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MINUTES

OF THE EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE NOVA SCOTIA FREE BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY.

This Meeting was held in the Caledonia Meeting House, Sept. 10th, at 7½ P. M. Meeting called to order by the President, Rev. F. Babcock. After singing, prayer by Rev. W. H. Tarbox. Minutes of last Meeting called for, and read, and approved. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Rev. F. Babcock, President; Rev. W. Downey, Vice-President; Rev. W. M. Knollin, Secretary and Treasurer. Committee—Revs. T. H. Crowell, T. O. De Witt, J. I. Porter, Bros. James Cushing and H. G. Gatton. The Secretary read his Annual Report, as follows:—

Report of the Secretary Treasurer of the Educational Society.

Man is a noble being. A mysterious compound of material and spiritual properties. Endowed with wonderful faculties both of body and mind, which render him capable of development suited to the various spheres of life. The man therefore, who does not aim at the highest degree of excellence and perfection attainable in connection with the calling or allotment in the sphere of usefulness to which in the providence of God he may be called, is culpable in the highest degree, neglecting his duty to himself and to his fellow men.

The above is not only true in reference to the mechanic, the artist, or to all secular employment, but is equally true with regard to the Christian minister. Nay, but above all others they to whom the care and instruction of their fellow men in matters of faith and religion are committed, should seek the highest degree of adaptation and qualification attainable under existing circumstances. Furthermore, we believe that in the general providence of God, every man's course of life is indicated. But especially the Christian minister. He who said "Separate me Barnabas and Saul," Acts xiii. 2, separates every true minister, that is, takes him from the secular pursuits of life and thrusts him into the vineyard, putting a feeling into his heart "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel." Now He who said "that a rich man shall hardly enter the Kingdom of Heaven," Mat. xix. 23, calls those whom he honors with the most distinguished gift of his hand, from among the poor class of men. But education for a life work of so great importance as that of the Christian ministry, requires time and close attention to study, during which the opportunities of earning anything for board, wearing apparel, school expenses are excluded, except that the student lay aside his studies, and go out to work to meet the necessities of the case. A most trying position indeed, protracting his school course, and delaying his entrance upon that course of labor for the salvation