

## Home Mission Report for New Brunswick.

BY THE SECRETARY.

The year just closing has been to the Board one of much encouragement. With the co-operation of the Maritime Committee, we have been enabled to make even larger appropriations than those reported last September, and we have good reason to believe that each succeeding year will witness similar expansion and growth. Our churches are slowly, yet, we think, surely awakening to the fact that the strengthening of the interests on the home fields means the enlargement of the base of operations upon which all our other denominational enterprises stand, and must result very speedily in the permanent advancement of each and every interests alike.

## GENERAL MISSIONARIES.

These have been engaged in assisting pastors in special services wherever required and also in occupying fields otherwise neglected. Revivals have accompanied their work at Point de Bute, Port Elgin, Harcourt, Mascarene, Ludlow, Doaktown and several other places.

## NEWCASTLE, NORTHUMBERLAND CO.

During the past year Rev. O. E. Steeves has been pastor of the Newcastle, Northesk (Whitneyville), and Southesk (Littleton) churches. There has been some difficulty about the parsonage lot in Newcastle, owing to carelessness in years past concerning the title of the property. Outsiders have been making attempts to encroach upon it and as only one of the original trustees to whom the land was deeded now remains the church is naturally anxious until the matter is out of danger. Brother Steeves has recently resigned to take a college course and the churches now desire a pastor.

## KENT COUNTY.

At Harcourt Bro. F. W. Patterson, a licentiate, has done much earnest work. A gracious revival took place here last winter resulting in the addition of fourteen by baptism and three others by letter and experience, and the church has been greatly strengthened. Bro. Patterson held services at the following stations: Mortimore, Trout Brook, Grangeville, Canaan and Harcourt Station, besides giving one-half his time to the 2nd Moncton church. Coal Branch, Mill Branch and Big Forks should also be taken in with the Harcourt field, as there are important openings at these points for our work.

Buctouche and St. Marys, occupied by Rev. R. M. Bynon in the early part of the present convention year, are at present pastorless. He preached in Buctouche Village, Spring Brook, Little River, Cocaigne and McLaughlin Road, organizing several Sabbath Schools and Young People's Societies, and doing generally good service throughout the county. His removal has been seriously felt and the field needs a good man without delay.

At Buctouche an unfortunate difficulty has of late greatly injured our cause, leading to a serious division, where unanimity is from every standpoint most desirable. We hope to see a better spirit, prevail and a regular pastorate again maintained.

## SHEDIAC.

This church still retains the services of Rev. E. C. Corey who gives it a part of his time. Many of the brethren here think that a missionary speaking French and English could do good service if stationed in this part of Westmoreland. There are outlying settlements of the French people which could easily be reached from Shediac, and in which there seems at present a favorable opportunity to preach the Word of Life. There are evident signs also of a breaking away among Romanists from the medieval bondage and priestcraft so long held over them, and the imprisoned souls of these people long for liberty. In the parish of Botsford the state of morals, and in fact the whole social order of these Romanists are lamentable proofs of the degrading tendencies of popery, and the people pant for better light and influence.

## CAPE TORMENTINE.

Here our denomination has had for the summer months the services of Bro. H. G. Colpitts, a licentiate. He reports good congregations at Cape Tormentine, Cadman's Corner, and Upper Cape, with a wide stretch of country yet to be taken in. We are striving to give permanent help to this section and hope ere long to secure a settled pastor over the work, as soon as Bro. Colpitts returns to Acadia.

## COOKVILLE AND PT. ELGIN.

Since the retirement of Bros. C. P. Wilson and W. A. Allen this field has undergone some changes. Among the stations here are Bayside, Port Elgin, Bayfield, Point Debut, Westmoreland, Point Midgie, Cookville, and Centre Village. The Board has been anxious for the last two years to so group these interests that at least one self-sustaining pastorate might be made, but during the past summer four brethren have been supplying the various interests mentioned, and we have had to wait a more favorable turn in affairs to secure the desired end.

## GERMANTOWN, ALBERT CO.

Brother M. B. Whitman has labored with this church in connection with Alma during the past season, and the former appropriation has been continued. We hope at no distant day to be able to report our work here as self-sustaining.

## FAIRFIELD, ST. JOHN CO.

At the beginning of the present convention year, Rev. Abel H. Washburn was stationed with 2nd St. Martins church, preaching at Fairfield and Coleraine. After his removal the church engaged Rev. R. M. Bynon, pastor at Hillsdale, who with much earnestness and success has been laboring in behalf of our cause here. The prospects are good, and the principles of the gospel church are being strengthened and advanced. We look for greater things here.

## TABERNACLE, ST. JOHN.

Aid has been continued to this church throughout the year. The congregations have been regular and several members have been added by baptism. Bro. Ganong has however recently severed his connection with them and expects to remove to another field. Your Board has been somewhat perplexed as to the proper course concerning this mission and has had serious reason to question the wisdom of laying out any more money in the immediate vicinity of large churches, themselves carrying heavy burdens, and having in their church capacity abundant room for the congregation here gathered. It looks as if some wise amalgamation and concentration ought to be in order.

## BAILLIE, CHARLOTTE CO.

Brother J. A. Glendenning, a licentiate of the first Moncton church has spent the summer in this section. A regularly stationed pastor however is what the field actually needs. With a united effort on the part of the people and a slight addition perhaps to the appropriation now given this could be effected.

## ST. ANDREWS.

Rev. W. A. Allen has of late been laboring here, in connection with Bayside and Bocabec. Six have been added by baptism, and a good degree of interest generally has been aroused. Bro. Allen has just resigned and the field is now pastorless. For many years our cause in this place has struggled against many discouragements. We hope to see some earnest brother yet settled here, and the people loyally supporting our own work in preference to that of others. A reformation along this line seems sadly needed.

## JERUSALEM AND GREENWICH HILL.

Mr. S. W. Schurman, a student of Acadia, has been with these churches during the summer. The field is desirous of having regular pastoral care, and this seems an imperative need if we are to sustain our interests on this side of the St. John. For years Baptist work has been much neglected.

## OTNABOG, QUEENS CO.

Rev. M. Neales still labors with the Olivet African church at this locality. At present they are engaged in the building of a house of worship, which when completed will be of permanent benefit to both Sabbath school and church. We commend the work of these brethren to the sympathy of all our people.

## OROMOCTO.

During the last year Rev. C. Henderson while giving pastoral attention to Upper Gagetown has extended his work to this village where a few Baptists are found. If cared for this interest gives promise of growth and we are encouraged to give it some attention.

## NASHWAAK.

No regular pastor has as yet been secured for this church, with its many outlying points of considerable interest. Student supply has again been given for a part of the year and a good revival influence has extended over several parts of the field. Bro. Sloat with the assistance of Pastor Davidson of Gibson has had the joy of welcoming several new members into the church. The work should be followed up with regular pastoral oversight.

## DOAKTOWN.

Here too have been considerable additions at different stations of Bro. King's field. In this work he was assisted by Rev. E. A. Allaby. Twenty five were added by baptism, and the prospects of our denomination have not seemed as good for years. At present Bro. King extends his labors to Ludlow, Doaktown, New Salem, and Blackville, necessitating extensive drives, which in the winter season means much trying exposure and hardship.

## QUEENSBURY, YORK CO.

Bro. C. N. Barton is still engaged on this field and reports hopefully of the work. He occupies Millville, Temperance Vale, Springfield, The Barony, and Queensbury, his weekly drives covering a large extent of territory. The prospects of our cause here are brightening and we look forward to a time when these interests will become self-sustaining.

## AHERDEEN, CARLETON CO.

Several promising stations have been opened in this part under the earnest efforts of Bro. Hayward and his assistants. The entrance of our principles here has not been any too soon. All manner of doctrines stand ready to contest the possession of these important sections, which must in time be among the most prosperous of the province. Bro. Hayward, assisted during the present season by Bro. R. W. Demmings, has occupied as preaching stations, Simonds, Florenceville, East Florenceville, Bristol, Greenfield, Oak Mountain, River Bank, West Glassville, Highlands, Argyle and Biggar Ridge, at all of which growing interests are reported. Too much praise can not be bestowed upon the earnest and faithful service of these brethren. Fourteen additions to the membership have been reported.

## TOBIQUE VALLEY.

Several small interests in this Valley have been cared for by the H. M. Board for many years. Our principles, however, have suffered much for want of loyalty to denominational lines, and as a result a large part of our outlay and efforts has gone to help others. Baptists here as in many other parts have had to learn by bitter experience that the much lauded "union work" with others, while partially effectual in doing the good aimed at, generally ends in nominal results so far as we are concerned. Then, too, the Saviour's pointed words in the Commission, "Teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I commanded you," have to be put under severe limitations, not comfortable to any truth-loving Baptist. Perhaps more for this very reason than any other our cause on the Tobique has dwindled and our laborers have become disheartened. During the last year again much of our work here has gone to others. The names of Arthurette, Birch Ridge and Maple Ridge, once representing thriving interests, are about all that is left of them. In place of the first mentioned we now have the Tobique Valley church at Sisson Ridge, organized during the present Convention year with eleven members. It remains the only light of our faith and order from Forest Glen to the head-waters of the Tobique. We hope during the coming year to lay our plans for a more vigorous campaign all along the Valley.

## GRAND FALLS.

For some time our mission here has been much neglected. During the past year Bro. N. P. Gross, a Dane, came to us from the Methodist body, and our Board on becoming acquainted with him thought it advisable to appoint him to the Grand Falls and New Denmark field. With his wife and family settled here he is now occupying these sections and writes encouragingly of the prospects of the work. Some difficulties exist at Grand Falls itself, but in other parts a great door and effectual has been opened we trust for the simple truth of the gospel. Bro. Gross has preaching services at Grand Falls, New Denmark, Ortonville, Drummond, Glasby, Priceville, and with Bro. Schutt, at St. Leonards also. The Danish colony numbers nearly two hundred families, among whom only one Baptist is as yet to be found. Our missionary has received a warm welcome from his countrymen here, and the Board cherishes the highest hopes that under the Divine blessing he may be able to accomplish great good among them.

## FRENCH MISSION.

In pursuance of the conclusion arrived at a year since the Board of this Convention felt warranted in opening up at once evangelistic efforts among the French people. By recommendation of Rev. E. Bosworth, Field Secretary of the Grande Ligne Mission, Mr. C. H. Schutt, B. A., of McMaster Hall came to us early in May settling in Madawaska Co., after spending a few weeks there he wrote the Board:—"I have now been a month in the work and feel more encouraged than at first. At Edmundston which was one of the stations whither I was directed by the board, on disembarking the leading merchant answered my query, as to the whereabouts of a Baptist family in the town, with the remark that "they were a scarce article in the place."

Difficulties have been and are still to be surmounted, but God can carry us through. The Presbyterians are strong in preachers and churches but not in members, hereabouts, while we have few churches and preachers but most of the members. Quite a following of unconverted people of all denominations frequent these so-called union churches, which are decided to the Presbyterians, but were built largely by Baptist money. They should have been ours if money and members count for anything, but Presbyterian financiers seem to have counted for more; yet the people are chiefly of Baptist sentiment and if they are not carried away by the settled ministers will rally around us as they are really doing now. We should, yea must have, a man this winter to save our denominational interests, as well as a multitude of perishing souls, for there is not a converted young man here."

In a later report he writes: "Much seed has been sown and we expect a harvest. There is an increasing interest in all our services. One soul has professed conversion; others are anxious. St. Francis and at St. Leonards also some are inquiring the way of life. At Edmundston we have been encouraged to see the interest taken in our meetings, where only one Baptist service was ever held before this summer. I held the first prayer meeting in its history, with sixteen persons present. Several families have enrolled themselves on the side of the Baptist missionary for God and perishing man."

In his report at the close of August he again adds, "The work has opened up better than I had ever expected. Since I announced my purpose to leave I begin to discover how the hearts of this people have been affected by the gospel. Last night we had six anxious souls in our meeting; some are thinking of baptism. Don't neglect putting a man on these fields immediately when I leave, one that can hold regular Sunday services as I have done, and a man that is enthusiastic and not afraid of work, and the field is ours."

Much to our regret as a board, yet with the conviction that the Master has even still more useful service in store for Bro. Schutt we have had to give up the hope of retaining his valued co-operation in our French work. He has at last fully decided to give his life to the foreign field, and expects soon to enter upon that important service.

Your Board would cherish the hope that the revival of French evangelistic work, now so auspiciously begun in this province, may find a hearty response in the sympathetic help of the churches, and that before many years we may be able to report an encouraging increase not only in the work and workers, but also in the direct fruits gathered in the various settlements of the French throughout the northern and eastern sections of the province. Let the 18,000 church-members of New Brunswick do that which is worthy of them in so great and good an undertaking.

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