

tionably divided by the Educational Committee, among the Baptist Churches in this Province, and truly hope that they may cheerfully respond to this recommendation.

Several of the Ministers present pledged that their Churches would pay the proportion that might be assigned to them.

The Committee on Collegiate Education presented the following Report which was heartily received.

Report of Committee on Acadia College.

It is with feelings of devout gratitude to the God of all grace that your Committee have learned that the effort for raising an endowment of £10,000 for Acadia College has been crowned with success, and that in addition nearly £3,000 has been realized towards the enlarged endowment of £5,000, and your Committee feel persuaded that the determination of the Governors to extend the privilege of Scholarship holders to the Baptist Seminary in this Province or to the Horton Academy N. S., as well as to Acadia College, as soon as £20,000 is realized—will give full satisfaction to all who love our Zion, especially to this Association, inasmuch as it will secure an increased permanent income to our Institution at Fredericton, and therefore your Committee would respectfully suggest the desirableness of efficient measures being adopted by the Governors and rigorously executed for the completion of the £20,000.

In conclusion your Committee cannot but express their gratification in view of the increased prosperity of Acadia College, which has now three Professors, also twelve young men prepared to enter College at the commencement of next term, which will make an encouraging addition to the number of College Students.

JOHN FRANCIS, CHAIRMAN.

The Committee on the state of the Churches presented the following Report, which was adopted.

The Committee on the state of the Churches submit the following minute:—

There are connected with the Eastern association 45 Churches. These Churches numbered last year 2844 members. They have added by baptism during the year 70, and they have lost by death 29, and by exclusion 17.—Total loss 46—reducing the net increase of the year to 24 members. About 20 of the Churches out of the 45 or nearly one half are without pastoral labor. Your Committee cannot but feel that such a state of things demands searching enquiry, deep humiliation and earnest prayer. The question before the denomination is this—How are these destitute Churches to be supplied with Pastors? How is the number of the redeemed to be multiplied? Ministers and Churches have a solemn duty to perform in relation to this matter. In the judgment of this Committee the Churches without Pastors should seek to supply themselves at once by making provision for the comfortable support of the stated Ministry amongst them and by earnest prayer to God for direction in the choice of a Pastor. The pastoral connection is God's own ordinance, and no Church has a right to hope for prosperity in the violation of this arrangement. Your Committee rejoice to hear that the Home Missionary Board are doing the best they can to supply the destitution, and they would further suggest in view of this whole question that the 1st Thursday in October next, be set apart as a day of deep humiliation and special prayer for the outpouring of the Spirit of God upon Ministers and People. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. E. BILL, CHAIRMAN.