

stood in our churches that no natural endowments can be a substitute for divine grace; and no human learning can stand in the place of the teachings of the Holy Spirit; but when gracious young men can be favored with the fruits of the rich experience and valuable acquirements of those who possess an extensive knowledge of biblical literature and other branches, that will qualify them to be critical expositors and able preachers of the Word of God, it becomes the duty of the churches to supply such aid. During the year, \$237.50 have been granted to the students at Wolfville—this being \$50 more than the grants of last year—which has been a valuable assistance to them, and without which aid some of them must have discontinued their studies. This fund is commended to the liberality of our churches.

#### AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' AND WIDOWS' FUND.

\$108—thirty-two dollars in advance of last year's grant—have been supplied from this fund to our aged brethren and widows of deceased ministers during the past year. The assistance thus rendered has been in many cases deeply needed, and it has afforded your Board very great pleasure to be your almoners to those members of the household of faith who have such strong claims to our christian sympathies, and whose lives have been given to the service of the churches.

#### SABBATH SCHOOL FUND.

From this fund, carefully selected christian literature finds its way into many districts that are often deprived of the ordinary means of grace; the general intelligence of our youth is by this means greatly promoted. Aid from this fund is only given to those who make an effort to help themselves. The Board, as an invariable rule, requires that those seeking assistance shall raise, at least, an equal sum to that which is granted. \$74 have been granted during the year.

#### COLPORTAGE.

This very important branch of Christian labor has often occupied the attention of the Board, but the difficulty of finding a suitable man, and the probable heavy pecuniary responsibility connected with such a work, have proved impediments in the way. Lately, the Rev. Robert Mutch expressed his willingness to engage in this work, providing a sufficient guarantee for support could be supplied, though he felt pretty confident that the work could be carried on without a probability of much assistance being needed. Your Board had no funds at their disposal for this work, but a number of brethren came forward and assumed the necessary responsibility. With this assurance our brother entered upon the work, and so far with encouraging success.

Your Board have considered with deep interest the proposition to place the subject of Home Missions under the care of the Convention.

They fully recognize the importance of cherishing the deepest christian sympathy and good feeling, not only among the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, but with the whole Baptist brotherhood, and indeed with genuine believers in the Lord Jesus wherever they may be located. They therefore do most cordially unite with their brethren in these weighty and important objects which are under the charge of the Convention, and if it should appear that the Home Missionary work also could be more efficiently carried on under its direction, they would most cheerfully acquiesce in placing it in the hands of that body; but in the first place your Board believe the Foreign Missions—now largely expanding, and furnishing matter for grave and anxious consideration—together with the increasing importance of our educational operations, furnish sufficient work for the Convention satisfactorily to perform; and, secondly, your Board feel convinced that, from the very nature of the work, Home Missions can be carried on more satisfactorily by each Province separately.