

REPORT.

It once more becomes the duty of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY to submit their Annual Report.

By no means least among the many important objects that are to occupy the time of the present numerous meeting of the Baptists from all parts of the Province, are the considerations which peculiarly affect the interests of the future generations of Nova Scotia, and which are in truth to decide what position our children shall hereafter hold, and the stand which they shall take in the great Provincial family, in point of efficiency for good or evil. We have not, however, now to make choice of the path we are to pursue, or the direction which shall be given to our efforts. The adherence we profess to the great religious truths contained in God's Word, as it distinctly marks our denominational *character*, gave direction also to our views in constituting the NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY, and founding our Institutions of Learning in 1828. While the Baptists, at that period a numerous and influential body, possessed a large share of the property of the Country, as well as a fair proportion of its intelligence, and while their churches were rapidly increasing in numbers, under the ministry of a body of men extraordinary for their strength of mind, aptness to teach, and unwearied devotion to the cause of truth—men whom God had long continued to distinguish with unexampled success, in their labours, the interests of the Body at large called for more special efforts for mental improvement, both for the ministry and the people. Numbers from all quarters called for something decisive to be done in this respect, as naturally unwilling to be left behind by others in the race of intellectual advancement. They properly enquired, why should their children be left without mental culture, while others were arg-

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