

The Treasurer of the Infirm Ministers Fund presented his report, which was adopted.

*Resolved*,—That the same officers be continued,

*Resolved*,—That this Association adjourn to meet with the second Baptist Church in Yarmouth, on the second Saturday in June, 1857, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Session closed, with singing and prayer.

W. G. PARKER, Moderator.

J. J. SKINNER, Clerk.

## Circular Letter.

READ BEFORE THE WESTERN NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, JUNE 16TH, 1856.

A *revival of religion* is the restoration of suspended religious activity, the living again of what previously existed. It is the rousing of the slumberer, the quickening of the slothful, the return of the backslider. It is the rekindling into a bright steady flame of the smouldering embers which once gave light and heat. It is the return of the "lukewarm" to the ardor and glow of "first love," the recall of the fugitive wanderer from the enohanting labyrinths of sin, the thawing and melting of the frozen heart, the waking of dormant power, the bubbling up again of the pure fountain of the "water of life" in the soul.

It is the re-opening of communications with Heaven, effected by the gracious return of the grieved and insulted Spirit of God to the dark chamber,—the deserted temple of the human soul. It is the visit of Jesus, the excluded friend, to be again a guest in the heart. It is the return to the disconsolate breast, of godly sorrow for sin, of faith, of love, of the joys, the hopes and the peace which had fled;—a new glimpse of Heaven, of the Mediator and the smiling face of God the Father.

It is the awakening of holy tastes and sympathies, the return of "brotherly love" and of ardent desire for the conversion of sinners. Under its influence the lamp of prayer is relighted, and neglected duties are performed.

Such indeed is a revival of religion in its first and stricter import; it has to do with *Christians*, and with them as *individuals*.

Then, *numbers* feel the glow of the sacred fire and the communion of saints is sweet. "The Spirit of grace and