

A BEGINNING.

[For the Maritime.

Seventy four years ago the Baptist Association of Nova Scotia met at Chester, Lunenburg Co. Though at that time but a comparatively small body it felt that it must be aggressive, and give some attention to the regions beyond. Among the business transacted was its first contribution to Foreign Missions. A princely sum was not voted. A beginning, however, was made, and some interest excited on behalf of the heathen. Upwards of \$34 was sent to the Treasurer of the Auxiliary Bible Society, Halifax. This was the commencement of the Foreign Mission enterprise of the Baptist Body in the Maritime Provinces.

A PICTURE OF CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE.

MATT. xiv. 22-23

I. (The Picture). In obedience to the Master's command a little boat may be seen pushing off from the land and embarking upon the sea of Galilee. It moves on for a little while without experiencing any difficulties. But ere it has gone far a fierce wind so well known in that country shoots down across the sea from between the surrounding dark mountains, greatly impeding the progress of the little craft. Darkness grows deeper and deeper. The water too, which before was calm, is lashed into a foaming fury. The waves rise high on either side, threatening to swamp the boat, while those in it are toiling in fear and trembling lest all should be lost. But the picture is not yet complete. Alone on yonder mountain is the master in prayer. It is midnight, and there he is enjoying a season of sweet communion with his Father in heaven. No tempest is there. All is peaceful and calm within that breast. And although they are not aware of it he sees his beloved disciples down on the billowy waves "toiling hard in rowing" against a contrary wind. His watchful eye never leaves them. The difficulties and dangers which beset them are not unnoticed by him. He does not just then say to the wind, "be still;" in his wisdom that is left until by-and-by. But whilst he allows it to rage he takes good care that his own obedient little flock is not injured.

II. (The Application). In obedience to

our Lord's command we shove off from the shores of sin into the sea of Christian experience. Ere we have gone far, down from the surrounding mountains of error and delusion come the fierce and contrary winds of temptation, trial and affliction, throwing the sea into a fury and tossing our frail bark about until we think all would be lost. Then darkness as of midnight gathers about us. We toil in fear and trembling, wondering perhaps if our Master has not deserted us. But although we may scarcely realize it, yet his eye is ever looking down upon us from above and "all's well."—*Phil. Press.*

BECOMING HOLY.

Dr. T. L. Cuyler says in the *Christian at Work*: "A friend propounds to me this question, 'Is it possible for me to become holy?' Several others have at different times asked the same question. The word holy, in its etymology, signifies *whole, hale, sound*. The word holiness signifies *wholeness or wholth*, which is the original of our word *health*. A holy person then, is no more nor less than a healed person who keeps in sound spiritual health. Sin is the disorder of the whole moral nature; and holiness is a recovery from the controlling power and plague of this loathsome disease. A holy man is spiritually a *healthy man*. I claim to be a very healthy man as far as my bodily apparatus is concerned; for I have never spent three consecutive days in bed since I was a baby; yet I do not claim that I am not troubled with headaches and some other physical discomforts. The definition which Noah Webster gives of holiness is very orthodox; he says that 'when applied to human beings it signifies purity of heart or disposition, piety, moral goodness, but not perfection.'"

It is said that in Kischeneff, Russia, 50,000 Jews have become Christians. The converts have not joined the Russian Orthodox church, but have constituted themselves into a Judeo-Christian community and called their places of worship by the old familiar name of synagogue. The Russian Ministry of Worship has conceded State acknowledgment to these new and flourishing Christian congregations. Delitzsch's Hebrew translation of the New Testament is being eagerly read and studied by the Siberian Jews.