MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTH SESSION

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Eastern Baptist Association

NOVA SCOTIA,

HELD AT ONSLOW.

Jaturday, Monday, & Tuesday, July 4, 6 & 7, 1857.

TOGETHER WITH THE

CIRCULAR LETTER, &c.

HALIFAX, N. S.

PRINTED AT THE "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER" OFFICE.

1857.

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MINUTES

OF THE

EASTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ONSLOW, SATURDAY, JULY 4th, 1857.

THE Association met at Onslow, on Saturday July 4th, 1857. Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, Moderator for last year, called the meeting to order, and, after prayer, Rev. E. B. DeMill was chosen Moderator, by ballot; Brother Henry C. Uphum was chosen Clerk, and Brother Benjamin Douglas, Assistant Clerk; Brother Cyrus Black, Treasurer.

Revds. M. Parker, Wm. Burton, and Wm. Hall were appointed a Committee to examine, and Revds. S. N. Bentley, D. W. C. Dimock, and David Lawson to read, the Letters, from which were obtained the following list of

DELEGATES.

Onslow .- Rev. D. W. C. Dimock ; Brethren D. Page, E. Blackmore, D. Blair, J. King, and R. Nelson.

Antigonish .- Rev. R. Philp.

Great Village. - Brethren Ezra S. Layton, Edward Weatherby, J. Gourley and H. C. Upham.

Mabou, C. B.—Rev. R. Philp.

Sydney, C. B .-

Earltown. - Brethren Alex, Conkey, D. Wilson.

Upper Londonderry.—Rev. S. Thompson; Brethren Wm. Me-Cully, W. McKinlay and J. Carter.

St. Mary's 2nd,—Rev. H. Bagles; Brethren J. McKeen and T. H. Nicholls.

Portipique.—Brethren George Davidson, Thomas Pulson, Archibald Davidson and Joseph Cook.

Five Islands,-Roy, S. Thompson : Brother J. Broderick,

Manchester and Campboro. - Rev. W. Hall.

Pugwash.—Rev. E. F. Foshay; Brethren Angus McDonnell and W. H. Seaman.

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Isaac's Harbour.-Rev. H. Eagles.

Amherst.—Rev. E. B. DeMill; Brethren Samuel Taylor, C. Black, B. Douglas, and H. Logan.

Schooner Pond, C. B.—Rev. H. Ross.

Wallace.—Rev. S. Thompson; Brother R. Woodland.

Upper Stewiacke.—Brethren C. Cox, J. Layton, J. Bentley, D. Archibald and J. Archibald.

Goose River .- Rev. E. F. Foshay.

Lower Stewiacke.—Brethren Joseph Sibley, E. C. Banks, and J. W. Stevens.

Amherst Shore .- Rev. D! Lawson.

Tracadie.

Maccan. - Rev. D. McKeen.

Indian Harbour .- Rev. H. Eagles.

St. Mary's 1st.—Rev. H. Eagles.

Greenville. - Rev. H. Charlton; Brother G. Rushton.

Advocate Harbour .- Rev. T. Keillor.

Margaree, C. B .- Rev. R. Philp.

Charlottetown, P. E. I.

East Point, P. E. I .- Rev. J. Shaw.

Three Rivers, P. E. I.-Rev. J. Shaw.

*York River, P. E. I.—Rev. J. Shaw.

Glenville, (new church),—Rev. H. Charlton; Srother J. W. Johnston.

This Church was received into the Association, by Rev. H. Charlton, their Delegate, receiving the right-hand of fellowship.

DELEGATES FROM SISTER ASSOCIATIONS:-

Western N. S .- Rev. W. G. Parker.

Central.—Revds. W. Burton, S. N. Bentley; Brethren T. H. Porter and R. Porter, Licentiates, and Brother S. Selden.

Revds. James Reid, G. F. Miles and A. D. Thompson, and Brethren W. H. Rogers and C. Sutherland, were invited to take a seat with the Association.

^{*}So dated. Should it not be North?

For Statistics of Churches and Sabhath Schools, see pages 9 and 10,

Revds. W. G. Parker, W. Burton, and W. Hall being appointed a Committee to nominate Committees, reported the following, which were confirmed:

ON CIRCULAR LETTER .- Revds. M. Parker, W. Burton.

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On Education.—Revds. S. N. Bentley, W. Hall, A. D. Thompson, D. W. C. Dimock, W. Burton, G. F. Miles: Brethren George Davidson and C. Black.

On TEMPERANCE.—Revds. J. Reid, H. Eagles, J. Shaw; Brother C. Sutherland.

On Sabbath Schools.—Revds. D. McKeen, S. Thompson; Brother S. Selden.

On Christian Messenger.—Revds. W. Hall, H. Ross, J. Shaw; Brethren J. Layton, A. Davidson, A. Conkey.

On Sabbath Observance.—Revds. D. Lawson, H. Charlton; Brethren D. Page, E. Weatherby, J. Gourley.

On Foreign Missions.—Revds, E. F. Foshay, E. B. DeMill, J. Reid, T. Keillor, H. Eagles; Brother W. H. Seaman.

On French Mission.—Revds. W. G. Parker, W. Burton, D. McKeen; Brethren R. Nelson, D. Blair, J. Cook.

On Bible Cause.—Revds. D. W. C. Dimock, S. Thompson; Brethren W. H. Rogers, J. Broderick.

On ARRANGEMENTS FOR PRESENT SESSION.—Revds, D. W. C. Dimock; Brethren J. King, D. Page.

To AUDIT ACCOUNTS .- Brethren B. Douglas, H. C. Upham.

ON HOME MISSIONS.—Revds. S. N. Bentley, D. W. C. Dimock, W. Hall, H. Ross, W. Burton, W. G. Parker, E. F. Foshay, R. Philp, H. Eagles; Brethren T. H. Porter, R. Porter, H. Logan, T. H. Nichols.

On Union Societies.—Rev. D. McKeen; Brethren C. Cox, S. Taylor, D. Wilson.

On Colportage.—Revds. H. Charlton, T. Keilor, R. Philp.

The Circular Letter having been examined, was read and ordered to be printed.

After prayer by Rev. S. N. Bentley, adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

On Sabbath morning at 11 o'clock Rev. A. D. Thompson, of New Brunswick, preached in the Onslow Meeting-house, and at 5 p. m., Rev. W. G. Parker. Preaching at Truro by Rev. S. N. Bentley at 3 p. m., by Rev. W. Burton at 7 p. m., and at Ænon Chapel, North River, by Rev. D. McKeen, at 3 p. m.

Monday Morning, July 6, 1857.

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Met, according to appointment, at 10 o'clock.

Rev. E. B. DeMill preached the Introductory Sermon from Romans i. 16. After preaching, proceeded to read Letters. A collection having been taken previously, as also on Sabbath morning, for Home Missions.

Report of Committee on Bible Cause was read by Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, and was, after some discussion, received and adopted. (Appendix A.)

Adjourned until 3 o'clock.

Met at 3 o'clock. Prayer by Rev. D. W. C. Dimock.

Resolved, That the next meeting of this Association shall be held at Portipique; that Rev. D. McKeen preach the Introductory Sermon, that Rev. W. Hall be his alternate; and that Rev. E. F. Foshay write the Circular Letter.

Resolved, That 500 copies of the minutes be printed at the Christian Messenger Office, under the supervision of Bro. Selden, and that the sum of eight pounds be paid him for the purpose.

Report of Committee on Christian Messenger was presented by Rev. W. Hall, which, after commendatory remarks, was received and adopted. (Appendix B.)

Resolved, That Rev. D. W. C. Dimock and Brother Henry C. Upham be a Committee to report to the Convention the state of the Churches within the limits of this Association.

Resolved, That the Letters of the several Churches be handed over to the Secretary of the Home Mission Board, when the Clerk has taken from them the necessary information.

Report of Committee on Home Missions, presented by Rev. S. N. Bentley, was received and adopted, after remarks. (Appendix C.)

Report on Sabbath Schools, presented by Brother Selden,

was received and adopted. (Appendix D.)

The remaining time, until the adjournment, was spent in receiving money from persons becoming contributors to the new Home Mission Society.

Adjourned at 6 o'clock, to meet at 10 o'clock on Tuesday

morning. Prayer by Rev. A. D. Thompson.

Tuesday Morning, July 7, 1857. Met according to adjournment at 10 a. m.

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After prayer by Rev. W. Burton, the Minutes were read and confirmed.

Resolved, That Rev. H. Eagles be paid from the funds of this Association the sum of Two Pounds, for expenses incurred by him as Delegate to the Western Association in 1855.

Resolved, That the several Delegates from this to other Associa-

tions be paid their expenses.

Resolved, That Rev. D. McKeen be the Delegate to the Western Association, Rev. E. F. Foshay to the Central and N. B. Western, and Rev. D. Lawson to the N. B. Eastern; and that the sum of Three Pounds be paid to the Delegates to the N. S. Western and Central Associations.

The following were appointed Delegates to the Convention:—Brethren J. Ring, C. Black, Jacob Layton, and W.

H. Rogers.

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Report of Committee on Education was presented and read by Rev. S. N. Bentley, which was received and adopted. Several interesting and encouraging addresses were delivered. (Appendix E.)

Adjourned at 1 o'clock, to meet at 31 p. m.

Prayer by Rev. W. Burton.

Met at 3½ p. m., according to appointment.

Prayer by Rev. H. Ross.

Report of Committee on Temperance, presented by Rev. James Reid, was received and adopted, after the addition of a clause recommending a Prohibitory Law,—several addresses in favour of that policy having been given. (Appendix F.)

Report of Board of Domestic Missions, read by the Secretary, Rev. D. W. C. Dimock, was received and adopt-

ed. (Appendix G.)

Report of Committee on Foreign Missions, read by Rev. E. F. Foshay, was received and adopted. (Appendix H.) Report of Committee on Colportage, presented by Rev. H. Charlton, was received and adopted. Remarks upon the necessity of distributing Books of a denominational character were made by Rev. D. McKeen. (Appendix I.)

Resolved, That the present Missionary Board be continued, until it has adjusted its accounts; and after its liabilities are discharged, the balance of money be paid over to the Treasurer of the N. S. Baptist Home Mission Society.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Observance, presented by Rev. D. Lawson, was received and adopted. (Appendix K.)

Report of Committee on Union Societies, read by Rev. D. McKeen, was received and adopted. (Appendix L.)

Brother Benjamin Douglas was appointed Treasurer of the Infirm Minister's Fund; and Rev. D. McKeen, Brethren Cyrus Black, Benjamin Douglas, Moses Low, and J. M. Atkinson were constituted a Board to control said fund.

It was resolved to apply cloth contributed for missionary purposes for the benefit of the French Mission; Brother Walker, of Truro, was appointed Treasurer to receive it and all contributions for that purpose.

The Treasurerer was also directed to pay over all contributions to the Ministerial Education fund to Rev. John Chase. Wolfville.

Report of Committee on French Mission, presented by Rev. W. G. Parker, was received and adopted. (Appendix M.)

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association be tendered to the Presbyterian congregation of Onslow, with their pastor, for their liberality in giving up the Meeting-house for our use upon the day in which it was theirs of right. Also to the brethren and friends in this vicinity for their kind and hospitable entertainment of the members of the Association.

It was also resolved to pay to Rev. D. Lawson, in advance, the sum of Two Pounds, to defray his expenses as Delegate to the N. B. Eastern Association.

After prayer by Rev. H. Ross, the Moderator pronounced the benediction, and the Association adjourned, to meet next year at Portipique.

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E. B. DEMILL, Moderator, HENRY C. UPHAM, Clerk, B. Douglas, Assistant Clerk. 0

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STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES.

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Onslow, -		-	-	-		1	4	5	+	2	+	154
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Earl Town, -		•	-			1	3	İ	1	11	1	45
Upper Londonder	ry,	-	-			1	3		1		1	52
St. Mary's 2nd, -		-	-	- 1			1	1	-	8 60		27
Portipique, -	_	•	-	- 1	1	1		1	1 2	1		46
North Sydney, C.	В.,	•	-		2	1					2	121
Five Islands, -			-				1	1	1			28
Manchester and G	uysb	oro',		i			1	1		1	1	104
Pugwash, -				1	2	9	1	3]	4	3		136
Isaac's Harbour,						100		1		1		37
Amherst,		-			1	47	1 3	3	4		2	168
Schooner Pond, -		-	-	1					1		-	12
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Upper Stewiacke,		- 1	-						1		2	47
Goose River, -		•	*						1	2	2	37
Lower Stewiacke,		-							1 2 2 1	-	i	58
Amherst Shore, -		•	•	-	1			7	2	1		20
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^{*}The letter is so dated, but filled as North River. No change, however, in No. since last letter. I am in doubt about it. H. C. U.

Note.—No letter or report was received from the following Churches, viz:—Mira Bay, C. B., River John, Canseau, Parsboro', Tryon, P. E. I., Bedeque, P. E. I., Little River and Leicester, North River, P. E. I., Lot 49, P. E. I., Grand River, P. E. I., Wentworth, Canseau Strait, Tatamagouche, and Merigomish.

STATISTICS OF SABBATH SCHOOLS.

CHUF	RCH	IES			1	No. of Schools,		e Female.	ers.	No. of Scholars.	Volumns in Library.
Great Village,	-		-			1	4	1	5	30 42	100 125
Earl Town, Upper Londonderry, St. Mary's 2nd,	7			-		1			3	42	125
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Portipique, -	-		- "	-		2 2				70	
North Sydney,	-		-	-		1	1			1744	
Pugwash, - Isaac's Harbour,	-		-	-		1	1			100	300
Isaac's Harbour,	-		-			1			9	70	100
Amherst, -	-		-	-		1	8	7	15	110	
Wallace, -			•	-		1			8	60	120
Goose River, -	-		-	-		1 1 3	4		1		100
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Maccan, -	-		-	-		2	-1			7,00	Kaj istor
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CIRCULAR LETTER.

DEAR BRETHREN.

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Volumns in

More deep and earnest piety, is the special need of our churches -Piety consists in a firm belief in, and right conception of the being, perfections, and government of God; proper affection to him; a resemblance of his imitable perfections, and conformity to his will. In piety towards God there will be conviction of sin, faith in Jesus Christ, love to God, "righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost," in a word piety is walking with God. Depth of piety is religion entering into, pervading all the faculties of the soul, and becoming the warp and woof of our moral, and spiritual existence. It is feeling and saying "My Father's will be done," "For me to live is Christ," and "Whether we eat or drink, or whatsoever we do, do all to the glory of God." There will be seasons of hely converse with heaven leading the soul to say within itself "My meditation of Him shall be sweet, I will be glad in the Lord," and a solemn sense of the presence and purity of the great Jehovah calling forth the frequent prayer "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight O Lord my strength and my Redeemer." Depth of piety in the soul, like the deep under-currents of the ocean, which though calms and storms may affect the surface, pursue their onward course, causes an undercurrent ever setting heavenward. In the heart will be the well of living water springing up into everlasting life. Deep toned spirituality. Harnestness in religion is the mind drawn intensely towards the one momentous concern-salvation, great common, eternal, drawing forth the prayer "Lord save or I perish," "God be merciful to me a sinner."-The Holy Ghost records of such a one "behold he prayeth." Here is "seeking first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness" striving for the strait-gate, selling all to purchase the pearl of great price, laying aside every weight, and the besetting sin, and so running as to obtain, taking the cross, willing to be crucified inwardly and

toutwardly, following Jesus, fighting the good fight of faith, and laying hold on eternal life. All concern must give place to this one, all things laid under tribute to its furtherance. Earnestness in religion is the warmth of Divine love in the soul intensified by heavenly influence, and right views of things; it is being "fervent in spirit serving the Lord;" ever elevating and purifying its subjects. He who is the subject of this not only urges forward in his course, leaving all grovelling and meaner spirits far in the distance, but invites others as he runs, saying, come to Mount Zion, Christ has marked the way. Thus pressing onward his prayers ascend to God in holy groanings, his contributions go to the Lord's treasury, and his conduct shines with a heavenly lustre which others see, and join in the acclaim of "Glory to God."

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This preciousness of Jesu's to the soul; this "converse with the skies," this deep devotional spirit, heavenly groanings, and "aspirations after a higher and holier existence" is what we need. The piety of Noah walking with God and doing according to all that God commands. Here then is our view of deep and earnest piety. Where soul piety exists, it will manifestly develope itself. With this the Church will be a Goshen amid Egyptian gloom—a verdant easis in the world's moral desert: not as a bonfire on Mount Zion, but a beacon light to benighted sinners; "the light of the world," "a city set on a hill." All and each one of our churches need this, all and each one of the individual members, both ministers and people. To give this needed thing to some one else than ourselves will not do, generalizing or society-forming will not suffice instead of individual earnest piety. To this deep and earnest piety there are many dangerous hindrances. The world, the flesh and the devil always oppose. Let us look at a few of the forms of evil prevailing in churches at the present. It is an easy thing to gain admission to membership of a church without genuine piety, and thus become a dead weight, or diseased member of the body. The tests which once were a guard in this respect are now greatly removed. It is easy to see the danger here incurred, especially if the individual is of extensive influence. The tendency is to drag down the soul, to induce a spirit of worldliness, and thus draw off from spirituality of mind. All this lets the world into the church. Christ's Kingdom

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is not of this world. The taste for amusements and social parties is another danger of the present. Too often there exists a continued round of social gatherings throughout the winter evenings. These though expensive are well attended, while benevolent societies and prayer-meetings receive but a passing notice; but that is not all, there may be seen the Christian professor, joining in the most light and frivolous pastimes. In these there may be nothing decidedly immoral, but then they remove the distinction between the Christian and the ungodly,-effecting the most dangerous worldly conformity. Of this nature are many of the winter parties and tea meetings-also Sabbath-day company, conversation, and light reading. These have a tendency to destroy the life of religion, if it ever axisted. Then witness the commotions, and divisions arising from political dissensions, destroying the spirit of love and union among church-members, making one feel as though there was nothing known at certain times, but the religion of politics. Gain, -Gain, also is the watch-word of farmer and mechanic, of the mercantile and of the professional class. Mammon is the god of the age, and of Anglo-Saxons in particular, at whose shrine the present earthly prosperity of many professors causes them to bow in homage. This is one of Satan's drag-nets, to catch all both bad and good. Locomotion and eletricity are characteristic of the present. The bustle and rapidity, the din and hum of the world on every side shut out, as it were the Christian from sober reflection, study of God's Word, and prayer. Amid universal confusion, will he break, and retire for communion with God? But stop! to enumerate is vain. On every hand, behind and before, are foes, and within, a traitor, what then? Gird on the whole armor, nor put it off, "lay aside every weight," and press onward for the prize. Be in earnest.

Dear Brethren:—in view of our condition, dangers and calling, we ask, what do we most need? The answer is ready, more deep and earnest piety in our churches. Where this exists there will be vitality in the soul, a power within. The tree of abundant fruit must be alive at the heart. All great movements work from their centres. It is God's method. The hidden fire, the heavenly flame in the members of our churches, will start benevolent action,—bring together scattered churches, heal difficulties, supply means for carrying on the world's conversion, keep up a continual re-

vival; purify the churches; sanctify the affections; give power to christian effort; and enlarge the attendance at the meetings. It will send forth light to the benighted; balm to the wounded, and a hand to wipe away sorrow's tear. This mighty power working from the centre, will be ready to embrace, and skilful to invent ways and means, for doing good. Resuscitation, health and vigor will be seen wherever it exists. For want of more of this deep and earnest piety, what one of our institutions is not in some measure paralized? what one of our churches is in doctrine and practise, all that a church ought to be? what is the state of our Missionary organizations, and educational establishments? where are our Colporteurs? Is the standard of piety as high, and the revival flame kept up as they ought to be? What do our prayer-meetings say? what the Lord's treasury? Look at our worldly conformity! Is the prayer ascending to God in humble fervor for more laborers to gather in the harvest? See friends, neighbors, the world around us rushing on to ruin, and how little do we do to save them. Zion languishing, but where is the helping hand, of warm christian influence? Let us look correctly at the fearful sin of not striving more for deep and earnest piety. follow in imagination one immortal spirit as it is either borne by angels to the abode of peace, or dragged by foul fiends and plunged amid the wailing of the lost, and then sum up the whole of peace and woe from this unit. What then is required in view of all this and vastly more, but for the church to have the vital energy of deep and earnest piety, that she may send out her showers of blessing, and streams of benevolence into innumerable ramifications. With heaven in the eye, and glory in the soul, may we urge our way onward, truthfully saying to the perishing around, "Come with us and we will do thee good," and in temper, zeal, and devotion, appear as the world's beacon light, and it is heard on every side, "God is with thee."-Therefore my beloved brethren "be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

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APPENDIX.

(A)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE BIBLE CAUSE.

The Committee on the Bible Cause report :-

The Bible Cause is pre-eminently the cause of God—herein he speaks to men—his commands, his laws, are here recorded. Whatever is done with the design to increase Bible circulation, and Bible reading, is work done for God.

As Baptists we should be identified with Bible institutions; for in that Book of books, is contained our rule of faith, and source of appeal. The foundation and the superstructure of the Christian temple are here displayed.

By taking the Bible as the sole guide in spiritual things, and for its pure teaching, rejecting the dogmas of men, for refusing to admit as binding upon the conscience, and treating as unscriptural, the opinions endeavoured to be enforced upon them not founded upon the Word of God, for despising the decrees of Council, and the authority of tradition—not only have Baptists been distinguished, but they have been subjected to persecution both from Papal powers and Protestant authorities. Persecution and

death from the former, scourging, imprisonment and banishment from the latter.

Baptists should love the Bible, they should labor to promote its circulation among all nations of the earth. Without wishing to dictate to any as to the various Bible institutions they ought to support, your Committee cannot forbear earnestly commending to the churches the pressing claims of those various institutions, as connected with our brethren in England, United States of America, and Germany.

Respectfully submitted.

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D. W. C. DIMOCK, Chairman.

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER."

"Knowledge is power," is a sentiment uttered by one of the master minds of English literature, but it is only when based upon religious principles, that knowledge can accomplish its legitimate object, (the elevation of man as a moral and religious being.) Among the various instrumentalities employed for the dissemination of knowledge, there is none that has greater power than that of the Press. The universality of its diffusion, its cheapness, and its happy adaptation to meet the wants of all minds, recommend a religious periodical, as one of the most important auxiliaries to the Church of Christ, to subserve the interests of truth, morality, and godliness. Such a periodical in the opinion of your Committee is the Christian Messenger.

Twenty-one years have now elapsed since its commencement, and amidst many trials and discouragements it has passed into the hands of its present worthy Editors and publisher, to whom we would express our confidence and sympathy, hoping that a more tangible expression may be given by an increased subscription We would at the same time express our unqualified approbation, of the calm and dignified course which its present Editors have pursued on subjects of an exciting nature to the public mind, as well as the decided tone of Christian firmness which has been manifested in contending for the "faith once delivered to the Saints." Your Committee would urgently recommend that the Ministers and members of the Denomination in every possible way, put forth increased efforts to enlarge its circulation, and by their contributions to its pages, make it a paper in every way worthy of the body of Christians whose organ it is, and the consistent exponent of those great principles identified with the truth WM. HALL, Chairman. as it is in Jesus.

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee having considered the prevailing inefficiency in the conduct of our Home Missionary operations, beg leave to report, that they are unanimously of the opinion that this Association should recommend to the support of the churches of which it is composed "The Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society recently formed with the following

CONSTITUTION.

1st.—This Society shall be called "The Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society."

2nd .- The object of this Society shall be the preaching of the

Gospel, throughout Nova Scotia and Prince Edward's Island, the assistance of feeble churches, and the planting of new ones.

3rd.—Any person may become a member of this Society by contributing Five Shillings or upwards annually, to its funds. Any person contributing Five Pounds at one time, shall be considered a Life Member. Any person contributing Twenty Pounds at one time, or whose contributions shall amount to that sum, shall be a Life Director. Every Association or Auxiliary which contributes annually to this society, shall be entitled to be represented by one delegate for every Five Pounds so contributed; and every Baptist Church contributing annually to the funds of the Society, shall also have the privilege of sending a Delegate; should the funds so contributed exceed Five Pounds, such church shall be entitled to send one Delegate for every Five Pounds contributed, provided that no Association, Auxiliary or Church shall be entitled to send more than five Delegates at one time.

4th.—The officers of this Society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor, who shall annually

be appointed by the Society from among its members.

5th.—The Society shall annually appoint a Board of Management consisting of Twenty-four members, seven of whom shall reside in the place designated from year to year, as the location of the Board, or in the neighbourhood; and seven shall constitute a quorum. The officers above named shall be ex-officio members of the Board. The following shall be the duties of the Board, viz: To meet from time to time for the despatch of business, due notice of such meetings being given; to appoint Missionaries, and assign their respective places of labour; to expend the funds for the objects of the Society, provided that all amounts contributed for any specific purpose shall be faithfully applied, as far as possible, in accordance with the wishes of the donors; to employ agents for the collection of funds, and for the general advancement of the interests of the society; and to furnish a report of the proceedings of the past year at the Annual Meeting.

6th.—Every Auxiliary Society which shall agree to commit all its funds to the direction of this Society shall be entitled to receive Missionary labour in such field as it may designate, to an amount at least equal to its contributions, provided that such

designation be intimated at the time of payment.

7th.—The Members of Auxiliary Societies shall be members of this Society. Life Directors shall be entitled to attend and vote

at meetings of the Board.

8th.—The Annual Meetings of the Society shall be held at such time and place as shall be determined upon at a previous annual meeting. At that meeting the officers of the Society for the ensuing year shall be appointed, and such other business transacted as the members there present shall deem expedient.

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9th.—No alteration of this Constitution shall be made without an affirmative vote of two thirds of the members present at an annual meeting.

All of which is submitted.

S. N. BENTLEY, Chairman.

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools report:

Your Committee consider Sabbath Schools one of the mest important agencies of the Christian Church. They are gratified to find that they are established generally in connexion with the Churches belonging to this Association. They believe them calculated to exert a vast influence on the rising generation, and should be encouraged by all who value the great text-book of the church—the Word of God.

Your Committee believe that Christians of all ages would receive much benefit themselves as well as do much goed to others by regularly meeting in the Sabbath School, or in their own houses, for the purpose of searching the Scriptures. By this means the more advanced pupils who often feel reluctant to remain with little children, would be retained under Christian influence and instruction; and we might hope to realize that the Sabbath School is a nursery for the Church.

Your Committee think it very desirable that the Statistics of Sabbath Schools given in the letters from the Churches, should be put into a tabular form and published with the Minutes. If the number of pupils in the Juvenile Classes and of adults in the Bible Classes, also the number of Teachers and length of time the School is continued were given in the Letters from the Churches, they would afford valuable items of information.

Respectfully submitted. D. McKeen, Chairman.

(E)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Your Committee, in the absence of very definite information respecting the present condition of our Educational Institutions, are, nevertheless, aware of the pressing demand for large pecuniary aid. In order to increase the efficiency of the College, and Academy, more instructors of the highest qualification are required; whereas, with the present income, debt is being accumulated in sustaining those already employed in connexion with the College. The immediate necessity is therefore, the raising of funds for present use, and the permanent enlargement

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of the Endowment Fund. For these purposes, our valued Brother Rev. A. D. Thompson, of New Brunswick, has been appointed by the Board of Governors, as their agent. We would earnestly commend Brother Thompson and his object to the monied regard of the brethren, and the Churches in this part of the Province. When your Committee recollect, what the Baptists of these Provinces have done, in presenting an example of enlightened zeal in the cause of religious education, to all the denominations of these provinces; when they think of the age we live in, and the urgent growing wants of our people, and of our churches, they feel that it is no time to retire from effort. We cannot recede; we ought not to stand still; we must advance;—this is our only alternative. Past experience, dear as it has been, will prevent future disasters. Past success and present prospects inspire hope.

In behalf of the Committee,

S. N. BENTLEY, Chairman.

(F)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee are deeply impressed with the consideration that the Temperance Cause demands our most serious attention. We fear that, at the present time, intemperance is prevailing to a greater extent than it has done for many years past. Great numbers of our fellow-beings are still ensuared by the use of ardent spirits, and are bringing much injury upon themselves, their families, and the community at large. The construction of Rail-roads in our Province has introduced a great influx of persons of an immoral character—the track of the Railway is almost literally deluged with ardent spirits. Drunkenness does not only injure the temporal interests of men; it endangers the eternal interests of the soul. It is declared in the sacred scriptures that "no drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of heaven." Does it not become us, therefore, as the professed followers of the Redeemer, and as lovers of our fellow-men, to renew our efforts, and to use all means in our power to prevent, if possible, the use of spirituous liquors, and to promote the cause of Temperance throughout the Province. At the present time there is need for combined and strenuous exertion, by all the friends of the Temperance Cause. Your Committee would respectfully recommend to the Pastors of our churches to occasionally preach on the subject of Temperance. They would also suggest the propriety of taking Temperance papers, and purchasing Temperance tracts, to enlighten the minds of the young, and to strengthen and fortify those who are now enlisted under the banner of Total Abstinence, and especially they would urge on all our

churches, by every legitimate means, to obtain from our Legislature a Prohibitory Law, which will both prevent the distilling of spirituous liquors or the importation of them into our Province.

James Reid, Chairman.

(G)

REPORT OF THE DOMESTIC MISSION BOARD.

The present report cannot convey much information to the Association, as very few Missionary appointments were made during the year past—the funds of the Board not justifying much outlay, and those which were made, were not all fulfilled.

Brethren M. Ross, Corey, Charlton and J. Shaw were engaged, and laboured each in the service of the Board. Brother Philp also, though not under the immediate direction of the Board, received from its funds, under the supervision of Rev. W. Burton, to the amount of Five Pounds. The result of this mission shews that it was not labor spent in vain; and is another evidence of the utility of the principle acknowledged both by the Board and this Association, that permanency in Missionary appointments is the great desideratum. Brother Philp labored in his Mission one year. The following is a brief summary:—Visited over 80 families; preached over 160 sermons; organized two Sabbath Schools; baptized 17 persons, added by letter one, making 18 in all added to the Margaree Church, this place, together with Mabou and Port Hood.

Brother H. Ross, missionary to the Gaelic people on Cape Breton, has continued his labours, and represents his mission as becoming more interesting, and opportunities for preaching and labouring, more frequent. He states that "he has preached twice, and sometimes three times, on the Lord's-day, and visited families during the week. Six persons have professed faith in Christ, and will probably be baptized shortly. Ten Pounds have been contributed to the funds by the people. The Board are happy to be able to state that the chapel at Schooner-Pond has advanced so far as to hold meetings in during the summer. The outside is finished. In hopes of getting some assistance from those interested in the object, one individual has advanced the amount necessary to complete the outside of the Chapel, thus saving the building from injury, and affording also a place to assemble for worship,—the Board therefore commend the object to the sympathy and contributions of the friends of the Mission. The conviction having been expressed from time to time, that a more effective plan of operation might be secured by the consolidation of all the Missionary organizations of this province and Prince Edward's Island, the Board is happy now to report that such a plan, it is believed, is in a state of forward-D. W. C. DIMOCK, Secretary.

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(H)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your Committe report, that in their view, the cause of Foreign Missions is second to none in its claims upon the followers of

A vast work is yet to be done.

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What has been done demands our deepest gratitude. Especially would we record our thanksgivings for the success already crowning the efforts of our dear Brother Arthur R. R. Crawley. in addition to the sums of late granted by our Board for the support of Brother Crawley, we approve cordially of sending to him all that can be raised for the purpose of supporting native preachers in Burmah. In this way our money will most directly aid the great object we desire—the carrying of the gospel to the E. F. Foshay, Chairman.

(I)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON COLPORTAGE.

The Committee on Colportage, beg leave to report that, in the opinion of the Committee, more lasting impressions are made upon the minds of the members of Christian Churches, by colportage than by any other known agency, at the same amount of expense and labor. That it happily unites the preaching of the gospel in its most efficient forms, and that practical piety, by which the Church has in past ages been blest; and while it aids settled ministers, by affording them a means of increasing their libraries, it may be considered as a source of interest to Sabbath Schools: and as a most excellent agency for the circulation of cheap religious publications. And that our churches are recommended to give aid to Colportage by their liberal contributions, so as to enable the Golporteur to spend as much time as possible with the destitute, and where Baptists sentiments are not generally diffused. H. CHARLTON, Chairman.

(K)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH.

The Committee on the Observance of the Sabbath beg leave to report that your Committee view with deep regret the light and trifling manner in which many of the sacred hours of the Lord's day are spent by many professing christians, and would recommend to all the members of our Churches, a more consistent and elevated tone of piety, a more heavenly conversation, and a closer conformity to the requirements of God's word on that day—"not doing your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words on my holy day," and that all our ministers frequently call the attention of the Congregations to this important subject. DAVID LAWSON, Chairman.

(L)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON UNION SOCIETIES.

From the inefficient manner in which Union Societies are worked, your Committee are of opinion, that they are scarcely at all in existence in connection with the Churches, so that a report has become a mere matter of form. Your Committee consider the matter of Union Societies under the authority of the Divine law of benevolence eminently adapted to accomplish its purposes. The variety of objects contemplated in these societies awakens sympathy in the mind and are more likely to secure contributions, than any other method we now have before us. Another advantage arising from well organized and active Union Societies is that it educates our people in a most important part of christian duty, and at the same time gives it a practical developement. We would suggest therefore the propriety of the ministers and leading members of our churches taking a more active part in organizing and working these societies. Respectfully submitted.

D. McKeen, Chairman.

W. G. PARKER. Chairman.

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE FRONCH MISSION.

The French Mission is one of the most commendable efforts of Christian benevolence put forth by the church in the present day. The Acadian French are a very interesting but much neglected people. Our beloved Missionary is doing a great work amongst them. Not only has he free access to their houses, and liberty to exhort and pray with them, and shew to them the way of salvation, but he also furnishes them with the Bible, and religious tracts, which they keep, and carefully read. As the Lord has promised that his word shall not return to him void, the precious seed is now sown, which in time, with the divine blessing will produce an abundant harvest. There is now a serious inquiring among this people for the true way of salvation. A few already confess that they have no faith in some of the doctrines of Popery. About six weeks ago one young woman publicly renounced her connexion with this false system, by being baptized by our Missionary, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and there is reason to hope that ere long many more will avow their attachment to the Divine Redeemer.

We would then, dear brethren and friends, bespeak for this mission your Christian sympathies, your fervent prayers, and your liberal benevolence. "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver." "Honour the Lord with your substance and your barns shall be filled with plenty."

EASTERN N. S. BAPTIST ASSOCIATION in acct. with Cyrus Blace Treasurer.

Treasurer.			100
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Antigonish—Do.,	£2. 15	-	5
North Sydney—Home Mission, £3 16s. 41d.; Forei	. 2	4	44
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Five Islands—Home Mission,	5	0	0
Goose River— Do.,	1	0	84
Pugwash— Do.,	0	10	0
Schooner Pond— Do.,	1	6	3
Wallace— Do.,	0	10	0
Upper Londonderry Home M:	1	0	0
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Miss., 3s. 11d.; French Miss., (55 yds. Cloth), £4 2s. St. Mary's 2nd—Home Miss.	ld. 8	7	94
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Baxter, Adolphus,		1	3	Logan, Mrs. H., Senr.,		5	0
Bennett, Miss,		5	0	Logan, Mrs. William,		5	0
Berry, Mrs. Robert,	1	2	6	Logan, Margaret,		5	0
Cutten, W. F., Esq.,		10	0	Logan, Isaac,		1	3
Corbit, Mrs. W. D.,		6	0	Logan, John,		4	44
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Clarkson, Cyrene,		1	3	Logan, M. A.,		2	6
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DeMill, Rev. E. B.,		10	0	Logan, George, 1st,		0	14
Douglass, Benjamin,		12	0	Low, Moses, Esq.,		10	0
Donkin, William,		5	0	Layton, James M.,		7	6
Davidson, Mrs. J. D.,		2	6	Lusby, Thomas.		5	0
Duncarter, Mrs. M.,		2	6	Lusby, Thomas, Lusby, George,		2	6
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Embree, Robert,		7	6	McLellan, R. A.,		3	11
Embree, James,		5	0	McCullum, Miss,		1	3
Embree, Rufus,		5	. 0	Minor, George,		2	6
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No.	B. Douglas, Treasurer Infirm Min. fund, 0 19 104
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Onslo	w, July 8, 1857. £135 18 2
INFIRM	MINISTERS' FUND, EASTERN N. S. BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,
	in account with A. W. MASTERS, Treasurer:
1856.	
	To Cook waid D. J. J.
1857.	To Cash paid Rev. H. Hull, per recpt., £3 0 0
Jan. 9.	" Amon Fat G a -
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1856.	CR. £5 10 0
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A IN HOT	st, N. S., May 1st, 1857.

1856.	DR.		1	March 1
	Balance last year,			
July 8.	To Cash paid Wm. Hall, £21; H. Ross,	£2	15	6
	£20 on account,			
	J. Shaw, on acct. 149s. 4d.; S. Selden,	41	. 0	0
	printing Minutes 80.			
10.	printing Minutes, 80s.	11	. 9	4
	D. Lawson, 140s.; H. Ross, on acct., per			
8.	A. W. Marsters, 48s. 3d,	9	8	3
21.	Old debt due C. Messenger,	5	14	6
Nov. 7.	J. Whidden,	14	10	0
Dec. 15.	R. McDonald,	4	0	0
	A. Shiels,	2	0	0
Nov. 15.	A. Shiels, per N. Sydney church, -	5	0	0
Dec. 15.	C. H. Harrington, for Gaelic Chapel,	30	5	0
1857.				
June 22.	Wm. Burton for Cape Breton Mission,	5	0	0
July 1.	rostage, Registration, &c., to date.	ő		24
7.	Delegation to Central Association, -	3		1000
	J. Shaw, bal., 160s.; H. Ross, bal., 335s.,	0	0	0
	per Treasurer Association,		1.	
	Amount of balance paid to J. Whitman,	24	15	0
	Treasurer Home Mission Carin			
	Treasurer Home Mission Society,	71	8	6
1856.		£230	18	31
	CR.			
July 8.	By amount from A. W. Marsters,	£84	3	09
	" pd. H. Ross,	2	8	3
	. J. Layton, donation,	6	0	0
10.	Mrs. A. Wills,	1	5	0
Aug.	Donation M. A. Upham, deceased,	2	0	0
Sept. 15.	" J. Crowe, 20s; Mrs. Bishop, 5s	, 1	5	0
1	North Sydney Church, per A. Shiels,	5	0	
Dec. 29.	Donation from Mrs S. Dimock,			0
	" " for Goelia Mia	1	0	0
	" for Gaelic Mis		0	0
	" Reniemin Tamala	1	0	0
	Dengamin Lynds	1	5	0
1857.	" from Mr. Bew, per S. Selden,	0	10	0
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June	" from Miss E. Higgins, memorial		•	
	of deceased parents.	1	0	0
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July 6.	C. Black, Treasurer of Association noid	Section 1	alle in	
100 mm	J. Shaw and H. Koss	24	15	0
	Amt. from C. Black, Treasurer Ass'n.,	68	7	0
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INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND, EASTERN N. S. BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, in acct. with B. Douglas, Treasurer.

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	Treasurer.			,
1857. May 1. July 9.	Cr. By amount from late Treasurer, Cash from C. Black,	£42		0 104
			-	

Ministers in the Eastern Association.

£43

9 104

Name.	Present Residence.	Date of Ordination	
T. Keillor. D. Lawson. D. McKeen. M. Parker. Malcolm Ross. Hugh Ross. John Shaw.	St. Mary's. Pugwash. Guysboro'. Canso. Advocate Harbor. Point de Bute. Maccan. Londonderry. Bedeque, P. E. I. Nth. Sydney, C.B. East Point, P.E.I.	March 6, 18: Oct. 18: Dec. 6, 184 Aug. 184 March, 185 July, 184 June 24, 185 March, 185 Sep. 13, 185 Sep. 183 Sep. 184	56. Greenville. 53. Amherst. 11. Chester. 12. Kempt, Hants. 66. Harvey, N. B. 12. Fredericton, N. B. 77. Advocate Harbor 15. Lower Stewiacke. 16. River Hebert. 17. Mira Bay, C. B. 18. Westbrook.

CONSTITUTION OF THE EASTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

ARTICLE 1st.—This body shall be called the Eastern Baptist Association of Nova Scotia, and shall be composed of Delegates appointed by the churches of which they are members together with Delegates from Corresponding Associations, and such others as may by the Association be invited to sit in Council.

ART. 2nd.—Each Church connected with the body may send five Delegates besides its Pastor.

ART. 3rd.—The object of this Association being the cultivation of Christian Union, the promotion of individual godliness and by mutual consultation to seek, in the use of scriptural measures, the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom,—it disclaims all authority over the churches, and shall in no case interfere with their internal concerns, or their entire scriptural independency. Yet it may dissolve its connection with any church that upon sufficient examination shall be judged by the Association to have departed essentially from Scripture principles or Baptist faith and practice.

Art. 4th.—The Association shall meet at such time and place as it may appoint, and the meeting shall be opened with devotional exercises.

ART. 5th.—The officers of the Association shall be—a Moderator, whe shall preside at all the meetings, nominate all the Committees, and perform all the duties naturally connected with such an office,—a Clerk, who shall keep a record of all the business transacted, prepare the Minutes for the press, and attend to their distribution,—and a Treasurer, who shall receive all the monies contributed for the purposes of the Association, and dispose of them according to its direction.

ART. 6th.—The Association may receive any church, which by letter shall apply for admission, and shall give satisfactory evidence of its faith and order; and each church belonging to this body, shall send annually a letter, containing an account of its history for the year preceeding, particularly of its additions and diminutions, with its number then in fellowship; also money to assist in publishing the Minutess and any Church that for the three successive years omits sending letters, delegates, or money, shall be considered withdrawn from the Association, and shall be discontinued from the Minutes unless sufficient reason may appear to account for the omission, or provided it may appear desirable to make some enquiry by Committee or otherwise, and report at the next meeting of the Association.

Art. 7th.—This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members at any annual meeting of the Association.

ART. 8th.—The Religious sentiments of this Body are those expressed in the Articles of the "Faith and Practice of the Baptist Churches in Nova-Scotia."

RULES OF ORDER.

Rule 1.—After religious worship, the officers shall be chosen by ballot: the Moderator of the preceding year, or in his absence the Clerk, shall call the Association to order.

 $\mathrm{Rule}\ 2.$ —The first letter read shall be from the Church with which the Association is assembled.

RULE 3.—No subject shall be discussed without a metion first made and seconded, and no person shall speak on any subject more than twice unless by consent of the Association.

RULE 4.—When any Church is received the Moderator shall give to one of its delegates the right hand of fellowship.

RULE 5.—At the commencement of each sitting, the Minutes of the preceding one shall be read and approved, and of the last sitting, before the final adjournment.

Rule 6.—Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the Minutes, except so ordered by the Association.

Rule 7 .- All resolutions shall be presented in writing.

RULE 8.—Each meeting for business shall be commenced and concluded with prayer.

Rule 9.—No delegate shall leave the Association before the business is finished, without permission of the body.

RULE 10.—These Rules shall be read by the Moderator at the commencement of every annual sitting of the Association.