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Your Committee desire to record their sense of the Divine goodness in permitting them to meet the members and friends of this Association, under circumstances of encouragement, that even the most ardent could scarcely have anticipated on the last anniversary.

Hitherto, the promoters of this institution have had to encounter many difficulties, chiefly arising from those who have not thoroughly understood the objects or the operations of it.

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Your Committee now venture to hope, that the scruples of those who have thus "opposed themselves" will yet be entirely removed; and they rejoice at the many tokens afforded by recent events, both at Home and in this Province, that the clouds are passing away, and that brighter days are dawning upon the Society.

The most important occurrence to which your Committee desire to refer, is the change that has taken place in the name and position, but not in the principles or the objects, of the Parent Institution, resulting from its union with the "Newfoundland School Society." This latter Society had been in useful operation for more than 28 years, but had confined its benevolent effort, chiefly, if not entirely, to the Island of Newfoundland. Both these Societies having similar objects in view, and their operations being guided by the same principles, it seemed desirable to avoid the expense necessarily incurred by the double machinery of two separate organizations. After much previous deliberation between the respective Committees, the union of the two Societies was happily effected on the 1st of January last. The Report of the Parent Society, published since the union, thus alludes to this event.