

bounds of this Association. They report one hundred and fifty persons baptized and added to the churches, the organization of two new churches, and the opening up to present and future operations of several new and promising stations.

The total amount of money granted by the Board to these fields has been \$4,800, of which \$1,606, or one-third, was voted to our own Province. The total receipts have been \$2,610, of which \$470 only has come to hand from the New Brunswick churches. To complete the work already arranged for and what may yet be attempted, it will be necessary to raise an additional sum of \$3,400, about \$1,500 of which is the proper share of this Province.

It becomes evident, then, that our churches must awake more fully to their duty in respect to the great question of christian beneficence. In this association there are 38 churches, and a membership of over 3,000. The contribution of an average sum of 25 cents a member—an amount which is one-third less than that apportioned to Home Missions by the Financial Committee of Convention, would raise about one-half of the quota of the whole Province, and this, at least, ought to be done before the close of the Convention year.

When we look around us and behold the waste fields uncared for, and the little of good seed once planted fast being choked by weeds and wild vines: your Committee realize that we as churches, represented here by pastors and laymen, have been all too neglectful of our duty to God and to our fellow-men, and that we can never look with any degree of confidence for personal blessings until we seek out the old paths, restore the breaches, and plant the standard of Christ and Baptist doctrine on every field of conflict, and rally round it to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

Respectfully submitted,

J. MARCH.

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### AN EPITOME OF NORTON CHURCH HISTORY.

This Church was organized in the year 1800, A. D., mainly through the instrumentality of Elder James Innis, who had been a sergeant major in the British army, and was discharged in 1783 in Nova Scotia, and afterwards settled in this Province. Mr. Innis was at that time an Episcopalian, but it pleased God the Holy Spirit to produce a saving change in his heart by means of truth, which had fallen into his mind from some unrecollected source. After he had experienced the favor of God in his own soul, he felt it to be his duty to make known to others the love of the Saviour, which he did constantly in an earnest and affectionate manner; some time afterwards his attention was drawn to the subject of believer's baptism, in conversation with a Mr. Medcalf, a Baptist, he was convinced of its importance, and returning home across the river near his own house, he resolved that as his blessed Lord had been baptized in a river, he would embrace the first opportunity and follow his example. Not long afterwards, Elder Joseph Crandal and Elder Theodore S. Harding passing through the place administered the ordinance of baptism to Mr. and Mrs. Innis, who were the first to obey our blessed Lord's command in this part of the Province. Mr. Innis's preaching was blessed and owned of God in the conversion of sinners, a number of whom were baptized, and a Church was formed by Elders Crandal and Harding, who in accordance with the wishes of the Church invited Mr. Innis to accept of ordination and become their Pastor. He at first de-