

Mr. Hutton, in reply thereto expressed his indebtedness to the Masonic Body for so kindly placing at his disposal their commodious Hall.

The thanks of the meeting were also tendered to His Honor Judge Bennett, after which the audience dispersed. Mr. Hutton left for St. John's on Tuesday last, where he purposed to hold similar meetings.

We trust that the House of Assembly at its next session will give the matter of a grant to this Institution their most favourable consideration. According to the census returns of 1857, Harbor Grace District alone has ten of these "children of silence," and St. John's 25.

BAPTISM OF DEAF MUTES.

(From *Christian Messenger*, March 29, 1876.)

Interesting services were held in Granville Street Church last week, and on Sunday evening, in connection with the reception and baptism of two Deaf and Dumb converts into the Baptist Church. They had intimated their desire for baptism as giving an expression of faith in the Lord Jesus. They did this first to Mr. J. S. Hutton, the principal, and then came to the Pastor of the Church. On Wednesday evening at the close of the usual prayer meeting, Mr. Hutton kindly attended the meeting and interpreted to the church their sign language wishes to be baptized. The pastor had previously given them a series of questions on leading Scripture truths to which they had given in writing most satisfactory replies. The impromptu replies given in their manual language were full of interest, and a most beautiful explanation of the power of truth on the heart. Mr. Hutton gave an address of great interest on the work of teaching the Deaf and Dumb, and the mental condition of those who had received no specific instruction adapted to their condition. He said many people suppose that the deaf have very much more knowledge than it was found they had. He had invariably found that they were in a state of mental and moral darkness. Their condition did not appeal to the senses like that of the blind, yet it was far more deplorable in many respects, until brought into contact with others by intelligible signs.

On Sunday evening a large number of the pupils from the Asylum were present to witness the Baptism. After Mr. Saunders in the course of the service had read the Scriptures, he asked Mr. Hutton to come to the platform and read by signs a portion of the chapter to those in the congregation who had heard nothing of what he had been reading. Mr. Hutton readily complied. Then at the request of Mr. Saunders, Mr. H. and the pupils joined in silently repeating the Lord's Prayer, after which the service proceeded as usual. After the sermon in which Mr. S. made special reference to the claims, the institution and its principal had on the public for support and sympathy, the candidates came to the baptistry. Whilst the pastor repeated the formula, Mr. Hutton translated it in the sign language to each of the candidates. It was a most solemn and impressive service, and shewed that even the dumb may speak, and by this act of submission and obedience to the Divine command, proclaim a risen Saviour.