

## Report of the Home Mission Board of New Brunswick, 1904.

The work of the year just closing has been characterized by some exceptional experiences. While in the commercial world a good degree of prosperity has held out, encouragements for new ventures, and men have easily been found to undertake them, in the special department of Christian service entrusted to us a different state of affairs has had to be met. The demands for home mission labor were perhaps never greater, nor the prospects more inviting, but the men to fill the requirements of the fields have not been forthcoming. Never for a score of years has there been such difficulty in obtaining ministerial supplies, not only for regular home mission stations, but also in several important pastorates in different parts of the province. A larger number of active laborers than hitherto seem to have removed from the province, and during the greater part of the year considerable effort has had to be put forth to restore the centre of ministerial gravitation to its normal place among us. Both evangelist and superintendent have been in constant demand to fill the many vacant pulpits, and give occasional service to a dozen or more fields that have been compelled to go for months without the regular ministry they have hitherto enjoyed.

The unusual severity of the winter throughout the province also caused serious hindrance to those fields over which stationed pastors had charge, and our whole staff of missionaries gave a common report of many Sabbaths lost by reason of blockaded roads and inclement weather. Despite however these facts, the Board is encouraged by the character and the amount of work done, which, as will be seen by the accompanying table, gives evidence of God's blessing upon the efforts put forth.

### FIELDS.

**DISTRICT OF CAMBELLTON.**—At this point one of our most promising missions exists. The Central church, though scarcely a score of years in the field, has already extended its membership north of the Bay of Chaleur to New Richmond, and westward along the valley of the Restigouche for several miles. An assistant was given the pastor greatly aiding in the enlargement of the work. Recently over thirty have been added to the membership of the church, and the prospects are bright for further additions.

**NEWCASTLE, NORTH CO.**—Rev. O. E. Steeves came to this point in October last. Extensive repairs have been put on the parsonage, adding much to the comfort of the family. Since the division of the old group better facilities are now afforded for attending to the interests in the town and immediate vicinity, and it is hoped good results will follow.

**WHITNEYVILLE AND LITTLETON.**—These churches at present constitute a separate field under the care of Rev. I. Newton Thorne. In the latter part of last year a new house of worship was opened at Whitneyville. It is a comfortable and attractive edifice, showing a decided advance in our cause here. Good congregations assemble regularly and the ministry of the Word is much appreciated.

**ST. MARY'S AND BROTCHE.**—Mr. Fred Bower, a student from Acadia, supplied these stations last summer, and by special request of the field returns again this season. The people are united and hopeful.

**SHEPARD.**—The interest here was cared for last summer by Rev. John Williams, in connection with Lutes Mountain. This year Bro. A. C. Begbie ministers to the same field.

**PORT ELGIN AND CAPE TURMENTISE.**—After lying idle for some months, Baptist efforts in this part are again active under the oversight of Rev. Frank P. Dresser. The Board has come to the help of the Pt. Elgin Church by a special loan, thus giving important relief at a most critical period in the church's history. The outlook is beginning to appear better.

**COWVILLE.**—Rev. C. S. Stearns ministers in this place. The field is at present too small, and some arrangement in grouping is still necessary in order to obtain the best results.

**COVERDALE.**—Rev. F. B. Selye has been preaching at Berryton, Turtle Creek and Nixon Settlement. Owing to the long continued illness of his wife our brother's labors have been much hindered. Mrs. Selye has been recently removed by death.

**FAIRFIELD AND HAMMOND.**—Here is found one of the most scattered of the Home Mission fields in the southern part of the province. Pastor Byron holds service at Hillsdale, Fairfield, Upham, Faborville, Hammond, Po-diac, Sullivan, Hall and Shanklin, covering a large territory. The congregations continue good, notwithstanding many removals.

**ROTHERAY.**—Since January of the present year Bro. P. J. Stackhouse has served this church in connection with the Tabernacle. Our brother's ministry is much appreciated and spiritual interests are more promising.

**MUSQUASH.**—During the greater part of last season this field was served with much acceptance by Rev. I. B. Colwell. One of the Acadia students begins work June 1st, and will supply it for four months. Since the last disastrous fire it has been difficult to secure continued pastoral care.

**BEAVER HARBOR.**—Elder T. M. Munroe preaches at this point in connection with Penfield. If the proposed union of Baptists and Free Baptists should come about, the cause of God in this place would be greatly benefited.

**ST. ANDREWS.**—For a large part of last year, Rev. Calvin Currie preached to the congregations at St. Andrews, Bay-side and Bocabec. Mr. J. H. Geldart, a student, is to supply the field this season.

**BAILLIE.**—This old church, with an important interest at Brockway continues under the care of Bro. C. J. Steeves. The congregations are well sustained and several additions to the membership are reported.

**NEW JERUSALEM AND GREENWICH HILL.**—These churches, though much weakened by removals, continue a good degree of activity, and the attendance both at Sabbath School and public services has been well sustained.

**OTNABOG.**—Rev. Manuel Neales now lives among this people and ministers to the church. A flourishing Sunday School exists the year round and is doing much good. The house of worship is nearing completion and is already occupied in the regular services.

**NASHWAAN AND NEW MARYLAND.**—These churches, with Glencoe, have been supplied by Bro. Sables, who has made his home at New Maryland. The stations are widely removed, making pastoral visitation difficult. Under present circumstances no more convenient arrangement seems possible.

**DOAKTOWN AND UNDERHILL.**—Rev. C. P. Wilson has supplied the many stations here since May last. During the quarter part of 1903, continuous revival services were held at various places, resulting in important additions to the membership. One of the students is to assist on this field during the summer.

**CARDIGAN AND BURT'S CORNER.**—No regular missionary was stationed here last year, but our evangelist made repeated visits giving occasional services. The Board is now placing a student on the field for the summer.

**TEMPERANCE VALK AND MILLVILLE.**—Since January of the present year, Rev. A. A. Rutledge has been stationed with this group, including the usual points. The people are united and encouraged and are looking for large blessings upon the work.

**CANTERBURY.**—Rev. C. N. Barton, a former pastor, settled with this people again in January last. Good congregations gather at nearly all the stations and the work is being well sustained.

**ABERDEEN.**—Bro. C. F. Rideout, a licentiate, began work here last summer and still continues on the field. Biggar Ridge, Argyle and West Glassville, with other promising stations, are included in the present pastorate. The prospects for the future are exceedingly bright.

**FOREST GLEN, VICT. CO.**—The church on the Lower Tobique is grouped with Andover and continues under the watchcare of Bro. Denmings. The pastor reports a good degree of spiritual life and attentive congregations.

**TOBIQUE VALLEY.**—During the greater part of last year Rev. J. C. Bleakney supplied our mission on this river. The stations are widely removed and the people much scattered, making regular visitation exceedingly difficult. A union of the Baptist bodies in this part would be an estimable blessing to all the communities.

**GRAND FALLS AND ST. LEONARDS.**—The little churches here were ministered to last summer by Bro. Elias Auger, a student, who spoke both the French and English languages. Bro. Hayward also visited the field before Bro. Auger's removal and several were added at St. Leonard's. The members at Grand Falls have a fund now on hand for the erection of a house of worship and they purpose soon beginning to build. Mr. T. J. Kinley, a student from Acadia is to serve the field this summer.

**ST. FRANCIS.**—Bros. Auger and Hayward visited this field last season, but no regular laborer was stationed among the people. During recent years the greater part of the Protestant population has removed to the Maine side and in consequence application has been made to the Home Mission Board of that State to supply it with a missionary. The matter is now under consideration by Rev. I. B. Mower State Superintendent of Missions, and the Executive of the Maine Board, and it is hoped the field will soon receive all necessary attention.

### EVANGELISTIC WORK.

Rev. A. H. Hayward has been continued in vice throughout the year, and in many vacant fields as well as in co-operation with pastors in special work his help has been most timely. Bro. J. A. Maple spent part of the season on the Miramichi, where a large number were gathered in. Rev. Isaiah Wallace was employed for brief periods in evangelistic work at Little River, Sunbury Co.; Newcastle, North Co.; and Grand Bay, St. John Co. The additions for the year in this department have been gratifying.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

The work to be performed has been of so complex and wide-spread a character as to necessitate much travelling. Nearly all of the Home Mission interests have been visited, some of them two or three times. The Associations, Quarterly Meetings and other gatherings have also come in for some share of attention. Personal intercourse with both the work and workers has given better opportunity for ad-justing many difficulties, and at the same time for gathering more correct information concerning the needs of every part so as to make a fairly equitable distribution of the funds at our disposal. The results up to June 1st of present year may

be summarized as follows:—Sermons preached, one hundred and eleven; missionary addresses, twenty-nine; distance travelled, 9,280 miles; amount collected, \$353.39. In addition to the amounts collected by the superintendent it should be added that several churches visited and supplied by him, sent in their offerings with their usual funds forwarded to the general treasurer.

A careful examination of the fields in New Brunswick gives results as follows:—In the Western Association, thirty pastoral groups, ten of which require Home Mission aid; in the Southern, twenty-two groups, five of which require aid; in the Eastern, twenty-five groups, nine of which require aid. This will give in all twenty-four fields, including fifty-two churches, with one hundred and ten preaching stations which should be regularly helped by the Home Mission Board. The additions by baptism on these fields, and on those covered by the evangelists, for the year just closing, have been one hundred and eighty-one, and by letter and experience twenty-six.

Should the proposed union of the Baptist bodies be effected, a large number of fields on which both people are now expending missionary funds and labor, could be united into self-sustaining pastorates, and the resources of our people be more profitably turned upon the truly destitute parts which now so loudly appeal for our help. That this may be the blessing of God be speedily brought about, your Board most sincerely desires.

Respectfully submitted,  
W. E. MCINTYRE,  
Secretary.

## On Getting Things Done.

By Mrs. M. E. SANGSTER.

There are people who accomplish noble things in life. There are others who talk a good deal about accomplishing things, and they expend themselves in talk. Others again are content to sit at the side of the road and watch the procession passing by.

To which of these three classes do we belong? The question is pertinent. If to the first, we have no doubt learned that the golden doors of opportunity swing wide at the touch of the one who is ready to do the next thing. It is while we are waiting and wandering and choosing what to do, that the moments slip by, and the evening finds us with empty hands.

An unfortunate mental habit leads some of us to spend too much time and strength in canvassing ourselves. We are introspective to a degree that is positively morbid. Analyzing our motives, censuring our actions, bewailing our infirmities, the season for rich endeavor and beautiful activity flits away, and we have nothing to show.

The idler and the drone belong in the family of him who went and hid his lord's talent in the earth. They will receive the same condemnation that was pronounced upon him. For, alas! they do not even attempt in this world that needs help and heartening, to lift anybody's burden, to ease anybody's heartache, or to build anybody's fallen fortunes into newness of stability.

Taking for granted the fact that we desire to be of those who are to get things done, how are we to set about our purpose? Why, simply in the straightforward way of beginning at once, wherever we are, and attacking the first small or slight thing that bears the label duty. Is there a letter to be written, and am I the person to write it? Nothing will be gained by putting it off until tomorrow. That letter sent to-day, may carry a store of hope and joy to some one who is fainting by the wayside. At any rate, it will assure the one who receives it that he or she is not forgotten by loved ones at home or abroad. Is there an invalid to be visited? Even at the cost of some self-denial, make the visit before sunset. I am convinced that three-fourths of our failures in successful and happy living, are due to underrating little duties, and procrastinating in their performance.

We also lose the chance to do fine and noble things because of a vicious way of discriminating in favor of this work as honorable and worth while and the other work as mean and unworthy. Now, in God's sight, all work is equally worthy if it be faithfully carried out; as in His plan for us, the petty distinctions of earth are unknown in heaven. She who toils in the kitchen, and she who sits on a throne, at the end of the earthly day, may expect to hear the same, "Well done, good and faithful servant," if each in her place has wrought diligently and finished her allotted task.

The danger for some of us is not in our beginnings, for they are enthusiastic, but in our growing tired and scamping the work in the middle. A careless, needless, irresponsible laborer is satisfied with superficial effort, and his work will not bear inspection. Work to be well done, must break down at no point. What does it matter if the bridge be strong everywhere except in one spot? When the weight of travel passes over it, the weak spot will prove its destruction. The chain may be of steel, but one rusted link may cause it to sever. Nobody ever gets things done in any worth while sense, unless he holds on with stern and steady purpose until the last nail is driven, the last brick laid, and the last full hour's work completed.

To some of us our dear Lord has set the task of watch-