the crown of life which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.".James i. 2, 4, 12. "We glory in tribulation, knowing that tribulation worketh patience and patience experience, and experience hope," Romans v.' 3, 4. 6."The hope of the righteous shall be gladness," Prov. x. 28. "Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that ye may be exalted in due time," 1 Peterv. 6. "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and he shall lift you up," James iv. 10. "Be patient, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord," "Behold the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruits of the earth and hath long patience for it until he receive the early and the latter rain," "Be also patient; stablish your hearts : for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh," "Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy," James v. 7, 8, 11.

And now, my dear brethren, let us take from the Psalmist the 1105th :---

"Sweet is the thought, the promise sweet, That friends, long severed iriends, shall meet; That kindred souls on earth disjoined Shall meet, from earthly dross refined, Their mortal cares and sorrows o'er, And mingle hearts to part no more. But we have brighter hopes, we know; Short is this pilgrimage of woe. We know that our Redeemer lives, We know that our Redeemer lives, We trust the promises he gives, And yart in hope to meet above Where all is joy and all is love.

The grace of the Lord be with you all. Amen. REV. GEORGE R. NEALE,

Secretary.

STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	Baptized.	Received.	Excluded.	Removed.	Died.	TOTAL
Preston 1st, North Preston 2nd, South Dartmouth						53 38
Inglewood Granville Ferry Bear River	7					45 4 19 54 22
Digby Joggins Weymouth Falls Yarmouth.	P. (1997) 2 (1997)			·····	1	16 , 33 28
Total	12	7	44	1	3	812

State of the Churches-Increase and Decrease.