

one entirely themselves. They accordingly requested brother Miller to devote his whole time to the work of their church. This must have been quite a set back to this small body, but ever equal to an emergency we find them on the 27th of April, 1849, making provision for the future by resolution "that brother McLearn be requested by an address of the church to administer the ordinance of the Lord's Supper and to take some oversight of the flock." The membership reported to the association in 1849 was 42, being 3 less than the year previous. During the year 1850 the membership was further reduced to 35 principally by dismissions to other churches, the baptist churches of our neighbouring Republic then as now receiving the most of them. One member is also reported as having died of smallpox that year leaving a husband and one child. Notwithstanding the church at this time was pastorless and its membership greatly reduced, ecclesiastical authority and discipline were not wanting when the peace and harmony of the church demanded it and such appears to have been administered without respect of persons. As evidence in this direction we find a female member excluded "for ungovernable passions and a slanderous tongue." This is a relief of the year 1850. From 1850 till the year 1858, when the Rev'd R. D. Porter was its pastor the church neglected to report to the association or send a messenger and so far as the records show was in a languishing and feeble state. During these 8 years the membership recorded in the association minutes was invariable, 34 neither less nor more. As a gleam of light however flashed upon this darkness, we find the following under date of August, 1855. "Brother Thomas Crawley took the Mission of this District, several baptisms by Mr. Freeman."

The Rev. Robert D. Porter was the 3rd pastor of this church. He came to Dartmouth in the early fall of 1857, under the direction of the Home Mission Board, and by request of this church was ordained on the 17th September, 1857. With the exception of a very full and interesting account of brother Porter's ordination written by Mr. G. J. Creed, Secretary of the Council, and a later brief note on our church records referring to brother Porter's last Sabbath with this church—we have nothing of record to inform us what took place during his pastorate. From the association minutes for the year, 1858, we find the membership increased from 34 to 42, and in the following year further increased to 48. Brother Porter remained with this church about 2 years. The only entry regarding his pastorate is briefly this: "Lord's day 28th August,