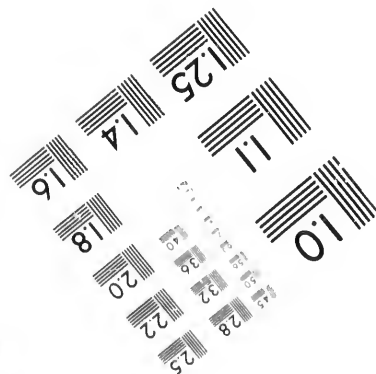
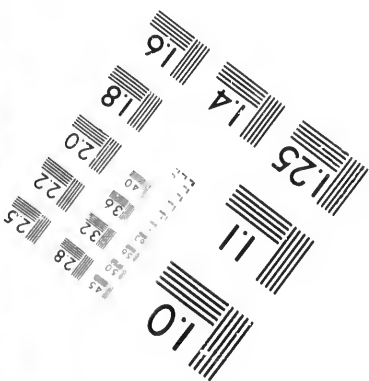
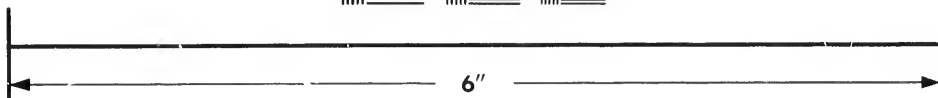
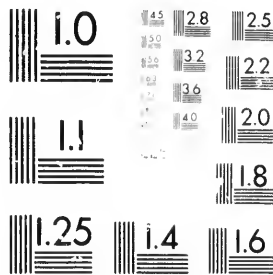


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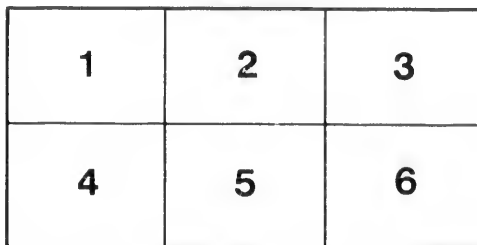
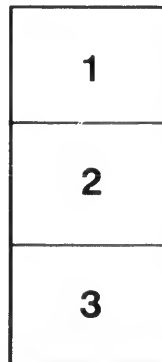
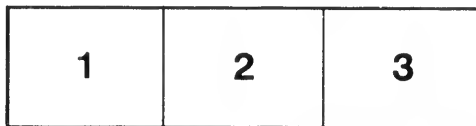
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MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIRST SESSION

OF THE

Central Baptist Association

OF

NOVA SCOTIA,

*Held with the Baptist Church at Billtown, Kings County, Saturday,
Monday and Tuesday, June 25th, 27th and 28th,
with the Circular Letter, &c.*

HALIFAX, N. S.
CHRISTIAN MESSENGER OFFICE,
1881.

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MINUTES.

BILLTOWN, KINGS CO.,
Saturday Morning, June 25th, 1881.

The Nova Scotia Central Baptist Association began its Thirty-first Session at 10 o'clock, A. M. Moderator, Rev. J. W. Manning, present. Meeting opened by singing the 353rd hymn. Prayer was offered by the Rev. D. Freeman.

While the list of delegates was being prepared, the Association engaged in devotional exercises.

The following list of delegates was presented :

LIST OF DELEGATES.

Aylesford, Upper,—Rev. J. L. Read, and Dea. B. Graves.

Aylesford, Lower,—Rev. F. Beattie, Brethren Jos. Eaton, L. S. Tufts, and George Roach.

Bridgewater,—Rev. S. March.

Cambridge,—Rev. J. E. Blakeney, Deas. C. W. F. Webster, James Craig, Isaac Shaw, and Bro. L. Sweet.

Chester,—Rev. J. W. Weeks, Brethren Stephen Corkum, Maynard Borgald, and Jas. Rafuse.

Cornwallis 1st,—Deas. Joshua Ells, C. F. Eaton, Wm. R. Thomas, Brethren J. E. Lockwood, and Wm. North.

Cornwallis 2nd, (Berwick)—Rev. J. C. Bleakney, Deas. A. T. Baker, John Rand, A. M. Wheelock, Brethren Edward Parker, and Joseph Dimock.

Cornwallis 3rd, (Billtown)—Rev. W. J. Swaffield, Deas. C. E. Parker, W. C. Bill, Wm. Roscoe, J. G. Lantz, and E. Kilcup.

Cornwallis 5th, (Pereaux)—Rev. D. Freeman, Deas. Holmes Davidson, E. C. West, Brethren Samuel McKeen, and M. W. Sandford.

Cornwallis 6th, (Canning)—Deas. L. C. Woodworth, William Meek, Brethren Harris North, W. H. Robinson, and R. D. G. Harris.

Dartmouth—Rev. E. J. Grant.

Ellershouse—Rev. A. T. Dykenian.

Falmouth,—Deas. A. Shaw, Jas. Layton, and Lewis Messenger.

Halifax 1st, (Granville Street)—Rev. E. M. Saunders, Dea. S. Selden, and Bro. J. W. Rhuland.

Halifax 2nd, (North)—Rev. J. W. Manning.

Halifax 3rd, (Tabernacle)—Rev. J. F. Avery, Dea. B. Hubley, Brethren F. Gibson, and Cyrus Hubley.

Hammonds Plains 1st—Dea. John Thomas.

Hantsport,—Bro. J. W. Churchill.

Horton 1st, (Wolfville)—Rev. S. W. DeBlois, D. D., Deas. J. W. Barss, M. L. Cleaveland, Profs. A. W. Sawyer, D. D., D. F. Higgins, and Bro. A. Coldwell.

Horton 2nd, (Gas, pereax)—Rev. J. Williams, Dea. Andrew Coldwell, Brethren Edward Davidson, and Ebenezer Coldwell.

Indian Harbour,—Rev. A. W. Barss.

Kempt, Hants Co.,—Rev. George Weathers, Dea. Joseph Marsters, and Bro. Stephen Langille.

Kentville,—Rev. Dr. Armstrong, Deas. T. H. Borden, B. H. Illsley, Brethren Robert Harrington, and Henry Lovitt.

Lahave—Rev. S. March.

Lunenburg—Dea. John Andrews.

Maitland—Rev. Isaiah Wallace.

New Germany,—Rev. M. W. Brown, and Bro. L. Delong.

Newport,—Rev. A. T. Dykeman.

Pleasantville,—Rev. S. March.

Rawdon,—Rev. I. Wallace, and Bro. John McLearn.

Sackville,—Bro. Francis Webber.

St. Margaret's Bay 1st,—Rev. A. W. Barss.

St. Margaret's Bay 2nd,—Rev. A. W. Barss.

Walton,—Rev. I. Wallace.

Windsor,—Rev. E. M. Kierstead, Brethren A. P. Shand, J. O. Redden, (Lic.), and L. K. Bennett.

Windsor Plains,—A. W. Jordan.

N. S. Western Association,—Rev. T. A. Higgins.

Invited to seats,—Revds. John Rowe, W. L. Parker, N. Vidito, Alex. Esterbrooks, A. Cogswell; Brethren R. Illsley, (Lic.), A. H. Williams, (Lic.), J. F. Heropath, John Lyons, J. C. Potter, Chas. Skinner, James Bligh W. S. Sweet, A. A. Pineo, George Parker, Emmerson Illsley, Revds. J. T. Eaton, J. M. Parker, Bro. J. R. Hutchinson, and Rev. L. Welton.

The Officers were then elected :

Moderator,—Rev. E. M. Saunders.

Secretary,—Rev. M. W. Brown.

Assistant Secretary,—Bro. James Craig.

Treasurer,—Bro. W. S. Sweet.

Assistant Treasurer,—Bro. A. T. Baker.

The Committee on Nominations was appointed: Bro. J. W. Barss, Revds. D. Freeman, J. L. Read, J. F. Avery, A. W. Barss, and Bro. Edward Parker.

The following Committees were appointed :

TO EXAMINE LETTERS.—Prof. D. F. Higgins, Revds. F. Beattie, and I. Wallace.

TO READ LETTERS.—Revds. J. W. Manning, and S. March.

ON QUESTIONS IN LETTERS.—Same Committee as to Examine Letters.

The Letters from the Churches were then read.

The Committee on Nomination reported, recommending :

That the Committees appointed last year be made to stand as follows:

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ON CIRCULAR LETTER.—Rev. E. M. Saunders, Brethren H. Lovitt, and A. A. Pineo.

ON BENEVOLENT FUNDS.—Revds. S. March, J. E. Bleakney, Brethren Mark Curry, J. W. Barss, Albert Coldwell, and W. C. Bill.

ON EDUCATION.—Revds. George Armstrong, D. D., S. W. DeBlois, D. D., A. W. Sawyer, D. D., J. L. Read, J. W. Manning, and Prof. D. F. Higgins.

ON MISSIONS.—Revds. I. Wallace, J. C. Bleakney, J. W. Weeks, J. Williams, E. J. Grant, and W. J. Swaffield.

ON OBITUARIES.—Revds. F. Beattie, D. Freeman, Brethren S. Selden, J. W. Ells, H. K. Eaton, and Edward Parker.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.—Brethren J. E. Lockwood, Henry Lovitt, A. T. Baker, and Andrew Shaw.

ON TEMPERANCE.—Rev. D. Freeman, Brethren, J. W. Rhuland, S. Langille, Henry Lovitt, and A. H. Williams, (Lic).

ON ARRANGEMENTS.—Revds. W. J. Swaffield, Geo. Armstrong, D. D., J. E. Bleakney, J. C. Bleakney, S. W. DeBlois, D. D., Brethren J. E. Lockwood, W. C. Bill, W. S. Sweet, C. F. Eaton, and A. T. Baker.

Report adopted.

Committee on Arrangements reported as follows :

Your Committee beg respectfully to recommend the following arrangements :

That a prayer-meeting be held each morning of Association at 6.30 o'clock, and at 9.15 o'clock.

That the morning sessions be held from 10.00 to 12.30; afternoon, 2.30 to 5.30; evening, 7.30.

That the reading of Letters be the first business in order.

That a Temperance Meeting be held this evening, to be addressed by Revds. J. F. Avery, and N. Vidito, Brethren H. Lovitt, and Langille, to be opened after for general discussion.

Your Committee further recommend the following

SABBATH APPOINTMENTS.

Billtown Baptist Church—10.30 A. M. Rev. E. M. Saunders.
2.30 P. M. Sabbath School meeting conducted by Revds. J. F. Avery, and F. Beattie.

6.30 P. M. Rev. N. Vidito.

Billtown Presbyterian Church—10.30 A. M. Rev. S. March.

Woodville Hall—3.00 P. M. Rev. W. L. Parker.

Mountain Hall—11.00 A. M. Rev. A. W. Barss.

Kentville Baptist Church—11.00 A. M. Rev. J. Rowe.

7.00 P. M. Rev. T. A. Higgins.

Cunning Baptist Church—7.00 P. M. Rev. A. T. Dyken:an.

Pereaux Baptist Church—11.00 A. M. Rev. A. T. Dykeman.

Cambridge Baptist Church—3.00 P. M. Rev. E. J. Grant.

Grafton—11.00 A. M. Rev. E. J. Grant.

Black Rock—11.00 A. M. Rev. D. Freeman.

Canard Baptist Church—11.00 A. M. Rev. J. W. Manning.

Port Williams—4.00 P. M. Rev. J. W. Weeks.

Lower Canard—7.00 P. M. Rev. J. L. Read.

Upper Canard—7.00 P. M. Rev. J. T. Eaton.

Be Wick --11.00 A. M. Rev. John Williams.

7.00 P. M. Rev. A. Esterbrooks.

Somerset—3.00 P. M. Rev. G. Wethers.

Harborville—3.00 P. M. Bro. A. Williams.

They further recommend that collections be taken at all Baptist houses of worship for Home Missions.

That the Associational Sermon be preached on Monday morning at 10.00 o'clock, to be followed by the reading of the Circular Letter.

After reading of Letters, addresses on the state of religion in the Association be delivered by Revds. Dr. Armstrong, and D. Freeman; and that the report on Temperance follow.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. E. J. Grant.

Saturday—Afternoon Session.

Prayer was offered by Bro. A. T. Baker.

Minutes of last session read and approved.

The Committee appointed read the remaining Letters.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Arrangements, forty minutes were given for speaking upon the state of religion in the churches of this Association. Earnest and stirring speeches were made by Revds. D. Freeman, Dr. Armstrong, I. Wallace, and N. Vidito.

Prayer offered by Rev. A. Cogswell.

Committee of Arrangements further reported as follows:

On Monday afternoon the Report of the Committee on Education to be received, and addresses delivered by Revds. Dr. Crawley, Dr. Sawyer, Dr. Welton, Dr. DeBlois, and J. W. Barss, Esq., to be followed by Reports of other Committees in order.

In the evening the Committee on Home and Foreign Missions to report. Addresses by Revds. T. A. Higgins, A. Esterbrooks, Bro. Hutchinson, (missionary elect), and Mrs. W. F. Armstrong.

Tuesday morning that reports of Committees be received in order.

Afternoon, continuation of routine business.

On Tuesday evening a sermon be preached by Rev. J. C. Bleakney, to be followed by a social meeting.

Report on Temperance was then read by Rev. D. Freeman.

Resolved, That it be laid on the table, and taken up this evening.

Rev. J. W. Manning submitted and moved the following resolution, seconded by Rev. Dr. Armstrong, and spoken to by Prof. D. F. Higgins, and Rev. J. Rowe:

Whereas, It appears that differences of such a serious nature have arisen between the Foreign Mission Board and our missionaries, Brother and Sister Armstrong, as to have caused their withdrawal from the service of the Foreign Missionary Board, because its spirit and policy, in their judgment, have been such as to have prevented them from working with that degree of comfort to themselves, and

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satisfaction to the people supporting them as they might have done under other circumstances ;

And whereas, It is announced that a successor to Bro. Armstrong has been appointed by the Foreign Missionary Board without first consulting the Convention, and arrangements made for his immediate departure ;

Therefore resolved, That this Association cannot approve of the course pursued by the Board, either in accepting the resignation of Bro. Armstrong, or in appointing his successor, until it shall have been shown that every effort has been made to comply with the reasonable wishes of the missionaries.

Resolved that it be laid on the table.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. J. E. Bleakney.

Saturday—Evening Session.

Prayer offered by Rev. F. Beattie.

Minutes of last session read and approved.

A few minutes were given to devotional exercises, after which the Report on Temperance was read the second time, and spoken to by Rev. N. Vidito, Brethren H. Lovitt, S. Langille, and Rev. J. F. Avèry. Report was adopted. (See Appendix A).

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. I. Wallace.

Monday—Morning Session.

Prayer was offered by Rev. J. T. Eaton.

Minutes of last session read and approved.

The Associational Sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Armstrong.

The Circular Letter having been reported upon before, was read by the writer, Rev. S. March ; subject, "Co-operation in Christian Effort."

Resolved, That the Letter be adopted and printed in the Minutes ; and *Christian Messenger*.

Also suggested that it be read to each church by its pastor or clerk as soon as published.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Association be extended to Rev. Dr. Armstrong for his Sermon, and that he be requested to forward it to the editor of the *Christian Messenger* for publication.

The Report on Obituaries was read by Rev. F. Beattie. Was discussed by Revds. I. Wallace, Dr. Armstrong, D. Freeman, and E. M. Saunders. Report was adopted. (See Appendix B).

The Committee on Questions in Letters reported as follows :

1st. We recommend that the brief record of Newport Church be read before this Association, and published in the Minutes.

2nd. That this Association refer the matter of publishing the Minutes with the Year Book to the consideration of the Convention.

3rd. That the invitation from the Chester Church for the next meeting of the Association be accepted.

Report adopted.

Adjourned with prayer.

Monday—Afternoon Session.

Prayer by Rev. J. C. Bleakney.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

An abstract of the History of the Newport Baptist Church was read and voted to be printed in the Minutes. (See Appendix C).

The Report on Sabbath Schools was read by Bro. Henry Lovitt. On motion, the Report was laid upon the table.

The subject of Education was then taken up, the Chairman of the Committee being absent, speeches were made by Revds. Dr. Sawyer, Dr. Crawley, Dr. Welton, Bro. J. W. Barss, and Rev. Dr. DeBlois. The Chairman having arrived, the Report on Education was read by Rev. Dr. Armstrong, and further spoken to by Rev. David Freeman, Prof. Higgins, Revds. Dr. Armstrong, E. M. Saunders, N. Vidito, and I. Wallace. Report adopted. (See Appendix D).

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. J. W. Manning.

Monday—Evening Session.

Association opened with prayer by Rev. A. W. Barss.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

A letter from Rev. J. W. Manning, Secretary of Board of Ministerial Relief and Aid Fund was read, asking that the Infirm Ministers' Fund be passed over to the Treasurer of said Board.

Resolved, That the letter lay upon the table until the Report of the Committee on Infirm Ministers' Fund be read.

The Report on Missions was read by Rev. I. Wallace. Discussed by Revds. I. Wallace, A. W. Barss, T. A. Higgins, Alex. Estabrooks, and Mrs. Armstrong. A collection was taken for Foreign Missions. The Report was recommitted.

Adjourned with prayer by Rev. Dr. Armstrong.

Tuesday—Morning Session.

Association opened with prayer by Rev. Dr. Armstrong.

Report of Treasurer of Infirm Ministers' Fund read and adopted.

The following resolution was adopted :

In view of the present position of the Board of Ministerial Relief and Aid Fund, the same having been duly incorporated, and considering that the management of this Fund can be much better conducted by one Board than three;

Therefore resolved, That this Association concur in the belief, and that the funds in the hands of our Board be at once handed over to the Board above mentioned, agreeably to the request of said Board as communicated by the letter of the Secretary now before this Association.

Committee on Missions again reported. Report adopted without discussion. (See Appendix E).

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Report on Denominational Literature read by Bro. A. P. Shand. Spoken to by Revds. J. W. Manning, E. M. Kierstead, I. Wallace, Prof. Higgins, Rev. Dr. Armstrong, Bro. S. Selden, and others. Report adopted. (See Appendix F).

Resolved, That the Rev. Dr. Crawley be requested to furnish for publication in the *Christian Messenger*, the speech he delivered here yesterday on Education, to be preserved as an expression of his ripest views on the subject of sacred learning.

The Sabbath School Report was then taken from the table, re-read, discussed, and adopted. (See Appendix G).

The Report of the Committee on Benevolent Funds was read by Rev. S. March, and adopted. (See Appendix H).

Report of Committee on Nominations was read by Rev. D. Freeman, and adopted, as follows :

The Committee on Nominations recommend that the following brethren constitute the Committees for 1882 at the Association in Chester:

TO PREACH THE ASSOCIATIONAL SERMON.—Rev. J. C. Bleakney ; alternate, Rev. A. W. Barss.

TO WRITE THE CIRCULAR LETTER.—Rev. W. J. Swaffield.

ON THE CIRCULAR LETTER.—Rev. J. F. Avery, Brethren S. Selden, and Andrew Shaw.

ON DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE.—Revds. D. Freeman, E. M. Kierstead, Prof. D. F. Higgins, Rev. George Armstrong, D. D., and Bro. A. P. Shand.

ON BENEVOLENT FUNDS.—Bro. J. W. Barss, Rev. S. March, Bro. Francis Webber, Revds. Isaiah Wallace, and J. E. Bleakney.

ON EDUCATION.—Revds. S. W. DeBlois, D. D., A. W. Sawyer, D. D., E. M. Saunders, A. M., Brethren Prof. Dr. Schurman, and E. D. King.

ON MISSIONS.—Revds. J. W. Manning, George Weathers, Isaiah Wallace, A. T. Dykeman, Brethren W. C. Bill, M. P. P., Charles Whitman, and Rev. E. J. Grant.

ON OBITUARIES.—Revds. George Armstrong, D. D., E. Whitman, John Williams, E. O. Read, and Bro. X. Z. Chipman.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.—Rev. J. L. Read, Brethren J. E. Lockwood, C. F. Eaton, Andrew Chipman, Edward Beckwith, Benjamin Covey, and M. P. King.

ON TEMPERANCE.—Revds. F. Beattie, D. O. Parker, Brethren Mark Curry, H. Lovitt, and S. Langille.

ON ARRANGEMENTS.—Rev. J. W. Weeks, Brethren Charles Smith, M. P. P., Dr. DeWitt, Jos. Bezanson, Hiram Hennigar, C. M. Huxford, Joseph Lantz, Revds. L. B. Gates, M. W. Brown, A. W. Barss, E. M. Kierstead, and S. March.

ON HISTORY OF CHURCHES.—Revds. S. B. Kempton, Geo. Armstrong, Brethren P. D. Lavers, Joshua Ells, and H. K. Eaton. The history of the Cornwallis 1st be presented next year, with a notice of the churches which have sprung therefrom.

BOARD OF INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.—Revds. D. Freeman, S. B. Kempton, Brethren H. Lovitt, C. F. Eaton, J. W. Barss, Jas. S. Morse, and Prof. D. F. Higgins.

ON TRACTS.—Revds. E. M. Kierstead, J. W. Manning, and Bro. A. P. Shand.

The Chairman of each Committee is requested to prepare a paper to present to the next Association on the subjects assigned them, or to procure the preparation of such a paper.

Also, that the Clerk of this Association correspond with the different Chairmen of the several Committees, and remind them of what is expected of them.

Also, that the Committee of Arrangements take all needful steps to have the business of the next Association prepared at its assembling.

Resolved, That Brethren Henry Lovitt, A. P. Shand, F. Webber, W. C. Bill, M. P. P., and S. Selden be our delegates to the Convention.

Resolved, That Bro. S. Selden, Rev. E. M. Saunders, and Prof. D. F. Higgins be our delegates to the P. E. Island Association.

Resolved, That Rev. E. M. Saunders, Prof. D. F. Higgins, and Bro. S. Selden be our delegates to the N. S. Eastern Association.

Resolved, That Revds. J. C. Bleakney, S. March, M. W. Brown, and J. W. Weeks be our delegates to the N. S. Western Association.

Resolved, That Bro. S. Selden, Revds. J. W. Manning, and J. F. Avery be a Committee on printing Minutes, and that 1,000 copies of Minutes be printed, and that 50 copies be reserved for next Association.

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this Association be given, 1st. To brethren and friends of Billtown who have so bountifully entertained the delegates and visitors. 2nd. To the W. & A. Railway Co. for reduction of fares to delegates. 3rd. To Mr. T. E. Smith, of Lower Church Street, for the beautiful bouquet of flowers upon the table in front of the pulpit. 4th. To the Moderator for his orderly, dignified, and Christian-like manner of conducting the business of this Association.

The Report of the Treasurer of the Association was read and adopted.

Resolved, That after paying the expenses of the Association, the Treasurer hand the funds over to the Treasurers of the different Boards for the purposes designated.

Resolved, That after the present year moneys be collected from the different churches for printing the Minutes, and that a column for that purpose be made in the blank forms.

Minutes of this session read and approved.

Adjourned by singing the Doxology, and with prayer by the Moderator, to meet with the church at Chester, on the Saturday following the 20th of June, 1882.

E. M. SAUNDERS, *Moderator*.

M. W. BROWN, } *Clerks*.
JAS. CRAIG, }

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CIRCULAR LETTER.

CO-OPERATION IN CHRISTIAN EFFORT.

THE CIRCULAR LETTER FROM THE N. S. CENTRAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, TO THE CHURCHES OF WHICH IT IS COMPOSED.

Dearlly Beloved Brethren,—

In this our Annual letter we wish to ask your prayerful attention to the subject of—

CO-OPERATION IN CHRISTIAN EFFORT.

The Christian Church is emphatically a co-operative society. Its objects and aims are intended to enlist the sympathies, engage the attention, and employ the activities of all its members; of the younger and less experienced, as well as of the older and more experienced; of those who possess small abilities and influence, as well as of those who have been blessed with larger capacities and enjoy wider spheres of usefulness. As in the commonwealth the humblest citizens no less than the most exalted, have a legitimate field for the exercise of their powers and talents, and fill a necessary, and therefore an *important* part, in contributing to the well-being of the community at large, so in the Church of Christ, the smallest and weakest of His disciples have duties and obligations not less imperative and binding than those who are called to act in more prominent and influential positions. This fact is too often, entirely ignored or forgotten, and at best is but partially recognized or understood. Hence much toil, anxiety, and responsibility fall to the lot of the few, instead of being borne and relieved by the active endeavors of the many.

The wise man reminds us that "two is better than one, and a three-fold cord is not easily broken." This truth finds an illustration in the co-operation of individual christians with each other in carrying out the objects for which the christian church has been established. Under the former Dispensation the hands of Moses, though an eminent servant of the Lord, required to be strengthened by the support which Aaron and Hur could render him; and without which his fervent prayers would soon have lost their prevalency; and when these were *combined*, they would still have been valueless, if the whole body of the Israelities had not meanwhile, vigorously contended against their foes upon the battlefield. Do we not find here the secret of much of our apparent want of success? Christian ministers labor and pray, but those whose duty it is to stand by

them and uphold their hands, fail, too frequently, to render the needed aid; or the rank and file of Christians cease to wage war against the common adversaries. Hence the value and importance of the principle of co-operation. It gives energy to individual Christian character, tends to strengthen the weak hands, and to confirm the feeble knees." Many a believer would falter without the support and sympathy which his fellow-christian can and should render. Many a harp would hang upon the willow, and long remain untuned to praise, if some believer whose heart was expanding with gratitude did not say, "Come magnify the Lord *with me*, and let us exalt His Name *together*."

This co-operation will be exhibited in the following particulars :

I. *In the maintenance of the Public Worship of God.* It would seem to be a superfluous task to attempt to shew the necessity for so doing. The very genius of Christianity requires it. Yet an inspired Apostle found it needful to admonish some in his day, "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together, as the manner of some is." And, dear brethren, it is greatly to be feared, that quite a number of professed christians in our own day, who reside within the range of our several churches, need to have this admonition pressed upon their attention. Many habitually absent themselves from the house of God, and from the public and social means of grace, who would feel themselves aggrieved if they should be charged with violation of duty and be disciplined for so doing. In many instances the hands of the Lord's people are greatly weakened, and the hearts of His ministers pained by the apathy and neglect evinced by those who might, with a little consideration and effort, swell the ranks of the worshippers "who go up to the house of the Lord," to pay their homage unto Him, and keep holy-day.

II. *By frequently meeting together to offer united earnest prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and for the enlargement and prosperity of Zion.*

To some extent this is admitted to be requisite to the existence and growth of the church of Christ. And yet this duty is not as fully recognized as it should be. Are there not many members of churches in our towns and villages and rural districts, who speak disparagingly of meetings for prayer, remarking, "Oh! it's only a prayer-meeting"? and who upon the slightest pretext, of business or pleasure, absent themselves from all such gatherings? Is it not true that by far the majority of Church members do not make a practice of attending these services. Various excuses are framed by them in palliation of this neglect, most, if not all, of which are without any solid foundation. What if all the members of the church in any given locality, who were not prevented by affliction, or some un'orseen special event, should resolve to be present at the next meeting for prayer, and should go invoking the Divine blessing upon themselves and upon the service; what a change would be produced! a change so great that it would be regarded as a revival

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in itself; and how would the service, in consequence, assume a warmth and effectiveness altogether soul enlivening and surprizing! And if this simple act of christian duty should continue to be repeated from week to week, would not the prayers become more and more earnest, and the exhortations more powerful, and the number of witnesses greatly multiply? "For, as iron sharpeneth iron, so doth the countenance of a man his friend." And what an influence would be thereby produced upon the world! "Where have all these been"? asks the worldlings as they disperse. "To a prayer-meeting," is the reply. "I will go next time," and "I will go also," will be the responses from not a few. And thus multitudes will be brought beneath the hallowed influence of a piety which glows in hearts beating with sacred ardour and whose every pulsation testifies that they have been breathing the atmosphere of heaven. The early disciples thus "gathered themselves together for prayer." The apostle Paul exhorts them to pray "one for another," and "for all men," "that the word of the Lord may run, have free course and be glorified." And this they should do not only "in secret," but also being "all, with one accord, in one place." Such meetings could not fail to be pleasing to God, gladdening to the hearts of christians, and forcefully impressive even to a gain-saying world.

III. *By the use of admonitions and exhortations to stimulate faith, and incite to zealous activity in the cause of Christ.* "Exhort one another," says the inspired Apostle, "and so much the more as ye see the day approaching." In this way private christians can on fitting occasions very greatly second and aid the work of the christian minister. In social meetings, and amid their daily occupations, they can do much to advance the work of Christ, and bring those who profess to love Him to a higher plane of spiritual life, and thus become "co-workers together with God." The time has not yet arrived when the christian church can afford to move on without these very excellent and apostolic methods of mutual helpfulness.

IV. *By employing all the talents, and all the means in their possession, and under their control in promoting the work of God.* Much latent talent lies unimproved in many of our churches, which should be turned to good account and bring a revenue of glory to the Master. Alas! many use their talents in every other cause but the cause of Christ. Tongues so eloquent on other themes, are tied when they are required to speak for Him. How little of that enthusiastic zeal and love is manifested in our day, which found expression in the words of the poet.

"Had I ten thousand thousand tongues,
Not one should silent be;
Had I ten thousand thousand hearts,
I'd give them all to Thee."

There are abundant fields for usefulness open inviting the employment of every gift and talent with which each member of the church has been entrusted. Many of our *Sabbath Schools* are wasting and languishing for lack of instructors, ready and willing to lay them-

selves upon the altar of the Lord,—to impart the truths of the gospel to the young. *The great importance* of this work is not as fully realized or understood by our churches as it should be. How necessary to fix the blessed truths of religion in the youthful mind, before it becomes blighted and hardened by the corrupting influences of the world, Satan and Sin, and that too, in an interesting and attractive form, permeated with the spirit which it constantly breathes, and made palatable by the earnest, loving manner in which it is communicated. Certainly no employment can be more honorable and ennobling both to the instructors and the instructed; and none will better repay the labor and pains which are expended, when it is undertaken with faith in God, and in full dependence upon His blessing. From this source the larger proportion of the recruits to our membership must be expected to come.

Tract Distribution also affords a field in which some may very profitably be employed, and has often proved a great blessing to those who have enjoyed its benefits. Here some of our younger brethren and sisters may find a sphere of labor, which may, under God, prove an unspeakable blessing both to themselves and others.

More especially should we co-operate in our efforts to spread the gospel among the destitute in our own, as well as in other lands. The heart that throbs not in earnest longings for the salvation of the perishing, knows little of the true spirit of Christ, and he who is unwilling to employ some portion of his means for the purpose of reaching out the helping hand to others, has not yet realized his own helplessness, nor the debt of obligation under which we are all laid for the wondrous love which Christ has displayed towards a fallen world. Still further, there is need of co-operation in the carrying forward of *our Educational and Benevolent Institutions*. These had their origin in the prayers, the sacrifices and the labors of our sainted fathers, for the elevation of the masses of our people, and for the education of our young men and women, the better to fit them to enter upon the work of the Lord in every department and vocation of life. Never was there a greater or more imperative obligation devolving upon us as individuals, or as churches, than at present, to rally ourselves, and strain every nerve to place our Educational Institutions upon that vantage ground, which in view of our ancestry and heritage they ought to occupy. Relieved, as they now are from all connection with the State, we must aim to place them upon the very loftiest pinnacle of the Temple of Science, and pour our sympathies and prayers, yes, and our dollars and cents too, and that in no stinted measure into the undertaking. Let us in these departments, as well as in our Missionary zeal and liberality, “attempt great things for God” and “expect great things from God.” Let those whom God has blessed with wealth “make to themselves friends” of the same, by employing it largely in the service of their Divine Master, and let those whose means are small, at least cast in their “mite” into the treasury. The cents of the poor may be as fruitful in the Lord’s service as the dollars

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Finally, word and w and let us m impelled by Before us, ranish and movement; the work of

of the rich. Thus there will not fail to be an abundance for carrying forward all our denominational work, and even widely to enlarge the circle of our operations. Let it not be objected that all this will require great sacrifices, and that in view of financial depression and losses experienced in many localities, there are too many heavy burdens laid upon us, and that we should retrench rather than enlarge our efforts. We reply that a christian church is not worthy of her name which is not always ready to sacrifice everything to the demands of truth, virtue, and religion; if she must retrench let her begin with worldly things. Less of show, more of substance, —less of self, more of Christ, less of the earthly more of the heavenly.

Finally, dear brethren, let us shew a united front in every good word and work; stand together in single file, and in solid phalanx; and let us move forward with the irresistible force of men and women impelled by the love of Christ; whom zeal for God consumes. Before us, mountains will sink to plains; —difficulties and foes will vanish and melt away; —light and blessing will attend our every movement; “the beauty of the Lord our God will be upon us,” and the work of our hands will He establish.

Ministers of the N. S. Central Baptist Association.

NAME.	Place of residence.	Date of Ordination.	Place of Ordination.
Rev. Armstrong, Geo., D. D.	Kentville	Dec. 31, 1848	Port Medway.
" Avery, J. F.	Halifax	Oct. 20, 1870	Tawstock, G. B.
" Bancroft, J.	Walton	March —, 1849	Rawdon.
" Bleakney, J. E.	Cambridge	—, 1867	Richmond, N. B.
" Bars, A. W.	St. Margarets Bay.	June, —, 1855	North West, Lun. Co.
" Bleakney, J. C.	Berwick	—, 1861	Richmond, N. B.
" Brown, M. W., A. B.	New Germany	July 21, 1876	Elershouse.
" Cramp, J. M., D. D.	Wolfville	May 7, 1818	London, G. B.
" Crawley, E. A., D. D.	Wolfville	May 28, 1880	Providence, R. I.
" Crawley, F. D., A. B.	Newton Centre, Mass.	Sept. 22, 1876	Pleasantville.
" DeBlois, S. W., D. D.	Wolfville	Feb. 26, 1854	Chester.
" Dykeman, A. T.	Newport	—, —	Newport.
" Freeman, D., A. M.	Canning	Aug. 1, 1855	Halifax.
" Gates, L. B.	Mahone Bay	Sept. 24, 1861	New Cornwall.
" Kempton, S. B., A. M.	Canard	Sept. 15, 1863	New Minas.
" Kierstead, E. M., A. B.	Windsor	Dec. 5, 1876	Yarmouth.
" Lucas, Wallace	Hammonds Plains	—, —	Hammonds Plains.
" Manning, J. W., A. B.	Halifax	March —, 1868	Port Hawksbury, C. B.
" March, Stephen	Bridgewater	July 5, 1856	St. Francis, N. B.
" Miller, John	Halifax	—, —	—, —
" McLeod, Daniel	Kempt	—, —	—, —
" Parker, D. O., A. M.	Berwick	March 23, 1861	Liverpool.
" Philp, K. R., A. B.	Halifax	Oct. 12, 1856	Margaree, C. B.
" Pineo, D.	Long Point	Dec. 24, 1844	Greenwich.
" Read, E. O.	Kingston, Aylesford.	Jan. 8, 1858	Gaspereaux.
" Read, J. L.	Upper Aylesford	June 30, 1858	Hopewell, N. B.
" Saunders, E. M., A. M.	Halifax	Dec. 15, 1858	Berwick.
" Sawyer, A. W., D. D.	Wolfville	Dec. 27, 1853	Lawrence, Mass.
" Shaw, D. G.	Halifax	Jan. 24, 1860	Falmouth.
" Spencer, William	Hammonds Plains.	May 6, 1875	New Minas.
" Swaffield, Walter J.	Billtown	Sept. —, 1850	Port Hawkesbury.
" Wallace, Isaiah, A. M.	Wolfville	April 3, 1856	Scotchtown, N. B.
" Welton, D. M., Ph. D.	Wolfville	Sept. 2, 1857	Windsor.
" Welton, Sydney	Canard	Sept. —, 1873	Cumberland Bay, N. B.
" Weathers, George	Kempt	May 12, 1864	Newport.
" Whitman, Edward	Hantsport	Aug. 13, 1872	Lockeport.
" Williams, John	Gaspereaux	Jan. 18, 1862	Centreville, N. B.

LICENTIATES.

Dartmouth,—R. M. Hunt, A. B.
 North Church, Halifax,—I. C. Archibald, A. B.
 Hammonds Plains,—Christopher Haverstock.
 Wolfville,—A. Freeman, A. B.
 Gaspereaux,—B. W. Lockhart, A. B.
 Mahone Bay,—Caleb Spidle, H. E. S. Malder.
 Newport,—E. H. Sweet.
 Windsor,—J. O. Redden, A. B.; E. R. Curry, A. B.
 Lower Aylesford,—W. H. Robinson, A. B.
 Berwick,—Chas. Norwood, Randal Hilsley.

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APPENDIX.

(A)

Report of Committee on Temperance.

The Committee on Temperance would urge the necessity of increased earnestness in promoting this good cause. The exigency of the times demands that the members of the churches should, by an example of total abstinence, and consistent effort, keep themselves clear in this matter; and the churches in their ordinances and discipline should not only be free from reproach, but, by their aggressiveness in behalf of suffering humanity, verify their claim to be "the salt of the earth and the light of the world." Both as churches and individuals we are called upon to endorse the recommendation of the great Apostle to the Gentiles: "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak," Rom. xiv. 21.

D. FREEMAN, *Chairman.*

(B)

Report of Committee on Obituaries.

Your Committee on departed brethren beg leave to report. We have been called to mourn the departure of our aged father in Christ, REV. C. TUPPER, D. D., whose life for so many years was so clear a testimony in favour of our holy religion, and whose memory will be long fragrant with the aroma of christian virtue. Born in 1794, born again in 1815, ordained to the ministry in 1817, and taking a deep interest in all that pertains to man's moral and spiritual welfare, his life is closely interwoven with all the enterprises that distinguish the present century.

In the Foreign Mission enterprise he was intensely interested, and we believe the first contribution sent forward to the American Board of Baptist Foreign Missions from Nova Scotia came from his hand. For many years as Secretary of our Board he largely shaped its policy. His efforts were early directed to the formation of an independent mission. He rejoiced in its successes, sympathized in its sorrows, and, to the end of his life, it held a large place in his affections and prayers.

The work of Home Missions was one in which he specially delighted. For many years he was personally engaged in the work, and in almost every part of the Maritime Provinces he has preached the Gospel. He loved the cause and all who were engaged in it, and his support, prayers, and toils did not cease until they closed in death.

Prior to the organization of the temperance reform his heart was deeply stirred by the scenes of intemperance witnessed around him, and he was thus prepared to take a prominent position in that movement that has effected so great a change in the moral aspect of the Province.

In the cause of Education he always felt a deep interest. Of our denominational institutions he was a warm friend and an able advocate. The "child of Providence" was ever regarded as *his* child, and prayers and benedictions were poured out on its behalf, and, we doubt not that his personal influence had very much to do in directing so many of his spiritual children in Aylesford "to the school of the prophets."

In every movement of the present century that had for its object God's glory and man's good, he was intimately connected, and few lives have compressed in them so much of effort of a public nature.

Private study was not neglected, and by a rigid economy of time and by continuous effort, his mind was richly stored with things new and old, and, as an example of self-taught genius, he will be long held up to view. His great industry and untiring application enabled him (entirely self-taught) to read the whole Bible in eight and the New Testament in ten languages.

As a pastor he was admired and loved for his faithful exhibition of Divine truth, his unflinching performance of engagements, his faithful pastoral visitations, and his loving attention to the sick and distressed. Fredericton and Amherst enjoyed for some time his labours, but for 30 years Aylesford was his home, and here his labours were especially abundant and successful, and his name will long be remembered as a household word. His unspotted character and blameless life always enforced the gospel he preached, and the most regardless were forced to admit that in him shone forth the lustre of spiritual greatness.

Almost to the close of life God permitted him to labour, and it might be said of him at once he ceased to labour and to live. For a few weeks with unclouded mind he was permitted to linger on the border land, and it was refreshing to stand by his bedside and listen to the expression of his childlike faith, his calm reliance on the merits of his Saviour, his expectation of so soon seeing Him as He is. On Jan. 19th he gently passed away, and entered into the joy of His Lord. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." He leaves to mourn his loss a widow and two sons, to whom we tender our heartfelt sympathy.

REV. JAMES STEVENS was born in Horton in 1803. He was for many years the subject of deep religious impressions, but did not unite with the church till 1828. He was baptized by the Rev. T. S. Harding, and received into the Horton Church. Mr. Stevens, having shown an aptitude for Christian work, was encouraged the following year to engage in mission labor on P. E. Island. After his return he studied at Horton Academy, and was ordained an

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evangelist on the 4th of August, 1830. His first pastorate was at Hopewell, N. B. He remained there nearly six years, leaving in 1847. He afterwards labored at Falmouth, and many date their spiritual life from this pastorate. After leaving Falmouth Mr. Stevens labored with the Second Horton Church for over twelve years, removing thence to Rawdon in 1857. He remained here ten years, when, on account of failing health and strength, he resigned his beloved work, and returned to his native village—Gaspereaux—to spend his remaining years in comparative retirement, yet preaching occasionally as God gave him strength. The death of his promising son, the late Rev. A. J. Stevens, was a severe blow to him, but he bore up under the affliction with remarkable confidence in the Divine disposer of events. Brother Stevens, a few weeks before his death, had the rare privilege of celebrating, with his beloved partner in life, the 50th anniversary of their marriage. On this occasion his numerous friends in both Provinces kindly remembered him with substantial gifts. He passed away peacefully on Nov. 20th, 1880, in the 77th year of his age. Bro. Stevens was emphatically a good man. Pure in heart and life he exercised a hallowed influence upon all who came in contact with him. “Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord.”

F. BEATTIE, *Chairman.*

(C)

History of the Newport Baptist Church.

The Newport Baptist Church was organized August 17th, 1799, with a membership of nine; viz.: Daniel Dimock, Senr, Wm. Smith, Thomas Baker, George Dimock, James Anthony, Daniel Dimock, Junr., Tryphosa Baker, Deborah Dimock, and Jane Anthony.

Ministers present at organization, were Rev. Edward Manning from Cornwallis, Rev. T. H. Harding from Horton, and Rev. Joseph Dimock from Chester.

From the date of organization until 1803 the church was without a pastor, and was frequently visited by Revds. E. Manning, T. H. Harding, and John Burton, whose labors were signally blessed by frequent accessions to the church.

Oct. 13th, 1803, Daniel Dimock one of the members, was set apart by ordination to officiate as their pastor. He died April 5th, 1805. Rev. Mr. Delaney was pastor from Nov. 1st, 1805 to Sept. 25, 1809. From this time until 1820 the church was without the labors of a stated pastor; but on August 6th of the above named year, George Dimock, a member of the church and a brother beloved, was ordained to that important trust. For 45 years this venerable servant of God was enabled to preach the gospel in his native place.

Nov. 4th, 1823 a church was organized at Rawdon with a

membership of 22, all of whom were dismissed from the Newport Church. The Baptist Church at Kempt was organized January 30th, 1842 with a membership of 50. These also were dismissed from the Newport Church:—June 1st, 1851 Rev. Jeremiah Baneroff was called by the church to officiate as joint pastor with Rev. George Dimock, on account of the extensiveness of the field, and the physical weakness of the pastor.

In the year 1859 there was a division in the church which resulted in the formation of a new church, known and recognized by the Association under the name of the Newport *West* Church; whilst the old church took the name of Newport *East*.

The *West Church* enjoyed the labors of Revds. Geo. Dimock, George Weathers and A. Cohoon.

The *East Church* retained the services of Rev. J. Baneroff until June, 1872, at which time the two churches were re-united. Since that date the pastors have been Revds. D. G. McDonald; A. E. Ingram; P. S. McGregor; J. McLean and A. T. Dykeman, all of whose services have been owned and blessed by the Master in the strengthening of the church, and the salvation of souls.

A. T. DYKEMAN, *Pastor.*

(D)

Report of Committee on Education.

Your Committee beg to report that during the past year sixty-three students were pursuing their studies at Acadia College, eleven of whom were graduated with credit to themselves at the recent Anniversary of that Institution. The College, educationally, was never in a more efficient and satisfactory condition to carry on the great work for which it was established,—the Higher Education of the country.

The most pressing wants of the College at the present time are of a financial character, occasioned by the withdrawal of the Provincial Grants to Colleges, and also from the deficiency of income in the two preceding years to meet the expenditure.

It is devoutly to be hoped that the efforts now being put forth by Revds. E. M. Saunders and A. Cohoon, under direction of the Board of Governors, to raise the yearly income to the required amount, will meet with a generous and liberal response from the numerous friends and patrons of the College.

Prompt and liberal support is the best and most decisive answer that can be given to proposals looking to *Consolidation*, or the merging of all the Colleges and Universities of the country into one College or University, supported wholly, or mainly, by the funds of the Province, and under State control.

It is, in the judgment of your Committee, the duty, and should be the purpose, of the denomination to maintain Acadia College in its full integrity, and in the highest state of efficiency possible.

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In the Theological Department instruction in Theology, Church History, New Testament Interpretation, and in the Hebrew language has been given during the year by Revds. E. A. Crawley, D. D., and D. M. Welton, Ph. D. We trust this Department will receive larger consideration and support from the churches and denomination.

The Revds. Dr. Crawley and Dr. Welton have been requested by the Board to use their best endeavours to raise Twenty Thousand Dollars, (\$20,000), to endow a Professorship in the Theological Department. The Committee beg to recommend these dear brethren and their mission to the consideration and liberality of of the churches and other friends of Theological learning and Higher Education in the country.

The Horton Academy has been doing its work with the zeal, energy and success for which it has been so highly commended and patronized in the past. But the attendance, it is to be regretted, was not so large as in some previous years.

Acadia Seminary is fully equipped, and does excellent work under the able corps of teachers who are employed to conduct the education of Young Ladies in that Institution. The attendance at the Seminary, your Committee regret to state, has not been equal to that of former years.

In the opinion of your Committee some means should be devised to increase the attendance of the youth of these Provinces at those Institutions, also to increase the efficiency of the latter, and, what is especially necessary at this important crisis, to so increase the income of the College as, with the blessing of God, to secure the permanence of those Institutions, their enlarged prosperity, and continued usefulness to the denomination and the country.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Chairman.*

(E)

Report of Committee on Missions.

Your Committee, in discharging the duty assigned them, beg to submit the following :

I. BY WAY OF REVIEW.

In the Home Field our Board has pushed forward the important work committed to their care with commendable zeal and enterprize. In their Report presented to the Convention last year, we have the following gratifying information: "The number of missionary labourers employed is 48, who have faithfully preached the word in 85 churches, embracing in all 195 stations. They have performed 1,355 weeks' service, preached 3,409 sermons, held 2,364 other meetings, made 8,559 religious visits, baptized 336 persons, and organized 5 churches." It is believed that the work done

during the current year will prove to have been, in extent and results, equally cheering. Auxiliaries to our Home Mission Board have been formed in Kings and Hants Counties, and they have accomplished a good work in conjunction with the General Board in looking after the destitute portions of the country. A missionary has been sustained during the entire year in each of those counties and much good has been done. It may be that such an organization might do a useful work in Halifax and Lunenburg, the two other counties comprised in this Association.

In surveying the Foreign Field your Committee find: At Bimlipatam Bro. Rufus Sanford and his devoted wife, formerly a beloved member of the church with whom we are now assembled, toiling on in hope. Communications from Bro. S., published in the *Christian Messenger* during the year, indicate the outlook as decidedly encouraging.

At Bobbili Bro. Geo. Churchill and wife are fairly settled in their new quarters, and it is hoped their self-denying efforts to bring the benighted heathen around them to Christ may be crowned with success.

At Chicacole, the station occupied by Brother and Sister Armstrong before their return to this country, Sister C. A. Hammond is laboring with much devotion to meet the grave responsibilities of her position. This station with its surroundings presents, it would seem, a splendid field for successful work, and when reinforced grand results may be realized.

May not the faith of the friends of Foreign Missions claim that the wondrous wave of mercy that has swept over the Ongole district south of these stations may move northward, and that coming years may bring us glorious tidings of the Telugus of Cocanada in vast numbers turning to the Lord.

Your Committee, without expressing an opinion as to where the blame chiefly belongs, would express heartfelt regret that such misunderstanding has arisen between Bro. Armstrong and the Board as to result in his severing his connexion with our Foreign Mission work. This fact is especially deplored on account of Brother and Sister Armstrong's adaptation to carry forward the work at Chicacole on the foundation they have been laying through years of prayerful toil and study. They learn, however, that our esteemed young brother, J. R. Hutchinson, of Acadia College, has been appointed by the Foreign Mission Board for that station, with a prospect of his embarking at an early date for India. But your Committee would have been better pleased if the Board had waited until the meeting of the Convention before accepting the resignation of Bro. Armstrong, or the appointment of another missionary.

2. BY WAY OF RECOMMENDATION.

In view of the claims of the perishing heathen, as well as the destitute portions of our own country, and the weak and waning churches calling imperatively for aid, your Committee recommend

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that our churches cultivate a spirit of enlarged benevolence. Let all give, and give systematically, proportionably, generously, and heartily. Then will the Boards having these missions in charge be able to accomplish, with God's blessing, a great and good work in the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom.

They also recommend that continued prayer be offered to the God of missions that wisdom may be granted to the Boards to whom is committed the management of these important interests, and that He may abundantly bless our missionaries at home and abroad, that, through their instrumentality, "the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified," and multitudes saved.

And they further recommend as a stimulus to *praying* and *giving* for missions that increased attention be given to the communication of missionary intelligence among our people by our Missionary Boards in publishing the fullest account possible of their doings, by our missionaries in reporting items of interest from their fields, by pastors in preaching sermons on missions, and giving suitable information in the monthly concerts of prayer, and by Superintendents of our Sabbath Schools in the introduction of books fostering a missionary spirit into the libraries of their respective schools.

Submitted,

ISA. WALLACE, *Chairman.*

(F)

Report of Committee on Denominational Literature.

Your Committee feel that previous reports and discussions have made it unnecessary that we should at this time enlarge upon the importance of having our Sunday Schools and our families supplied with good books and periodicals. We, therefore, submit the following:

1. The Report of the Committee on the establishment of a Book Room, presented last year, was adopted by this Association, subject to the approval of the Convention. The Report was brought before the Convention in August, 1880, and was referred to a Special Committee, upon whose recommendation the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention the Report of the Nova Scotia Central Baptist Association on the question of the Book Room, should be regarded with favor, and commended to the support of our churches.

Having now this endorsement of the scheme proposed, your Committee recommend immediate action on last year's report.

2. Your Committee record, as heretofore, their belief in the undiminished usefulness of the *Christian Messenger*. But your Committee believe that many of the families connected with our churches do not receive that paper, and enjoy the benefit of no Baptist journal, in many cases of no *religious* journal. In these

circumstances your Committee believe that a monthly paper giving denominational news, and containing suitable religious reading is very necessary to the welfare of our people and our work as a denomination; and that such a paper would be the means of increasing the number of subscribers to the *Messenger*. We therefore hope that should such a paper be published during the coming year it may receive favourable consideration from our ministers and churches.

3. Your Committee believe that religious tracts should be more extensively used than they are at present; and that such tracts should be used as will represent the thought of the body on the great questions of our faith and practice. Your Committee believe that a series of leaflets should be prepared on Regeneration, Baptism, the Lord's Supper, Church Membership, and other topics; that these leaflets should be written by experienced pastors, and placed in the hands of our ministers and missionaries. We, therefore, recommend the Association to appoint a Committee to take charge of this matter, and to secure the publication of such tracts as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

A. P. SHAND, *Chairman*.

(G)

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools.

Your Committee report that during the past few years rapid advance has been made in Sabbath School work, and each year we have had new workers, new modes of teaching, and new helps in form of lesson papers, securing a more improved and systematic plan of managing and teaching. Those of our number who were present last year at our Convention at Hillsborough, and enjoyed the privilege of hearing Dr. Blackall's address on Sabbath School work, illustrated by an improved system of teaching, using the blackboard for the younger children, could not fail to be impressed with the marked improvement made in the last few years, both in the general management of the school and style of teaching, and the use of the blackboard for the younger children, must have commended itself to all. Your Committee feel that there is room for great improvement in this most important branch of church work throughout our Province; that it needs not only the effort and energy of superintendents and teachers, but also the hearty and full coöperation of the pastor and church; thus combined, we shall carry the work on to a successful issue. Your Committee feel that the Sabbath School is the nursery from which the most promising additions will be made to the church, and would impress upon the members of churches here represented the grave and responsible position they occupy, realizing that for want of Christian training many of our children may be led into vice and crime, and

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their souls lost forever. Your Committee feel there has not been in the past that deep, active interest manifested by our pastors in this work there should have been, neither have our Schools received that loving, heartfelt sympathy and support from the members of our churches to which they are entitled. Therefore we would earnestly recommend that every pastor set apart a portion of his time in the first of every week, and prayerfully meditate and plan new ways of increasing the interest in the school; that he visit the School once, at least, in every month, briefly review the School on the month's work, and give the School a short address of ten minutes, calculated to reach their hearts; that the members of the church, as far as possible, attend the School, even if they have to rise earlier and work harder, that their presence may give courage and assurance of the deep interest they take in the School.

Your Committee would also suggest that all the younger members of the church take their place in the Bible Class, and that none need feel too large or too old to enter the Class, for the Word of God taught is able to make them wise unto salvation. Your Committee heartily commend the Sabbath School Convention of this Central Association as being a most excellent and instructive institution, enlarging the interest and disseminating knowledge in Sabbath School work. Those of our number who attended the Convention of last year at Port Williams, will bear testimony to the excellent and beneficial results of that meeting. We hope under the Divine blessing, with the presence of the Master, to have even a more interesting meeting this year at Upper Aylesford.

HENRY LOVETT, *Chairman.*

(H)

Benevolent Funds.

Your Committee are impressed with the necessity of urging upon the individual members of our churches the duty of more thorough systematic giving, to the various objects of christian benevolence; more especially those which are comprised in "our Convention Scheme."

These objects are entirely in harmony with, and either essential or subsidiary to, the grand principles which are the crowning glory of our holy religion. To withhold from contributing towards their maintenance is utterly to fail in fulfilling both our obligations to Christ, and also to our fellow men.

The extent to which we shall aid these objects should be limited only by the measure of our ability. Therefore, while we approve of the endeavor to obtain an amount from each Church equal to the sum of One dollar per member, in the aggregate, yet we cannot but believe that, although there are some struggling churches who may not at present be able to reach that amount,—there are doubtless many others who are able to go far beyond that sum. Let no one

consider himself exempt from obligation until the utmost bound of his ability has been reached. Let each remember that the Bible precept upon this point is, that every one bestow "as God hath prospered" him.

The example of brethren of other denominations should have a salutary effect upon us, as a body, and lead us all to more self-denying and hearty pecuniary consecration to the cause of the Redeemer.

The standard we have set up for ourselves is still far from being reached. The demands of the hour are more pressing and imperative than ever before. We cannot retrench. We must not go back upon any of our enterprizes. They have been commenced in the name of the Lord, and with zeal and fidelity they must be pushed forward. We would therefore respectfully urge upon our brethren and sisters to act as in full view of Him who is constantly "sitting over against the treasury," and scanning all the gifts of his people, to pour, their offerings more freely, cheerfully and constantly, upon His altar; and withal, to present the living sacrifices of hearts released from sin, and spirits devoutly earnest in serving Him who gave His LIFE "a ransom for many." In view of His love to us, let us all adopt the language of our poet, and sing :

"Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small!
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all."

Respectfully submitted,

STEPHEN MARCH, *Chairman.*

Infirm M

1880.
June 1.
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Lower C

Infirm Ministers' Board in acct. with C. F. Eaton, Treasurer.

		Principal.	Days.	Interest.
1880.				
June	1.	By balance per acct. rendered.....	\$1358 10	365 \$82 09
July	8.	" check from Bro. A. P. Shand, Treas. Association at Windsor..	42 81	327 2 31
Aug.	30.	" cash from Rev. D. G. McDonald, P. E. I., per Dr. Barss.....	6 97	274 0 31
1881.				
June	1.	" interest on Jacobs' legacy.....	39 00	
		" " Harris' "	11 68	
		" interest.....	84 71	
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			\$1543 27	\$84 71
1880.				
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June	28.	To paid Rev. J. Stevens.....	\$ 20 00	337 \$1 10
July	9.	" " R. S. Morton.....	25 00	326 1 33
Nov.	3.	" " J. Stevens.....	20 00	209 0 68
1881.				
April	2.	" " R. S. Morton.....	25 00	59 0 19
		" Bro. S. Selden for Bro. J. Crawley.....	10 00	59 0 09
		" interest.....	3 39	
June	1.	To balance to new account.....	1439 88	
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			\$1543 27	\$3 39
June	1.	By balance brought down.....	\$1439 88	

E. & O. E.

C. F. EATON,
Treasurer Infirm Ministers' Board.

Lower Canard, June 25th, 1881.

Statistics of the Churches in the N. S. Central Association, held in Billtown, June, 1881.

NAME OF CHURCH.	PASTOR'S NAME.	Year of Settlement.	CLERK, AND P. O. ADDRESS.	INCREASE.			DECREASE.			Total Mem. last year.
				By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Statement.	Restoration.	Dismission.	Exclusion.	
1 Aylesford Upper.....	1840 Rev. J. L. Read.....	1859	Whitman Morton, Aylesford, Kings.....	3	1	1	1	2	291	909
2 Aylesford Lower.....	1829 Rev. F. Beattie.....	1881	L. S. Tufts, Kingston Station.....	1	4	10	320	81	401	425
3 Bridgewater.....	1897 Rev. S. March.....	1879	R. A. Newcomb, Bridgewater.....	1	1	1	108	40	148	150
4 Brooklyn.....	1876.....	1881	Jas. Craig, Woodville, Kings.....	2	2	5	1	2	162	207
5 Cambridge.....	1874 Rev. J. E. Blakeny.....	1881	Wm. Faulkner, Chelsea, Lunenburg.....	49	2	3	1	80	42	236
6 Chelsea.....	1853.....	1880	George E. DeWitt, M. D., Chester.....	4	1	2	1	3	353	308
7 Chester.....	1811 Rev. J. W. Weeks.....	1868	Onis Eaton, Centreville, Kings.....	4	1	6	196	172	368	374
8 Cornwallis 1st—Canard.....	1820 Rev. S. B. Kenyon.....	1880	T. H. Parker, Berwick, Kings.....	46	9	3	12	377	74	451
9 Cornwallis 2nd—Berwick.....	1828 Rev. J. C. Etakney.....	1880	C. B. Lamont, Billtown, Kings.....	2	2	2	363	108	471	473
10 Cornwallis 3rd—Biltown.....	1835 Rev. W. J. Swaffield.....	1881	W. M. Sandford, Pereaux.....	5	3	3	137	42	179	172
11 Cornwallis 4th—Long Point.....	1861.....	1880	R. D. G. Harris, Canning, Kings.....	4	9	6	1	80	14	94
12 Cornwallis 5th—Pereaux.....	1870.....	1880	Wm. L. Bars, Dartmouth.....	1	1	2	18	16	34	36
13 Cornwallis 6th—Canning.....	1844 Rev. E. J. Grant.....	1879	T. G. Dumlup, Ellershous.....	5	1	1	1	3	119	122
14 Dartmouth.....	1872 Rev. A. T. Dykeman.....	1881	A. Shaw, Falmouth.....	5	1	1	1	1	24	19
15 Ellershous.....	1843.....	1881	Robt. Williams, Fall River.....	10	12	3	168	96	194	198
16 Falmouth.....	1843.....	1881	Wm. L. Bars, Dartmouth.....	9	2	7	187	49	226	242
17 Fall River.....	1827 Rev. E. M. Saunders.....	1867	H. Eaton, Halifax.....	2	2	3	182	65	247	242
18 Halifax 1st—Granville St.....	1848 Rev. J. W. Manning.....	1875	Geo. H. Fielding, Bauer St, Halifax.....	9	9	3	1	5	60	90
19 Halifax 2nd—North.....	1874 Rev. J. F. Avery.....	1874	Thos. A. Covey, 29 Starr St, Halifax.....	2	2	2	3	0	50	95
20 Halifax 3rd—Tabernacle.....	1843.....	1881	James Schmidt, Hammonds Plains.....	8	2	2	1	3	33	47
21 Hammonds Plains 1st.....	1843 Rev. W. Lucas.....	1873	Saunuel Wiley, Hammonds Plains.....	4	5	5	155	131	316	321
22 Hammonds Plains 2nd.....	1873.....	1881	Edw. Whitman, 1878 C. J. Margeson, M. D., Hantsport.....	13	5	6	3	295	98	333
23 Hantsport.....	1820 Rev. Edw. Whitman.....	1878	C. J. Margeson, M. D., Hantsport.....	21	1	2	388	95	483	468
24 Horton 1st—Wolfville.....	1778 Rev. S. W. DeBlois.....	1855	Burpee Witter, Wolfville.....	8	2	3	1	80	33	113
25 Horton 2nd—Gaspareaux.....	1841 Rev. J. Williams.....	1879	J. A. H. Westcott, Gaspareaux, Kings.....	8	2	2	1	33	113	106
26 Horton 3rd—New Minas.....	1856.....	1880	Benj. Covey, Indian Harbor.....	2	2	3	1	33	113	106
27 Indian Harbor.....	1843 Rev. A. W. Burs.....	1880	Benj. Covey, Indian Harbor.....	8	2	2	1	33	113	106
			Peter W. Yaskell, West-Island.....							

28				4	5	5	185	131	316	321
29				13	5	6	3	295	98	333
30				21	1	2	388	95	483	468
31				8	2	2	1	33	113	106
32				2	2	2	1	33	113	106

TREASURER'S REPORT OF MONIES RECEIVED AT ASSOCIATION, AND APPROPRIATED BY THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	Home Missions.		French Mission.		Foreign Missions.		Ministerial Education.		Acadia College.		Infirm Ministers.		Convention Fund.		TOTAL.
	Sent to Ass'n.	Appropriated.	Sent to Ass'n.	Appropriated.	Sent to Ass'n.	Appropriated.	Sent to Ass'n.	Appropriated.	Sent to Ass'n.	Appropriated.	Sent to Ass'n.	Appropriated.	Sent to Ass'n.	Appropriated.	
1 Aylesford Lower.....															\$ 51 75
2 Bridgewater.....															6 00
3 Cambridge.....															25 80
4 Chester.....	\$16 50		\$4 00		\$15 00				\$ 7 50						25 80
5 Cornwallis 1st.—Canard.....	\$3 50				29 00				30 00						0 50
6 Cornwallis 2nd.—Berwick.....	19 50				19 25				1 20						3 25
7 Cornwallis 3rd.—Biltown.....	20 45		3 68		19 12	\$12 60		2 65	1 75						28 00
8 Cornwallis 5th.—Pereaux.....															4 75
9 Ellershouse.....															9 70
10 Falmouth.....	4 50		1 30		3 50		1 00		5 50						5 00
11 Halifax 3rd.—Tabernacle.....	15 68		3 00		20 00				15 00						17 30
12 Hammonds Plains 1st.....	7 10														60 68
13 Horton 2nd.—Gaspereaux.....	4 00	\$25 00													28 30
14 Indian Harbor West.....	4 00														36 00
15 Jeddore.....	4 00				4 00				4 00						12 60
16 Lahave.....															12 62
17 Lunenburg.....	21 25		5 00		21 25				1 50						14 00
18 New Germany.....	12 60				9 40			0 35	0 30						0 25
19 Newport.....															11 70
20 Pleasantville.....															6 65
21 Rawdon.....															9 00
22 Sackville.....	9 00														25 00
23 St. Margaret's Bay 1st.....	0 60	25 00			0 55										55 41
24 St. Margaret's Bay 2nd.....	2 45	40 00			1 00										2 46
25 Windsor Plains.....	1 00				3 38										6 75
26 Chelsea, Lunenburg Co.....	3 38														66 45
27 Natland, Hants Co.....		64 45													18 50
28 Kentville.....															61 53
29 Dartmouth.....	4 00				3 00				0 50						8 50
30 Hammonds Plains 2nd.....	1 00														3 00
31 Fall River.....	26 17				9 62										36 79
Collections at Association.....	5 00														5 00
Mrs. Rhuland.....															
Paid for Minutes, &c.....	\$231 68	\$154 45	\$16 98	\$168 07	\$65 50	\$13 76	\$71 15	\$57 05	\$192 16	\$83 85	\$1044 45				62 25
	40 00		12 25												

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ART. 10th.—The religious sentiments of this body are those expressed in the "Articles of the Faith and Practice of the Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia."

ART. 11th.—That the Moderator be authorized at any time during the year, to call a special meeting of the Association in pursuance of a requisition signed by ten members thereof.

ART. 12th.—Alterations and amendments may be made to this Constitution by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any of its regular meetings.

RULES OF ORDER.

RULE 1st.—At every sitting, business shall be opened and closed with prayer; and immediately after opening, the Minutes of the preceding meeting shall be read and corrected.

RULE 2nd.—No member of the Association shall leave the Session before the business is concluded, without permission of the Association.

RULE 3rd.—No subject shall be discussed without a motion first made and seconded.

RULE 4th.—No person shall speak oftener than twice on the same subject unless by permission of the body.

RULE 5th.—Brethren invited to a seat with us may speak on all subjects under consideration, but vote on none.

RULE 6th.—All resolutions shall be presented in writing.

RULE 7th.—Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the Minutes except so ordered at the time.

RULE 8th.—These rules shall be distinctly read from the Chair at the opening of the Session.

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