirit at the mercy seat. He wanted the young men and all christians to work faithfully for the rescuing of souls from sin and death, so that they might not have to cast a starless crown at the feet of Jesus at last. He spoke of the great results which followed the Convention at Pictou, and he prayed that similar blessings in a larger measure might be experienced in Saint John, and that they might all meet in heaven.

A Hymn—

"Hail, sweetest tie that binds," &c.,

was then sung.

MR. S. S. MATTHEWS, of Boston, responded on behalf of the American delegation. He was a thousand-fold repaid for coming, by the warm Christian greeting they had received. He was going home a better man than when he came. He was going in about six weeks on a mission which would take him through Kansas, Nebraska, California, and New Mexico, and he was going to tell everybody what warm Christian hearts he had found here. He gloried in our Christian Governor and beloved Christian Queen, and he wanted the people to pray for their President, that he might become a Christian. He was going away, but he hoped to meet them all in heaven. He bade them good bye, and prayed God to bless them.

THE REV. MR. GRANT was tired of speaking and tired of listening, but he was not tired of thinking of Jesus. He loved St. John, and he loved the souls of the people. He remembered that there were twelve hundred never-dying souls before him, and he could not but press upon them the necessity of accepting the offers of salvation so freely extended in the Gospel. God had brought them together, and he hoped it would not be without effect. He made a most earnest appeal to be reconciled to God, and closed by offering up a fervent prayer for the salvation of souls and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

The Hymn—

"Shall we gather at the river," &c.,

was then sung; while the Delegates, and a large number of the members of the St. John Association, went upon the platform, and the REV. G. M. GRANT, of Halifax, pronounced the Benediction.

The Hymn—

"Oh, for the death of those," &c.,

was then sung by the Delegates and members, to the air of "Home, sweet home;" and at the close all joined hands, and again sung—

"Shall we gather at the river," &c.

The REV. MR. LATHERN pronounced the Benediction—
"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all,
Amen."

FAREWELL SUPPLEMENTARY MEETING.

So great was the crowd in the main body of the Centenary Church, that it was deemed necessary to organize a second meeting in the Basement. The attendance there was also large, every seat being occupied in a very few minutes after opening.

MR. WELSH, President of the Convention, occupied the Chair.

The Hymn, commencing—

"All hail the power of Jesus name,"

was sung.

The speakers on behalf of the St. John Association were the REV. N. MCKAY, REV. MR. CAREY, REV. MR. STEWART, and REV. MR. LATHERN. They all spoke encouragingly of the labours of the Convention, of the good which Young Men's Christian Associations were calculated to do, of the necessity of effort attaining a right direction, and of the paramount duty of every one to remember that he was working for God.

Responses were made by MR. McLEAN, of Halifax, MR. FURNESS, of Boston, MR. GOUDGE, of Windsor, and MR. MORROW, of Halifax; in all of which evidences were given of Christian experience, and of the value of Young Men's Christian Associations to communities and to individuals; and acknowledgments were made for many kindnesses during their stay in St. John. Mention was made by all of the delegates of the benefit they had derived from attendance at the Convention, and of the impetus to renewed exertions in the Lord's work, which the deliberations of the Convention were destined to give.

Thus ended a series of meetings of deepest interest, which will not speedily be erased from the memories of those present.

APPENDIX.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Managing Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association of Saint John, in submitting their Second Annual Report, desire to acknowledge their sincere gratitude to God for the prosperity enjoyed during the past year.

Your Committee are glad to be able to report progress in every branch of work undertaken by the Association; and while they regret that more has not been accomplished, they look forward hopefully to the future.

Before going into detail of the work performed by the different Committees, we briefly refer to the principal objects which have engaged the attention of the Association.

Early in January, arrangements for the Week of Prayer were made and carried out by the Association to the satisfaction of the Churches.

In July, the International Convention was held in Portland, Maine; at which the Rev. Neil McKay, and Messrs. George Berteaux and J. E. Irvine, attended as Delegates from our Association. On their return, several public meetings were held, which were addressed by Mr. H. Thane Miller, the Delegates from Halifax, our own Delegates, and several of our City Clergymen.

These meetings exercised a marked influence for good over many who attended, and awakened a more lively interest in the welfare of the Association among the Christian public.

At the Third Annual Convention of the Associations of the Maritime Provinces, held at Pictou, in September, our Association was represented by Messrs. H. B. White, Geo. Berteaux, Montesquieu McDonald, C. L. Darrow, R. C. Quinn, and Wm. Welsh.

The results produced by this Convention were of a most gratifying character.

Your Committee, convinced of the beneficial results of such Conventions, arranged, during the summer, for holding one in this City.

The First Young Men's Convention for New Brunswick, was accordingly held in October. Delegates from various parts of our Province, from Nova Scotia, P. E. Island, and from Boston, were present. The meetings were well attended, of a highly interesting character, and productive of much good. Among the results produced, we mention the organization of five Associations in our own Province.

The Library and Room Committee beg to report, that the Library of the Association was opened to the use of members, for the first time, about six weeks after our last Annual Meeting, and the books have all been procured since the Annual Meeting. \$88.54 have been expended for books; about fifty volumes were obtained by contributions from members and friends during the early months of the year; and in response to a public appeal, one hundred and seven-
teen volumes and \$41 in cash, were contributed in the months of July and

August. This money is in the Treasurer's hands, and will shortly be laid out for books. Some further donations of books have been received, making the total number of books in library, three hundred. During the ten months that the Library has been accessible to the Association, it has been used by one hundred and fifteen members, and four hundred and fifty volumes have been issued. It is evident that the Library is to many a source of instruction; and your Committee recommend that the Association do its utmost to increase and improve this means of intellectual culture, and to adapt it to the wants of our constantly increasing membership.

The Reading Room of the Association has been a great attraction to the members.

The following papers are regularly received:—Two copies *Daily Morning News*; two copies *Daily Morning Telegraph and Journal*; two copies *Daily Evening Globe*; *Halifax Morning Chronicle*; the *Church Witness*; the *Religious Intelligencer*; the *Christian Visitor*; *Scottish American Journal*; *British Workman*; *Illustrated London News*; *Punch*; *Public Opinion*; *Patriot*; *Scientific American*; and several other papers are irregularly supplied. Several of the papers are provided free of cost to the Association.

The furniture of the Room is in good condition, and has been increased during the year.

PRAYER MEETING AND BIBLE CLASS COMMITTEE.

The Committee have much pleasure in reporting that the weekly Prayer Meeting has been held regularly throughout the year; that a deep spirit of earnestness has prevailed, and that the attendance has increased four-fold during the year. The Union Prayer Meetings, on the first Friday of each month, have also been seasons of spiritual refreshing, and the attendance always fair and encouraging. These Prayer Meetings your Committee earnestly recommend to the brethren. In answer to prayer, combined with diligent working, the prosperity of our Association depends. God has indeed blessed us in the past; let us use these pleasant opportunities of Christian fellowship more frequently in the future. The Bible Class, on Sabbath afternoons, has increased in interest; and during the past year the attendance has doubled. The Chairman has been unwearied in his efforts to make the Class exercises both pleasing and instructive, and has succeeded in both objects to a great extent.

Your Committee recommend this Class to the special attention of those members whose time is not employed in the Sabbath School.

The average attendance at the Weekly Prayer Meeting is thirty, at the Monthly Union Prayer Meeting seventy, and at the Bible Class twenty-one.

MISSION AND TRACT COMMITTEE.

Your Committee report, that Cottage Prayer Meetings have been held, and local preaching engaged in by several members in different parts of the City and neighborhood; and that eleven thousand tracts have been distributed on board of the vessels in the harbour and throughout the City; and further, that having had means placed at their disposal, by a kind, Christian gentleman, they have now a colporteur engaged on Western Extension distributing or selling at a nominal rate, books and tracts. They have also been enabled by the kindness of another friend, to distribute a number of Bibles and tracts in several Lumber Camps. Your Committee regret to say, that our efforts in these branches have not been as systematic and regular as their character deserve; and trust, that in the coming year, more strenuous efforts will be put forth in these branches of Christian Work.

VISITING AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE.

Your Committee have pleasure in reporting that employment has been procured for several young men who have applied; others have been visited in sickness; and others again, have been furnished with letters of introduction, which have been the means of procuring friends and employment in other places. Your Committee regret that more has not been accomplished; and hope their successors will be able to perform the various duties more faithfully.

LECTURE AND LITERARY COMMITTEE.

Your Committee are, by the blessing of God, enabled to present for the past year, a favorable and encouraging report.

Their efforts to make the Tuesday evening Meetings both pleasing and instructive, have met with a willing response from members who have volunteered Essays, Readings, Recitations, &c. At the commencement of the year, some difficulty was experienced in creating an interest in Debates, which your Committee consider one of the great means of mutual improvement; but, by the suggestions and co-operation of some friends, they were enabled to carry into effect the formation of the Young Men's Assembly, in which Debates are expected to be conducted according to strict parliamentary usages, and which is intended to represent, in miniature, our Dominion Parliament. This has worked well—far beyond our most sanguine hopes. During the Lecture Season, we had a course of three Lectures, which, we regret to say, were not very well attended; and during the past few months, we have had a course of four Sermons preached to young men by the Vice-Presidents of the Association; and throughout the year, we have had seven Literary and Musical Entertainments of a high character, viz.:—Five in our own Room and two in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute. Your Committee have also to report a course of Lectures for the present season. The attendance at the Tuesday evening Meetings, for Literary Exercises, now averages eighty—having increased three-fold. A Choir has also been organized, which has rendered very efficient aid at the Entertainments, and also at several Public Meetings.

A spirit of Christian courtesy and brotherly love has always prevailed, and your Committee hope God will continue to bless these various means of improvement, in the future, as he has blessed them in the past.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Committee beg leave to report, that different means have been adopted to raise funds for the support of the Association, which will be fully shewn in the Report of the Treasurer. They have much pleasure in being able to say, that the Association is free from debt; and that the prospect for the coming year, through the kindness of several members and friends of the Association, is encouraging.

Your Committee are happy to say, that during the past year, we have had an addition of three hundred and twenty six to our numbers—mostly young men; and that our membership on our Revised Roll, numbers four hundred and sixty-nine.

In conclusion, your Committee would say, that while in reviewing the past, there is much for which our heartfelt gratitude ought to ascend to God, and much to encourage us to more faithful working in the future; that there is also cause for regret in a want of persevering energy and systematic effort in the Master's work, and would say to their successors, "Pray for Divine grace, that they may be enabled to improve on those matters in which a certain amount of good has been accomplished, and to remedy those objects in which we have failed to accomplish much."

Brethren, bearing in mind the chief object of our Association, "The intellectual, moral, and spiritual improvement of young men," let us offer our united prayers to Almighty God, that He may guide us in all our efforts by His unerring wisdom, and pour out upon us His blessing, without which all our efforts will be in vain. Let love to God and our fellowmen, be the motive of all our actions; then, when our pleasant meetings here shall end, "as one by one we cross the river," we shall meet on the other side with our blessed Redeemer, and receive from His own lips, the joyful Welcome Home.

List of Delegates to the Convention.

Bass River, N. B.

Rev. James Fowler.

Boston, Mass.

Henry Furness,
S. S. Matthews,
Herbert McDonald.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.

G. W. Milner,
John J. Chappell.

Chatham, N. B.

Rev. Wm. Wilson.

Earlton, N. S.

Mr. Wm. McKay.

Fredericton.

Rev. Mr. Bleakney,
Geo. E. Foster,
J. W. Cromwell.

Gagetown.

Rev. G. B. Payson.

Grand Lake.

Lauchlan P. Ferris.

Halifax, N. S.

Rev. G. M. Grant,
J. S. Maclean,
J. B. Morrow,
Wm. Roche, Jr.,
W. H. Wiswell.

Moncton.

E. Taylor,
H. McKenzie,
H. D. Charters.

Newcastle.

D. Palmer Howe, Jr.

— Rosborough.

New Glasgow, N. S.

Rev. J. B. Watt,
Wm. F. McKenzie,
Hugh J. Cameron.

Petitcodiac.

Mr. Elias Peck.

Pictou, N. S.

Francis Beattie,
John Ross.

Portland, St. John.

Rev. E. C. Cady.

St. Andrews.

Rev. C. B. Pitblado.

Salisbury.

Mr. Wm. G. Jones.

Sheffield.

Rev. Robert Wilson,
Joseph Barker.

Springfield.

Mr. George U. Hay.

Truro, N. S.

Rev. W. S. Wilkins.

Upper Gagetown.

Rev. J. M. Curry.

Windsor, N. S.

Rev. D. M. Welton,
H. M. Goudge,
D. Mosher.

St. John.

The members of the St. John Young
Men's Christian Association, and the
Pastors of the City Churches.

The Young Men's Christian Association in Account with H. B. White, Treasurer.

Dr.		Cr.	
Printing and Advertising, in connection with Week of Prayer, Literary Entertainments, Young Men's Convention, &c. &c.,	\$185 26	Balance Cash on hand per last Annual Report,	\$181 81
Newspapers for Reading Room,	39 81	Proceeds of Literary and Musical Entertainments, Collections, &c.,	383 87
Books for Library—Bibles and Tracts,	119 16	Dues collected from Members,	873 00
Stationery and Postages,	18 37	Yearly Subscriptions by Members and Friends of the Association,	153 50
Furniture for Room,	63 09	Donations,	109 00
Room Expenses, viz., Rent, Fuel, Gas, and Salary of Room-keeper,	360 50		
Rent of Institute, two nights,	30 00		
Hire of Organ, and Music,	31 65		
Expenses of Delegates to International Convention, and Subscription to Executive Committee, New York,	57 43		
Expenses of Delegates to Convention at Picton,	42 88		
Paid Executive Committee of Maritime Provinces, Halifax,	10 00		
Reports of Picton Convention,	4 07		
	\$958 91		
Balance in Treasurer's hands,	\$124 67		
	\$1080 58		
		By balance,	\$194 67
			\$1080 58

H. B. WHITE, Treasurer.

St. John's, December 7th, 1869.

List of Subscribers to the St. John Young Men's Christian Association.

DONATIONS.

Thomas McLelland,	\$7.00
Mrs. Dr. Botsford,	20.00
Lake Stewart,	5.00
Robt. Keady, Senr.,	2.00
Miss. Eaton,	5.00
T. B. Barker,	5.00
John Fraser,	5.00
Wm. A. Robertson,	15.00
L. H. DeVeber & Sons,	5.00
Z. Ring,	5.00
Jas. L. Dunn,	5.00
Rev. J. J. Hill,	4.00
Hon. John Robertson,	10.00
John Walker,	5.00
Robert Reed,	5.00
J. & W. F. Harrison,	5.00
R. W. Crookshank,	4.00

\$109.00

YEARLY SUBSCRIBERS.

William A. Robertson,	\$5.00
Rev. J. J. Hill,	10.00
Charles Durant,	5.00
Douglas Matthews,	5.00
Fred. W. Jones,	10.00
George Berteaux,	10.00
William Welsh,	5.00
Joshua Clawson,	5.00
H. B. White,	10.00
C. H. Fairweather,	10.00
T. W. Daniel,	10.00
S. S. Hall,	10.00
George Thomas,	10.00
Isaac Burpee,	5.00
J. E. Irvine,	10.00
Troop & Son,	10.00
Thomas Robinson,	4.00
Joseph Prichard,	2.00
C. L. Darrow,	2.50
E. McLeod,	10.00
George Burtis,	5.00

\$153.10

MEMORANDUM.

In one month, previous to the Annual Meeting, during which the Colporteur (Mr. Loan) was at work, the following was the result of his labours on Western Extension.

Sold 88 Bibles,
 " 153 Testaments,
 " 250 copies " Pilgrim's Progress,"
 " 150 " " Annals of the Poor,"
 " 58 " " Holy War,"
 " 72 " " Rock Never Moved,"
 " 1500 pages Tracts,
 " 23 yearly parts " British Workman," " Band of Hope," &c.

Gave away 5 Bibles,
 " 5 Testaments,
 " 1500 pages Tracts.