

THE HOME MISSION JOURNAL

VOLUME I.

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The Home Mission Journal.

A record of Missionary, Sunday-School and Colportage work. Published by the Committee of the Home Mission Board of New Brunswick.

The JOURNAL will be issued semi-monthly, beginning with January, 1899. Special numbers will be published for November and December of the present year.

All communications and subscriptions may be forwarded to REV. J. H. HUGHES, Carleton, St. John.

TERMS, - - - 50 Cents a Year.

We mailed out last month twenty-five hundred copies of this paper (THE HOME MISSION JOURNAL) to Baptist families all over the province, and we have heard from several of our readers already,—giving us very appreciative words of encouragement, some of which will be seen in another column, "Letters from the People." Here is another from which we make an extract: "I am very glad you have commenced the publication of a little paper for the masses, the cost of which brings it in reach of all. It is just the thing that is needed, and I hope it will have a wide circulation among the poor, who cannot afford to pay for a more costly one. And I think it would be a wise and charitable act for some of our wealthy brethren and sisters to order a number of copies to be sent, one to each of some poor family who may not find it convenient to subscribe for it themselves. Some of us have such families living all around us. A Christmas present of THE HOME MISSION JOURNAL, paid in advance for one year, would be appreciated by many a family who seldom or ever see any paper, living, as they do, in remote places, where not many papers are taken. I have made up my mind to order ten copies, and will send you five dollars soon."
—J. D.

We shall be very glad to have a number of our friends do as this brother intends to do. From one to five dollars might be used in this way at this season of the year, when it is customary to make presents, to very useful ends. Several of our young friends will be endeavoring to make up clubs for this paper during this month, and it would be an encouragement if some one in their canvassing territory would give them such a lift in their work. Do you men of means not know of some poor families in whose homes you could place a copy of this little religious paper, which will impart to them much moral, spiritual and secular information? For it is to be strictly of this character in its contents. No such matter as politics, nor patent medicines will ever find a place in its columns. And as soon as we can get one thousand subscribers we

shall add four more pages to it, with but few advertisements in it—none but such as are of a bona fide business character. Looking and hoping for a liberal response, we wish our patrons a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ANY person wishing to have the whole of the article written by the secretary of the N. B. Baptist convention, entitled, "Historical Sketch of the Causes that have led to the Formation and Establishment of the New Brunswick Convention," can secure it in its entirety by sending for a copy of the New Brunswick Baptist Annual for 1898. Address a post-card to J. H. Hughes, St. John (West End), with ten cents in post stamps of two cents each; put your name and address on one end of the card, and paste a piece of paper over the other end, with the stamps folded up under it, and it will come all right.

We observed a notice some time ago in the *Messenger and Visitor* requesting the churches desiring to keep in close connection with the Maritime convention, to send their money for home missions to the treasurer of that convention, so as to have it reported in the year book. We beg to say that all monies sent to the treasurer of the N. B. Convention, J. S. Titus, St. Martins, will be reported in the year book, as it is for 1898. See Mr. Manning's subjoined statement in his account. The New Brunswick convention, at its last session, ordered Mr. Titus to make a report to Mr. Manning of monies he received during the convention year. We will say, moreover, that no slice will be taken off of any monies sent to Bro. Titus for salaries; both our secretary and treasurer do their work without fee or reward, other than the satisfaction of doing a good work for a good cause. A slice was taken off of the home mission funds last year that did not come into his hands; besides the five hundred dollars of the home mission share of the Bradshaw funds that was kept back under the pretense of expenses that never occurred. It was done, as Rev. A. Cohoon expressed it, when at the Maritime convention he said to the secretary-treasurer for New Brunswick: "You simply put your hand into the pocket of home missions and took out five hundred dollars and put it into the pocket of foreign missions." The New Brunswick Baptist convention does not ask any brother, sister nor church to sever their connection with the Maritime convention in order to help them do the home mission work in New Brunswick. They ask all the churches to stand by the agreement made at St. Martins in 1893.

An Aggressive Ministry the Need of Our Age.

Absorbing devotion to vocation is characteristic of this generation. As to the Christian ministry, its supreme need is enthusiasm. The great fault of to-day's ministry is apathy. Boundless enthusiasm, a kind of intoxication, belongs to our time. In the ministry too many men are dealing out the milk of the word in a frozen form; and as a result the churches are becoming cold storage apparatuses. Too much culture in the pulpit is dethroning it of power. Fanatical enthusiasm is better than a degenerate respectability. The pulpit should be *en rapport* with the intense spirit of the age. Enthusiasm should characterize every God-called minister. It does not depend on the temperament, but on the inspiration of Christ. The inspiring presence of God belongs to all his people. But the ministry should possess it in an eminent degree. There are three sources of enthusiasm. (1) An experimental knowledge of Christ and of his call to the ministry. (2) A clear and comprehensive conception of the great doctrines of Christianity. (3) Constant communion with Christ. Christ is, and his cause are, deserving of such enthusiasm. He was consumed with zeal for God's house. The world is perishing for the want of enthusiasm on the part of the ministry.

NEW ITEMS.

Pastor F. T. Snell baptized fifteen converts at Havelock on Sunday, the 4th, and the good work is still moving on.

Pastor W. B. Hinson baptized fifty-four converts on Sunday, the 4th, at Moncton, and the end is not yet.

Pastor J. D. Wetmore has baptized nine converts at Salt Springs within the last few days, and others are expected to come in the near future.

In a roll-call service at the Gibson Baptist church on Thanksgiving Day the thank offerings amounted to over seventy-five dollars. The church has met with a sad loss in the death of Mrs. T. D. Babbit, one of their best church workers. May the Lord grant reconciling grace to all who mourn the bereavement.

Rev. E. H. How, late of Parrsboro, has received and accepted a call to the pastorate of the Baptist church at Freeport, N. S. We are pleased to hear that the church has made so good a choice.