

the seven junior theological students, were engaged with the branches taught in the preliminary classes; in which, besides the classics, they were carried over a course of Logic, Mental Philosophy, and Ethics.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF
THE STUDENTS' MISSIONARY
ASSOCIATION, FREE CHURCH
COLLEGE, HALIFAX.

In presenting their first Annual Report, your Committee have much satisfaction in reviewing the various labours of the Association during the past Session.

It will be remembered that the objects contemplated in the formation of the Association were, the promotion of a missionary spirit among the members, and the advancement of true religion.

To attain the former, a list of subjects for Essays having a direct or indirect connexion with the cause of Missions, was adopted. This plan was found well adapted to secure the desired result. It directed the mind of the Essayist, in a more forcible manner than it otherwise might have been, to a particular portion of the Missionary field, or to the manner in which Missionary effort ought to be conducted; while it furnished the Association with the most interesting facts relative to the success, present state, and future prospects of any particular Mission; and presented an opportunity of urging the great duty of disseminating the gospel, and of unfolding the qualifications of those who are best fitted for such a work. The following are the titles of the Essays which have been delivered: Qualifications of a Gospel Missionary. Missionary operations on the continent of Africa. Utility of Union among evangelical churches in evangelizing the world. Duties of a pastor with regard to Foreign Missions. The present state of the Jews, and the efforts made for their evangelization. Present missionary aspects of Cape Breton. Present state of Asia with regard to missions. The present obstacles to the diffusion of Christianity. Present state of Protestant Europe. The spirit of Popery. Individual obligation to care for souls. The connexion of prayer with missionary success. For the accomplishment of the same object, several evenings were devoted to the receiving of Missionary intelligence. On these occasions, interesting information connected with the progress of missions in various parts of the world was read. It is almost unnecessary to state, that the reading of such intelligence imparts new vigour to all the benevolent and philanthropic emotions of a truly Christian spirit.

To attain the latter object contemplated by the Association, viz., the advancement of true religion, your Committee selected some of the most destitute localities as stations, the spiritual interests of which the As-

sociation might, to some extent, promote, by imparting religious instruction, or by holding prayer-meetings. These stations were, the Poor House—the Work House—the colored settlement of Beach-Hill—the Rope Walks—and a locality in Water street, in which a Gaelic Prayer meeting was held. The distribution of Tracts, with occasional visitations of the sick and poor, was also attended to. It is with gratitude to God that your Committee would state that the labours of the Association have been appreciated, and their instructions thankfully received, and that they have been, in some instances, manifestly attended with the divine blessing.

Your Committee had also under consideration the importance of using some efforts towards the establishment of a Mission among the Roman Catholics of Cape Breton, and agreed to recommend to the Association the employing of a Colporteur for some months during the coming summer. Upon more mature deliberation, this has been deferred for the present year.

GEORGE SUTHERLAND,
Secretary.

OBITUARY.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM M'HARDY.

William McHardy of McLennan's Mount, County of Pictou, an aspirant for the work of the ministry, died at New Glasgow, on Monday the 8th of March, after having suffered for a considerable time from asthma, which ended in consumption. When the principles of the Free Church came under our consideration in this country, he was among the first to give his unqualified adherence to them. Although surrounded by many Gallios who cared for none of these things, he saw the question in its true light, and followed the light of his judgment with unbending firmness, without regard to worldly policy or time-serving servility. Whenever a prospect was opened up in this Province, by the establishment of the Free College, for qualifying himself, he applied with vigour to the study of those branches of secular learning necessary to the work of the ministry, and made very considerable progress in his studies, although they were conducted under much pain and weakness. Two years ago, he attempted to attend the College; but, fearing, both from his health and his limited finances, that he might not be able to finish the curriculum of study required, he left it in order to teach a school in the country, at once to further his studies and to add to his limited means.

The insidious disease, however, was gaining ground, so that he found himself unable to continue the work of teaching any length of time. Fearing, from his increasing weakness, that he should neither be able to teach nor to preach, he bought a piece of land in the Blue Mountain, with the view of getting