

Report of the Home Mission Board of New Brunswick.

PRESENTED TO THE BAPTIST ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

In submitting to you their report for the year, ending May 31, 1903, your Board acknowledge the grace of God in the large blessing that has attended the work they have had in hand. General Missionary Hayward and the mission pastors have baptized during the year 69 persons. Improvements in the shape of new or repaired buildings have been made on five fields, and besides meeting their obligations to their pastors, these fields have contributed to denominational work upwards of \$200.

FIELDS.

ST. FRANCIS.—The Board withdrew from this field last year, being of opinion it could not be attended to under present conditions without making a draft so large upon our treasury that other more promising interests would have to suffer. It is hoped, however, that correspondence which has passed between Secretary of your Board and the Superintendent of Missions in Maine, may yet issue in two missionaries being located among these border communities from Grand Falls to St. Leonards, whose respective fields would cover part of Maine and parts of our own province, and who would be supported jointly by the Home Mission Boards of Maine and New Brunswick. Grand Falls certainly needs attention at once.

ANDOVER AND FOREST GLEN.—Of this group Forest Glen receives the grant. The whole field still continues to enjoy the ministrations of Bro. R. W. Demmings, whose labors are abundant as his report shows. At Andover they hope this summer to erect a new house of worship. Some new preaching stations have been occupied during the year.

TOBIQUE.—Bro. Chas. Sterling retired from this field first of September. Later Bro. J. C. Bleakney visited the field and located with the people first of December. Since then he has been prosecuting the work with vigor, with the exception of some weeks in March, when he was disabled through a serious accident. He is now hard at work on this extensive field.

ABERDEEN.—This field is still without a pastor. It was hoped that Bro. Chas. Sterling would locate with these churches, but as yet he has not, though he has visited several sections of the church during the past winter. Rev. J. D. Wetmore is finding time to give some service to some of the sections while they are pastorless. This field needs a good pastor at once and Bro. Wetmore will be pleased to withdraw as soon as a pastor is forthcoming.

CANTERBURY AND BENTON.—This group of churches has been pastorless since the withdrawal of Bro. Barton, who took charge of the Richmond churches. An occasional service, however, was given to the Benton church by Bro. Barton for some time. In March, Bro. J. A. Lockhart, who came to us from the Primitive Baptists, settled with these churches. He was ordained at Benton in May by a representative council.

QUEENSBURY.—Rev. W. A. Allen reports his labors with the churches on this field closed. The Queensbury and Springfield sections have been visited by General Missionary Hayward and several baptized. This is a fine country field and should not be without one of our bright pastors.

NEW MARYLAND AND CARDIGAN.—These churches have been pastorless since October last when Rev. F. B. Seelye removed to the Coverdale circuit. They have not, however, been altogether without a minister's services. Bro. Hayward spent some weeks in Cardigan section and other ministers have visited New Maryland.

DOAKTOWN.—Rev. M. P. King after a pastorate of 9 years with the churches on this field resigned in September last. His work here was greatly blessed, especially during his last year, many having been baptized and a fine parsonage built at Doaktown. Bro. King has gone to the Newcastle churches of Queens County and Bro. Marple is at present ministering on the Doaktown circuit.

ST. ANDREWS. The churches of this group are still enjoying the ministrations of Rev. Calvin Currie. At St. Andrews the house of worship has received quite extensive repairs both inside and out and is reported out of debt. A glorious revival is awaited by the churches on this field and a large ingathering hoped for.

BAILLIE.—Rev. C. J. Steeves ministers to the churches of this group. He reports a fair religious interest throughout the field. Several were baptized last autumn and more again this spring during special meetings in which he was aided by Bro. Hayward.

BEAVER HARBOR.—This church forms part of the Pennfield group, and has for its pastor Bro. T. M. Munroe. These churches also are waiting a revival and ingathering to their membership of such as shall be saved.

TABERNACLE.—This church is most favorably situated for work among the people. It has retained throughout the year the services of Bro. Roach and reports a good degree of prosperity. Several have been baptized and the services are well attended. The financial question is the most serious and difficult matter with this church.

MUSQUASH.—This church which has its branches in Chance Harbor, Dipper Harbor, Mace's Bay, etc., has had the pastoral oversight of Rev. I. B. Colwell, during the

year. Brother Colwell whose labors are much appreciated by the people will probably remain with them another year.

FAIRFIELD.—This is a part of the Hillsdale and 2nd St. Martin's circuit. Their pastor is Rev. R. M. Bynon who reports most favorably of the work. His salary is paid promptly and large donations have been made him. Four have been baptized and a new house of worship dedicated at Westview.

GREENWICH.—These churches are now under the pastoral oversight of Rev. E. K. Ganong. Bro. Hayward visited the field last November and held some services. At Jerusalem they are repairing their church building at considerable cost. They have here a flourishing Sunday School.

COVERDALE.—Bro. F. B. Seelye was called to these churches in October last. Our brother has had great drawback in his work on account of the serious illness of his wife. Our sympathies are with this brother and his companion in their trials.

LUTES MOUNTAIN AND SHEDAC.—These churches report through Rev. John Williams that they have united in his support and that there is a hopeful outlook. For some time the Board has felt this grouping should be effected and have been seeking for a pastor who could accomplish this end. We hope to hear of progress on this field.

NEW SECTIONS.

KENT COUNTY.—At Board meeting in September a resolution was passed granting \$200 toward the support of a missionary for a year in Kent County. After correspondence with different men regarding the work, the Board last December directed Rev. D. W. Crandall to the field. He entered upon his work January 1st, and fulfilled a mission of 3 months. Our brother wrought very diligently, visiting various sections of the county, preaching sermons and baptizing.

RESTIGOUCHE COUNTY.—At the March meeting a communication was received from Rev. J. W. Kierstead, pastor at Campbellton, setting forth the needs of sections adjacent both in Province of New Brunswick and Quebec and asking that our Board grant \$150 toward the support of an assistant and stating that a similar communication had been sent the H. M. Board of Ontario and Quebec. The requests were made in order that these sections which promise so much to Baptist preaching, might be cultivated under the supervision of the pastor of the Campbelltown church, as this was judged to be the better way. A vote was passed agreeing to make such a grant if the other Board shall concur.

GENERAL MISSIONARY.

The services of Rev. A. H. Hayward as general missionary have been given the Board throughout the year and a large measure of success has attended his labors. He has held special services at Tobique, Cardigan, Woodland, Upper Kingslear, Springfield, York Co., Macnaequeak, Baillie, Greenwich and Lytleton, Northumberland County. 49 were baptized by himself and 20 by pastors during these revival seasons. \$253.87 were received by our brother in offerings to the work of the Board and have been credited to the individual churches. It has come to the knowledge of the Board that a friend and admirer of Bro. Hayward's devotion to weak interests, has it in his heart to support our brother independent of aid from the H. M. Board, for work in the Northwestern counties. We are not at liberty to mention the name of this brother but we record our appreciation of such generous interest in Home Mission work and commend the contemplated action of our friend to other wealthy men to emulate. Bro. Hayward will not sever his connection with the Board in undertaking the mission referred to. He will still report to Board as heretofore. Moreover our judgment is that another General Missionary should be appointed so soon as a suitable man can be obtained as there is abundance of work of this character for at least two missionaries.

FIELD SECRETARY AND SUPERINTENDENT.

It has long been felt that there should be some one to superintend mission work, that is to say, to visit pastorless churches of the weaker sort and pastorless missions in particular, with a view to organizing them and locating pastors over them. Also to search out sections needing our ministry of the word and arrange for their supply and, further, to visit the stronger churches, set before them the claims of these Home Mission fields and arouse them to a generous interest in this work.

But though seeing this need for years, the Board has never felt itself in a position to justify such an appointment. However at our December meeting the grave necessity of such an appointment was discussed. Later correspondence was entered with Rev. Willard E. McIntyre, the outcome of which was the appointment, at our March meeting, of this brother to the work of Field Secretary and General Superintendent. Bro. McIntyre whose eminent fitness for the work will be acknowledged entered upon his duties as superintendent the first of May and takes up the secretarial work June first, the beginning of our Denominational year.

TOURING.

At the request of the Board, the secretary spent four weeks in July and August of last year in touring the fields and gathering information in regard to them.

He visited all the sections of the Tobique field, also An-dover, Forest Glen, Aroostook Junction, Aberdeen, Windsor, Glassville, Queensbury, Springfield, Temperance Vale, Millville, Cardigan, Woodland, Glencoe, Doaktown, Blissville, Salem, Underhill, Lytleton and Whitteyville. The offering of the people taken during the tour amounted to \$36.73 and have been credited by the treasurer to each church contributing.

Carefully drawn maps of the fields, and a tabular statement showing comparative strength of each Denomination in regard to houses of worship; number and size of families, property valuation of community in respect to each Denomination, Sunday Schools, services, etc., all of which has been preserved in book, the property of the Board, are among the results of this tour.

OUTLOOK.

The situation in which your Board finds itself is hopeful and the outlook is promising. A reference to the report of your treasurer shows a large amount of money on hand. This with other legacies which will be paid in during the year and further contributions from Twentieth Century Fund together with the regular annual offering of the churches to our work presents a most encouraging aspect from a financial standpoint. A superintendent of missions already at work constitutes another encouraging feature while churches eager for pastors and ready to support affords yet further encouragement. The special depressing feature of the work is the lack of pastors to prosecute this work and make the sacrifices which these Home Mission fields entail. This has been the great difficulty which your Board has met during recent years. How it is to be solved is a serious question but some believe it can only be by beckoning to our ministerial ranks and welcoming gifted and pious men, who, while unable to spend years in college and Theological Institutions, could and would wisely lead and nurture well many of our churches which today languish for pastoral oversight, not so much because pastors will not go to them as because pastors are not available on account of their engagements with the stronger churches.

Respectfully submitted,

B. N. NOBLES,

Secretary of Board.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

1902-1903.		RECEIPTS.	
Balance			\$541 42
W. B. M. Union per Mrs. M. Smith			281 00
Since August 1, 1902,			129 50
			410 50
Denominational Treas. per Dr. J. W. Manning			252 57
Since August 1, 1902,			755 95
			1008 52
Bradshaw Trust No. 1,		\$446 32	
" " " 2,		267 94	
			714 26
Interest Webb Fund,			9 00
" Current acct.,			40 00
			\$2,723 70
		DISBURSEMENTS.	
Grants to Mission Fields and Mission-aries,			\$1,071 17
Salary Gen'l Missionary A H Hayward,			650 00
Traveling expenses " " "			33 38
B. N. Nobles, touring Mission Fields,			65 06
Printing, Stationary, etc.,			19 85
Transferred to Trustees 20th Century Fund,			500 00
Balance,			383 34
			\$2,723 70

St. John, N. B., June 20, 1903.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

Audited and found correct with balance \$883.34, which includes \$500 to be transferred to Twentieth Century Fund. E. M. SIPPPELL.

St. John, July 2, 1903.

20TH CENTURY FUND.

Received from Dr. J. W. Manning and transferred to Trustees, \$700 00
Transferred from General Acct., 500 00
\$1200 00

Personal Immortality.

BY REV. R. J. CAMPBELL, M. A.

"If a man die, shall he live again?"—Job 14:14.
"Because I live, ye shall live also."—John 14:19.
This is a question asked in the Old Testament, and answered in the New—asked in a good many places, but nowhere, perhaps, so plainly as in this chapter of Job. But the question, which is left a little uncertain in the Old Testament, or an affirmative answer given with hesitating voice, becomes a triumphant certainty in the New. Christianity comes to tell us about the deathless, ageless life, on the authority of Him, through whom life and immortality have been brought to light. His words ring in our ears in the affirmation of this text, which is our promise and our surety, "Because I live, ye shall live also." "I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth on Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." "Whosoever liveth, and believeth on Me, shall never die."