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THE MISSIONARY REGISTER,

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Nova Scotia.

LORD, bless and pity us, shine on us with thy face,
That th' earth thy way, and nations all may know thy saving grace.—*Ps. lxxvii. 1, 2*

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CONTENTS.—

HOME MISSIONS.	PAGE.	OTHER MISSIONS.	PAGE.
Halifax City Mission	161	Departure of the Missionary Ship "John Williams".	11
FOREIGN MISSIONS.		The Burmese and the Karens.	173
Letter from Mr Geddie	163	Conversion of Romanists in Belgium. <i>It.</i>	
Foreign Missions.	166	North American Indians—Choctaws and Cherokees.	174
OTHER MISSIONS.		NEWS OF THE CHURCH.	
The Buxton Mission in connexion with F. Ch near Chatham. C W. <i>It.</i>	167	Closing of the Hall.	16
A Wesleyan Missionary murdered.	167	Presbyterian Church burnt.	175
Christianity in the Chinese Revolution.	168	Annual Meeting of the Students' Miss. Society, West River Pictou. <i>It.</i>	16
Missions in Turkey.	170	Notices, Acknowledgments, &c.	176
The Death Penalty in Turkey	172		

Home Missions.

HALIFAX CITY MISSION.

It is a melancholy fact, only too easily proved, that there are many in this city who are utterly ignorant of the truths of the Gospel and utterly regardless of the law of God—living here as if there were no hereafter—poor and outcast—in connection with no Church and apparently beyond the reach of any Church. It was with a view to the amelioration of the spiritual condition of these that the HALIFAX CITY MISSION was formed in the spring of 1852. It was founded on a catholic, evangelical basis; and ministers and laymen belonging to the various Churches of this city united, with the utmost cordiality, to forward its interests.

The first Missionary, Mr Gordon, was engaged in May 1852, and continued to labour in connexion with the Mission for the space of two years. Mr Gordon, was alike remarkable for devotedness and discretion; and there are facts to show that, abundant as were his labors, they were crowned with proportionate success. It was with much reluctance that the Committee of this Mission parted with him when he felt it his duty to enter on another sphere of usefulness. His success in the work of the Mission greatly encouraged the Committee to persevere, and made them feel that God

had smiled approvingly upon their undertaking. They therefore as soon as possible secured the services of Mr John Steel, as Mr Gordon's successor. Mr Steel showed himself a competent and useful labourer, and was in the Committee's employ for one year. Mr Morton, the present City Missionary, entered on his duties on the 15th May last, and has ever since laboured zealously and indefatigably.

The following extracts from the Reports of the Missionaries will, it is hoped, be read with interest by the christian public. They indicate the object of the Mission, while giving some instances of the success attending its operations and the obstacles retarding them.

Mr Gordon says, "I found not a few Protestant as well as Roman Catholic families very ignorant of the most important doctrines of Christianity, especially the doctrine of justification by faith.—The Bible is seldom if ever read in such families, and some of them have not one in their possession! Most of those young people who in various parts of the city make the hallowed silence of the Sabbath evening give place to their oaths and horrid blasphemies, are the children of parents who give them no religious instruction. I have done all in my power to awaken such to a sense of their duty, and to make them feel the sanctity of the Lord's-day." "I would call the spe-