

## CIRCULAR LETTER.

To the Churches embraced in the New Brunswick Baptist Association in 1858.

DEAR BROTHERS:—Among the many important subjects claiming our attention as Baptists, and some of which should be embraced in our annual CIRCULAR LETTER, allow me briefly to ask your consideration.

1st. To the necessity of a more thorough, systematic and joint effort in behalf of the Baptist Home Missionary cause in this Province.

The moral field in which God has called us by His grace and providence to labor, is one of promise and consequent encouragement, provided that as "good stewards" we are faithful in the improvement of the means placed within our reach for the introduction and establishment of a simple, scriptural, experimental and soul-saving faith in "the Lord our Righteousness"; which faith presents in its outward developments a cheerful obedience to the divine ordinances and commandments of the New Testament.

To carefully detail all the means or agencies placed within our reach for carrying the gospel to the destitute, and for the organization of churches, would necessarily occupy more space and time than ought to be devoted to this letter. But though this cannot be done, we may appropriately instance a few of the agencies appointed of God to this end. And, by giving general character to the few, we may be able to comprehend the whole, as follows, viz:—

A sanctified press; a living and devoted ministry called of God to preach the gospel; the earnest, and heart felt, and united petitions of "God's elect" at a "throne of grace;" the free and voluntary moneyed contributions of the churches and congregations; the organization of a Missionary Society in connection with each Baptist Church, (which society should hold a formal and real connection as an Auxiliary to the parent or general Missionary Society of New Brunswick,) the whole to act in harmony—the one with the other—each and all relying upon, and seeking to secure the gracious influences of the Holy Spirit. These general ideas embody the whole matter, as I apprehend, relating to what is meant by means and agencies for carrying forward the Home Missionary work in the spread of the gospel among the destitute, and

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