

EXTRACTS

FROM THE REPORTS OF THE DOMESTIC MISSIONARY BOARDS.

The Westmorland Board has employed Missionaries for a period, in all, of about fifteen and a half weeks, who have met with a most cordial reception from the people residing upon the shores remote from opportunities of hearing the truths of God proclaimed. Three Quarterly Meetings have been held, at which the sum of £7 8 8 was collected, in all.

The Fredericton Board report the formation of a new Church in the Upsalquitch, far up the Restigouche River, by Elder James Blakeney, in conjunction with Brother Mutch, a Licentiate of the Saint John Board. The little company of disciples was composed of twenty-three, of whom twenty were baptized at the same time, by Brother Blakeney. The infant cause was subsequently visited by the same missionary, in company with Elder Joshua Bunting, who was sent out by the Church at Norton, when fourteen more were added by baptism. At the Black Lands on the Bay de Chaleur, our missionaries met with a most gratifying reception from the residents, who are emigrants from one of the islands of Scotland, and connected with one of the Presbyterian Bodies. The baptism of two persons, who gave evidence of conversion to God, in the Bay de Chaleur, was witnessed by a large concourse of persons assembled from the adjacent country; a deep solemnity pervaded the multitude during the service and the administration of the ordinance.

At Rushagonish a Church has been re-organized by Elder James Walker, whose faithful labours there were attended with the Divine blessing, and thirteen were added by baptism. The revival of religion extended through the settlement, and was participated in by the Free-Will Brethren.

A mission of fifteen weeks was performed by Elder Bancroft, at the Grand Falls, with pleasing prospects of usefulness. Nearly 86 weeks of Missionary Labour, by Ordained Ministers, and 8 weeks by Licentiates, have been performed during the last year; 277 sermons have been preached, 136 other meetings attended, 39 persons baptized, 1200 gospel tracts distributed, and 3435 miles travelled by the missionaries.

NOTES

OF THE RECOGNITION SERVICE OF THE REV. J. READ.

It had been arranged that Mr. Read should preach a sermon, but as the time was limited, he simply announced the subject on which he had intended to speak, in 73rd Psalm and 25th verse. After offering a few observations, he proceeded to describe the process by which he had been led, at an early age, to trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for salvation. The workings of his mind, in relation to the Christian Ministry, were then detailed, after various attempts to stifle the breathings of his soul, and to engage in some secular employment. He at length yielded himself to this service, and under the guidance and sanction of several Ministers in Nova Scotia, he entered the Academy at Pictou, where he attended the collegiate classes four years, and the Theological classes three years, in addition to the last year of his collegiate course, also in part devoted to Theology.

Having received a licence to preach from the Presbytery, he proceeded to Sheffield, in accordance with the desire of the Congregational Church there, until they could meet with a Minister of their own denomination; and after a residence of one year he was ordained as a Minister of Christ by the Presbytery at Truro. This connexion was afterwards dissolved in consequence of difference of opinion respecting the invitations of the Gospel, but he still continued to discharge the duties of the pastoral office at Sheffield. After ministering four years at that place, he was invited to Richmond, where he had now resided for about four years. While disconnected with the Presbyterian Body, and before joining any other denomination of Christians, his examination of the Scriptures led to a change of views respecting the ordinance of Baptism. He thereupon stated to the Church at Richmond that he could not administer the rite to their infants, as he did not think there was Scriptural authority for it; they however requested him to remain, but being determined to follow out his own convictions of duty, whatever the loss and inconvenience to which it would subject him, he had been baptized, and expressed a desire to devote himself to the Saviour's service in any department that might be opened before him. The Moderator then gave the right hand of fellowship, and Elder W. Harris offered prayer. A charge was delivered by Elder Samuel Robinson, and Elder Charles Tupper concluded the impressive service with a few faithful observations to the members of the Association.

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