

ly scattered as regards the residence of its members, several of them also are now quite infirm; yet there are no essential alienations or divisions in this church, its members on the whole are happy and united in feeling, and occasionally for the last ten months the most of them have assembled for Conference and the observance of the Lord's Supper, also a section of the church for a Sabbath Prayer meeting. We have lost a valuable and loved brother here some months ago by death, one member has been excluded. On the other hand *four* have been added by baptism, from these we have good reason to believe much strength is imparted to the church, and influence given to the whole truth as it is in Jesus and in his Word.

The congregations in different places in Merrigomish have of late been decidedly encouraging as to attendance and attentive hearing of the Word.

I have to admit that there is at present no Baptist Sabbath School in Pictou County. The children of the families connected with our churches and congregations, have all, however, opportunity of attending Presbyterian schools, and generally avail themselves of such privilege. But we have in possession a few books and will endeavour as soon as practicable to institute and continue under our own supervision one or more Sabbath Schools.

I have not kept a record of the number of sermons preached, or of Prayer and Conference meetings held, miles travelled, or family visits made. My reasons for these omissions I have before stated to the Board.

As regards visiting I may here, however, say that while great has been my conscious unfaithfulness to Christ, and souls, in all this field of labor, my conscience reproaches me less in respect to visiting than it accuses me of shortcomings in other departments of duty. I have learned that whatever may be said of ministerial labour, outside the pulpit, no other field of christian effort, whatever labours with any measure of true success as a Baptist Minister in Pictou County, must for some time to come give up much of his time and do much of his work among the people in the way of preaching from house to house. "Blessed are they that sow beside all waters."

I have aimed, dear brethren, to confine myself in this report to facts and fair inferences. More I might adduce and enumerate. The success of your Pictou mission will, I trust, not be gauged chiefly by the *additions to our churches* although they have been sufficient during the last two years to stimulate us to more faithful effort, in this section of our Province. Within the last ten months a few other cases of awakening of a very interesting character I have met with in this year. Enlightenment and conviction may, we hope in such cases will, result in a saving experience of and obedience to the truth.

The recent conversion of one little girl I may just allude to,