

At the Association which was held at Chester, in the year last named, as will be well remembered by not a few in this Assembly, a new era in the history of the churches appeared to open. The subject of Foreign Missions was presented before the brethren then met, and solemnly enforced. A holy and divine influence seemed to fill the place, and many of us have embalmed in our memories and our hearts the thrilling fervor with which our beloved and lamented brother Miles pleaded for the perishing heathen.

FORMED AT CHESTER.

It was at once resolved that we would, with the blessing of God, seek at least one Missionary for some field in the heathen world; and afford him such previous preparation in the way of study as our circumstances would permit. The constitution of a society was then adopted, and our messenger to the association in the sister Province of New Brunswick was instructed to request the brethren there to co-operate with us in this new effort—a measure, of the success of which the presence of our brother Miles and his deep interest in the cause gave an undoubted pledge.

CONCURRENCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The churches in New Brunswick heartily acquiesced: they formed a society to operate in harmony with ours, and means were taken to discover some beloved brother whose heart, under divine grace, yearned over the souls of the benighted millions of idolaters.

A MISSIONARY OFFERS HIMSELF.

It was not long before our beloved brother, Rev. Richard Burpe, then pastor of a church in New Brunswick proposed himself for the work and was accepted, and thus our sister province justly claims the honour of furnishing the first Foreign Missionary.

Mr. Burpe repaired to Horton; pursued in the College under the united societies of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, a course of preparatory study, and graduated with the entire satisfaction of his Instructors in his diligence as a student, and in the consistent piety of his Christian character.

The quiet and regular occupation of a course of collegiate Education furnishing very little variety of incident, no extended report seemed called for from year to year, and accordingly, as already mentioned, none has been formally presented to the Society until the present time.