

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTEENTH SESSION
OF THE
WESTERN
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
OF
NOVA SCOTIA.

HELD AT MILTON, QUEENS Co.,
Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, June 10, 12, & 13, 1865.

TOGETHER WITH
THE CIRCULAR LETTER, &c., &c.

HALIFAX, N. S.
"CHRISTIAN MESSENGER" OFFICE.
1865.

MINUTES.

MILTON, June 10th, 1865.

THE Western Baptist Association assembled at Milton, Q. C., at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Chair was taken by Rev. Isaiah Wallace, the Moderator. A hymn was sung, and prayer offered by Rev. N. Vidito. A list of Delegates from the churches was obtained from the letters.

Rev. H. Angel was chosen Moderator; Rev. J. H. Saunders, Clerk; bro. J. M. Parker, Lic., Assistant Clerk; bro. Samuel Freeman, Junr., Treasurer; bro. Edward Kempton, Assistant Treasurer. The Constitution and Rules of Order were read by the Moderator.

The Moderator appointed the following Committees:

To examine Letters.—Revds. Jas. A. Stubbert, R. Morton and A. W. Barsse.

To read Letters.—Dr. Cramp, Rev. I. Wallace and W. H. Richan.

Of Nomination and Arrangement.—Revds. A. Weaver, W. G. Parker, John E. Goucher, E. N. Harris, G. Armstrong and James Parket.

To examine Circular Letter.—Revds. N. Vidito, P. F. Murray and W. G. Goucher.

The letters from the Churches were read, shewing the statistics and names of Delegates.

Delegates from the Central Association.—Revds. J. M. Cramp, D. D., Jas. Parker, R. R. Philp, Wm. E. Hall, and bro. S. Selden.

By Invitation.—Brethren Francis Webber, T. A. Blackadar, Lic., Parker Viditoe, H. Creed, Anthony Wilkins, Wm. Waggoner, R. T. Crossby, Rev. R. Morton, Rev. R. Walker, Jas. F. Morton, Lic., Jos. Murray, Lic., L. Morse, T. R. Patillo, G. S. Parker.

The committee of Nomination and Arrangement reported. On motion adjourned. Prayer by Rev. I. Wallace.

Afternoon Session, 3 o'clock, P. M.

Prayer by Rev. E. N. Harris.

Minutes of last session read.

The report of the committee of Nomination and Arrangement was read and adopted, as follows :

ON QUESTIONS IN LETTERS.—Revds. W. G. Goucher, N. Vidito, P. F. Murray, Deacon I. W. Healy.

ON TEMPERANCE.—S. Selden, Revds. A. W. Barss, J. Stubbert, bros. J. Shaw, N. Corning, Edward Kempton, A. T. Baker, Rev. J. A. Moore, Robert Brown.

ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.—Revds. D. O. Parker, John E. Goucher, Deacons S. Wheelock, Chas. Bill, Stephen Kempton, T. Christopher, Francis Webber.

ON THE "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER"—Revds. E. N. Harris, James Parker, A. Cogswell; Bros. T. R. Patillo, Nelson Miller, Sidney Welton, John Whitman, W. A. Morse.

ON EDUCATION.—Revds. J. M. Cramp, D. D., G. Armstrong, W. G. Parker, Amos Weaver, G. S. Parker, and C. Randall.

ON BIBLE CIRCULATION.—Revds. W. H. Richan, J. L. Tooker, W. L. Parker, John McKenne; Bros. E. Starratt, A. Calhoun, T. Monroe, (Lic.) Jacob Kempton, James Shaffner, Chas. Rumsey, B. H. Parker, Deacon Wm. Gates.

ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.—Revds. R. R. Philp, W. E. Hall, R. Walker, M. Normonday; Bros. U. Johnson, D. Delong, T. Monroe, (Lic.) Deacon Jabez Freeman.

ON ACCOUNTS.—Bros. J. Shaw, Robert Brown and James Ford.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.—Rev. Isa. Wallace, Bros. A. Hurd, T. R. Patillo, J. Dakin, Joseph Page, W. A. Morse.

The Committee also recommend the following arrangement :—

That the Association meet at 10 o'clock, A. M., and adjourn at 12 o'clock; meet at 2, P. M., and adjourn at 5½, and meet again at 7½.

That all Committees and Missionary Boards meet at 8 o'clock, A. M.

That Monday evening be a Missionary meeting.

That on Tuesday morning the Committee on Education present their report.

That on Tuesday afternoon the Sabbath School Convention hold its session.

That Prayer Meetings be held at 6 o'clock each morning.

Appointed as a Committee on Departed Brethren.—Revds. C. Randall, A. Cogswell and N. Vidito.

Appointed as a Committee on Union Societies—Revds.

Jas. Parker, I. Wallace, C. Randall and G. D. Cox ;
 bros. B. B. Moses, and C. Tedford.

The Treasurer of the Infirm Ministers' Fund reported,
 which report was referred to the Committee on Accounts.

The following brethren were appointed as a Committee
 to take charge of funds bequeathed by the late bro. Jacobs
 to the Infirm Ministers' Fund :—Revds. Dr. Cramp, C.
 Randall, D. O. Parker, and N. Vidito ; bros. Wm. H.
 Gridley, Saml. Wheelock, A. T. Baker.

Resolved, That the whole matter of the Infirm Ministers' Fund be re-
 ferred to the above Committee, to report upon during this Session.

The Committee of Nomination and Arrangements re-
 ported, recommending that the Association next year be
 held at Lower Granville, at the Stoney Beach Meeting
 House, and that the Rev. Jos. H. Saunders preach the
 Annual Sermon, and Rev. D. O. Parker be his alternate ;
 that Rev. W. G. Goucher write the Circular Letter.

Voted, That Bros. Joseph Shaw, S. Freeman, Jr., T. R. Patillo, E.
 Steadman, and Saml. Wheelock be our delegates to the Convention.

Voted, That all ministers of this body visiting the Central and East-
 ern Associations be our Delegates.

The Committee on Accounts reported the Account of
 the Infirm Ministers' Fund, as presented by the Treasurer,
 correct. (See App. A.)

On motion, *Voted*, That 1000 copies of the Minutes be printed at the
Christian Messenger Office, and that the sum of \$56 be paid for them.
 Fifty copies to be reserved and sent to Lower Granville for the next
 Association.

The Committee on the Circular Letter reported,—That
 they had examined the Circular Letter prepared by the
 Rev. S. Richardson, and recommend that it be read before
 the Association and printed in the Minutes. Adopted.

The Circular Letter was read by Dr. Cramp.

Voted, That the Editor of the *Christian Messenger* be requested to
 insert it.

The Committee on Questions in Letters reported, That
 they recommend the reception of the new church at Cale-
 donia called the Caledonia Church, and also the new church
 on the east side of Ragged Islands Bay, called the 2nd
 Ragged Islands Church into this Association. Adopted.

The Letters from these churches were read, and the
 hand of fellowship was given by the Moderator to bro. Jos.

Page, the representative of the 2nd Ragged Island Church, and to bro. Jonathan Kempton, the representative of the Caledonia Church.

A short time was spent in devotional exercises of a very pleasing and profitable character.

Prayer by Rev. W. H. Porter. Adjourned.

On the Sabbath Day Rev. Dr. Cramp preached at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock, A. M.; Rev. H. Angell at 3 o'clock, P. M.; and Rev. W. H. Porter at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ P. M.

Monday morning, June 12.

The Association convened at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Annual Sermon was preached by the Rev. N. Vidito from Rom. viii. 30. The usual collection for Home Missions was made.

Rev. C. Randall led in prayer.

The Minutes of last session were read and passed.

Voted, That bro. Selden be added to the Committee of Arrangements, and that they be requested to arrange for the Missionary Meeting this evening.

The Committee on Bible Circulation reported Report adopted. (See App. B.)

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. G. D. Cox.

Afternoon Session, June 12.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Cramp. Minutes of the last session read and confirmed.

The Committee on the Infirm Ministers' Fund reported, which was adopted. (See App. C.)

The Rev. A. McBean, Agent of the American Tract Society, having intimated his desire to address the meeting, on the subject of his agency, was invited to do so. At the conclusion of his address the following resolution was passed:

Resolved, That having listened with interest to the statement of Mr. McBean, this body hereby express its sympathy with the American Tract Society in its efforts to circulate the Word of God and other useful books among the destitute.

The Committee on Sabbath Observance reported. Addresses were given by bro. John Whitman, Rev. W. G. Goucher, Rev. N. Vidito, Dr. Cramp, Rev. E. N. Harris. The Report was adopted. (See App. D.)

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was read, spoken to by bro. Selden, Revs. N. Vidito and I. Wallace, and bro. A. Wilkins, and adopted. (See Ap. E.) The Home Mission Board reported, which report was adopted. (See App. F.)

The account of the Treasurer of the Home Mission Board was read, and referred to the Committee on Accounts. A balance was reported due the Missionaries for past services, when it was proposed to open a subscription to meet this demand.

The Report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was read and adopted. (See App. G.)

Voted, That the Home Missionary Board be the same as last year, with the additions of Brethren George Dodge, B. H. Parker, M. Wheelock, Wm. Gates, James Cornwall, C. Rumsey, Ambrose Poole, and S. Daniels.

Voted, That the Board be located at Paradise, and that the Rev. W. G. Parker be President, Rev. W. H. Porter, Secretary, and Rev. N. Vidito, Treasurer.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. R. R. Philp.

Missionary Meeting.

7 o'clock P. M.

Singing by the choir. Prayer by Rev. Mr. Black. The 1st resolution was moved by Rev. G. Armstrong and seconded by Rev. W. G. Parker.

Resolved, That the injunction of the Lord Jesus to "Pray the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth laborers into his harvest," establishes this as a law of his kingdom,—that those who are saved by him shall be the instruments of carrying his gospel to the regions beyond. The direction this disciples to "begin at Jerusalem" shews that Home Missions are of Divine appointment, and indicates that those who engage in sustaining them may expect the Divine approval.

The 2nd Resolution was moved by Rev. C. Randall and seconded by Rev. N. Vidito.

Resolved, That the peculiar circumstances of the French population of this Province places us under special obligation to convey to them the Word of Life and to do all in our power to encourage the operations of the Board having in charge this department of Christian patriotism.

The 3rd resolution was moved by Rev. I. Wallace and seconded by Rev. W. H. Porter.

Resolved, That the condition of the heathen world—without God and without hope—demands the earnest and prayerful consideration of all christian men and women. Whilst we are thankful for the success which has attended our efforts, we feel that this success calls for increased efforts and more believing enterprise in the work of carrying the gospel to those who are sitting in the region and shadow of death.

These resolutions were introduced by warm-hearted and appropriate addresses by the brethren presenting them, and were passed unanimously.

The Missionary Hymn was sung, and a collection taken for the French Mission. The doxology was sung and a Benediction invoked by the Moderator.

Tuesday, June 13. Morning Session.

Prayer by Rev. John F. Tooker.

Minutes of the last session read and confirmed.

The Report on Education was presented, and spoken to by Rev. Dr. Cramp, bro. Jos. Murray and T. A. Blackadar, and passed. (See App. H.)

The following Resolutions, respecting the Female Seminary at Wolfville, were read by Rev. Dr. Cramp :

Whereas the Resolutions hereto subjoined were passed at a recent meeting of the Governors of Acadia College, viz. :

"1. That the success which has attended the Female Department of our educational enterprise is abundantly encouraging, and should stimulate the Denomination to persevering and extended effort.

"2. That the insufficiency of accommodation in the house hitherto used for the Female Seminary renders the provision of a larger and more commodious building absolutely necessary, and that there is good reason to believe the number of pupils prepared to attend the Institution will increase from year to year till the wants of the Denomination in this respect are fully supplied.

"3. That in the opinion of this Board it is desirable that an effort be immediately made to raise a fund for the erection of a seminary Building capable of accommodating at least one hundred pupils, and furnished with the most approved means and appliances of education.

"4. That the Committee in charge of Horton Academy be requested to carry those resolutions into effect as soon as practicable, by appealing to the benevolence of the Denomination and of the Public at large, and by taking such other steps for the accomplishment of the object, as may be deemed expedient" :—

Therefore resolved, That the contemplated measure is regarded with entire approval by this Association, and that the male members of the Churches of which it is composed are hereby especially and earnestly recommended to assist in carrying it into effect.

This resolution was seconded by Rev. W. H. Porter, and after short addresses by Dr. Cramp, Rev. E. N. Harris, Rev. Isa. Wallace, Rev. Jas. Parker and bro. Selden, was passed.

Resolved, That the churches connected with this Association be requested, when practicable, to send their respective pastors as Missionaries into the destitute sections of this Province for the space of at least 4 weeks during the ensuing year.

Passed.

The committee on the *Christian Messenger* reported. The report was amended and passed. (App. I.)

On motion, *Resolved*, That our churches be requested to furnish in their annual letters, in addition to their statistics, a correct Financial Return, embracing the following items:

Amounts paid for Church Accommodation.
" " " Ministerial Labor.
" " " Missions.
" " " Educational Purposes.
" " " Bible Cause.
" " " Other religious purposes.

And the value of Church Property.

Passed.

The Letter from the Long Island Church was read.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was read, as also a letter from "A Baptist" against the use of Tobacco, enclosing a donation saved by the writer since abstaining. Rev. Jas. Parker and Rev. N. Vidito spoke thereon. The report was adopted, and Bro. Selden was requested to publish the substance of the letter in the *Ch. Messenger*. (See App. J.)

Voted, That the Session of the Sabbath School Convention be held this evening.

Voted, That a private session of this body be held in the vestry at 2 o'clock, and that the public session commence at 3 o'clock.

Adjourned. Prayer by bro. Jos. Murray.

Afternoon Session, June 13.

Prayer by Rev. D. O. Parker.

Brethren A. T. Baker, S. Welton and D. O. Parker, obtained leave of absence.

The report of the French Mission Board was read. Bro. Normonday, the French Missionary, addressed the meeting. Bro. Wallace led in prayer.

Voted, That the report of the French Mission Board be adopted, and a sufficient number printed to place a copy with each copy of the Minutes of the Central and Eastern Associations.

The Report of the Committee on Union Societies was read and adopted. (See App. K.)

The Report of the Committee on Departed Brethren was read and adopted. (See App. L.)

The Treasurer of the Association reported.

Voted, That the Treasurer be instructed to pay the monies in his hands over to the various parties authorised to receive it.

Voted, That the French Mission Board be the same as last year, and that brethren Chas. Tedford, Jos. Crosby, Abijah Hurd and John Trask be added.

Report of the Treasurer of the French Mission was submitted, and passed.

Voted, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the Baptist Churches and congregations of Milton and Liverpool, and to other christian friends for the kindness and hospitality so heartily extended to the Ministers and delegates of this Association.

Voted, That we spend half an hour in listening to addresses on Temperance.

After which the meeting adjourned, to meet in the vestry in private session at 2 o'clock.

Private Session, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Association met in private session, and took into consideration certain statements which had been made respecting the management of the French Mission.

6½ o'clock, P. M.

The Association met again in private session, and a resolution was passed, a copy of which was directed to be sent to the Secretary of the French Mission Board, and also to the person by whom the statements had been made.

Prayer by Rev. Jas. A. Stubbert.

The Association adjourned to meet with the Lower Granville Church, on the second Saturday in June, 1866, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

H. ANGELL, *Moderator*.

Jos. H. SAUNDERS, *Clerk*.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS AND DELEGATES.	INCREASE		DECREASE		TOTAL.
		By Baptism.	By Letter.	Restored.	Dis- missed.		Died.
Annapolis and Upper Granville	{ Rev. Geo. Armstrong, Deacon I. W. Healy.	..	..	..	3	6 220
Argyle.....	No Letter.	..	..	..	..	.. 44
Brookfield.....	{ Rev. D. O. Parker, Dea. Thos. Christopher, Joseph Freeman, Bro. Uriah Johnston.	4	..	..	..	.. 128
Barrington	{ Rev. W. H. Richan, Bro. W. L. Crowell.	6	3	..	1	.. 48
Beaver River	Rev. A. Cogswell.	8	..	..	..	.. 1 214
Clements.....	Rev. G. D. Cox.	27	8	2	4	4 2 262
*Caledonia	{ Rev. D. O. Parker, Deacon J. Kempton.	..	..	..	..	.. 25
Dalhousie	No Letter.	..	..	..	..	.. 28
Digby	Rev. J. F. Tooker.	..	..	..	..	.. 36
Digby Neck 1st.....	No Letter.	..	..	..	..	.. 135
Digby Neck 2nd.....	No Letter.	..	..	..	..	.. 90
Greenfield	T. M. Munro, (Lic)	..	2	1	2	1 59
Greywood	No Delegate.	3	2	..	..	.. 43
Hampton	Rev. P. F. Murray.	2	2	..	4	2 105
Hill Grove.....	No Letter.	..	..	..	..	.. 71
Hillsburg 1st	{ Rev. J. A. Moore, Bro. N. Miller, John D. Harris.	1	..	..	..	.. 3 164
Hillsburg 2nd	Rev. J. F. Tooker.	..	..	..	1	3 91
Jordan Bay.....	No Letter.	..	..	..	..	.. 54
Jordan River.....	Rev. A. W. Barss.	..	..	..	..	.. 25
Kempt	{ Rev. D. O. Parker, Dea. Jacob Kempton, D. Delong.	1	3	..	22	2 56
Liverpool	{ Rev. E. N. Harris, Dea. C. Bill, T. P. Calkins, J. Freeman, J. Dakin, E. Starratt.	2	4	..	..	.. 1 187
Lake George.....	{ Rev. J. A. Stubbert, Deacon B. B. Moses.	..	..	7	..	.. 3 146
Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot.	{ Rev. C. Tupper, D: D. Deacon J. Goucher, A. T. Baker, S. Welton.	36	7	2	12	4 10 492
Lower Granville	{ Bro. F. Gates, Rev. I. Wallace, Bro. J. Shaffner.	11	..	..	..	.. 3 255

* New Church.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES.—Continued.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS AND DELEGATES.	INCREASE			DECREASE		TOTAL.
		By Baptism.	By Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Excluded.		Died.
Litchfield	No Letter.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	41
Long Island	Rev. Wm. Hall.	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	5 280
Lewis Head	Rev. John McKenne.	3	.....	.....	16	1	70
Milton	{ Rev Amos Weaver, Dea Whitman Freeman, Stephen Kempton, Edward Kempton, James Ford, Saml. Freeman, Jr.	6	1	.....	.....	1	1 216
Middlefield	{ T M Munroe, (Lic) Rev W G Parker, Dea Saml Wheelock, William Gates,	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22
Nictaux	{ Bro B H Parker, Wm A Morse, J Whitman,	5	.....	.....	9	1	3 384
New Albany	{ J Mel Parker, (Lic), Bro G S Parker.	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	71
New Tusket	{ Rev C Randall, Dea C Sabeau.	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	89
Ohio	{ Rev J H Saunders. Rev J E Goucher,	.....	1	.....	1	9	4 159
Port Medway and Mill Village	{ Dea E Steadman, Bro Thomas Munroe, Atwood Cahoon.	6	.....	2	3	4	1 207
Pine Grove	{ Rev W H Porter, Dea A Wilkins.	16	3	2	7	2	3 244
Pubnico	No Letter.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	32
Parker's Cove	No Letter.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	56
Ragged Islands	Rev A W Barss.	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2 120
*Ragged Islands 2nd..	{ Rev J McKenne, Bro J Page.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Sissaboo	Rev C Randall.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 108
Springfield	{ J M Parker, (Lic) Bro Elijah Roop.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44
St. Mary's Bay	{ Rev C Randall, M Normonday.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 125
Sable River	{ Rev J McKenne, Dea S Harlow.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 34
Sherbrooke West	J M Parker, (Lic),	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 42
Tusket	Bro Wm Robbins.	.....	3	.....	2	.....	112
Tusket Lakes	Rev A Cogswell.	2	2	55
Wilnot	{ Rev N Vidito, Dea Hicks Chesley, Bro C Rumsey.	3	1	3	1 356

* New Church.

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STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES.—Concluded.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS AND DELEGATES.	INCREASE		DECREASE			TOTAL.
		By Baptism.	Restored By Letter.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Died.	
Wilmot Mountain.....	Rev P F Murray.	38	1	1	..	..	2 204
Westport	No Delegate.	..	..	..	..	..	2 159
Yarmouth 1st.....	Rev H Angell, Dea W H Gridley, Bro J Shaw, R Brown. Rev W G Goucher, Bro W R Ledy,	4	9	1	2	5	7 415
Yarmouth 2nd.....	T Trask, R R Crosby, A Vanordian.	..	..	4	5	4	2 295
Yarmouth 3rd	Rev J A Stubbart, Deacon C Tedford, Bro Jos Crosby.	1	..	3	1	5	1 195
Yarmouth South.....	Rev W L Parker, Bro W A Hurd.	6	..	1	..	3	2 202
Yarmouth West	Rev J H Saunders, Deacon N Corning, E Rose.	..	1	1	..	5	1 149

SUMMARY:—

No. of Churches.....	54		
Increase—By Baptism....	188	Decrease—Dismissed..	104
By Letter.....	51	Excluded..	46
Restored	16	Died.....	94
Total number of members.....	255		241
			7470

[Some of the above numbers, when compared with the numbers given in the Minutes of 1864, appear to be incorrect. The numbers given from the following churches are:

TOO FEW.	
Annapolis.....	1
Brookfield,.....	1
Clements,.....	12
Digby,.....	10
Greywood,.....	2
Hampton,.....	2
Hillsburg 1st,.....	2
Kempt,.....	65
New Albany,.....	2
Sable River,.....	4
Wilmot,.....	1-102

TOO MANY.	
Greenfield,.....	1
Hillsburg 2nd,.....	2
Sherbrooke West,.....	1
Tusket,.....	2
Yarmouth 2nd,.....	4
Yarmouth 3rd,.....	2

12

Balance of errors, ..90

This would give 90 to be added to the above total number of members, so that instead of 7470 it would be 7560.—S. SELDEN.]

Circular Letter.

TO THE CHURCHES OF THE WESTERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Dear Brethren,—

That the time-honored custom of an annual epistle, from this body, to the churches composing it, filled with the utterances of hearts that deeply feel the importance of the doctrines, and precepts they inculcate, may not, with us, who have no less work to do, and no less subtle dangers to guard against than our predecessors, degenerate into an unmeaning formality, should be a matter of solicitude.

The subject we present for your consideration is FAMILY RELIGION, which should make christian households places of christian influence, and christian nurture.

The brief appeal to you, christian fathers, and mothers, will embrace first *the duty*, second *the means*, and last *the claims* of Family Religion.

As *the duty* is generally admitted, we might, perhaps, pass at once from this point: yet it may not be amiss to stir up your pure minds, by way of remembrance, in presenting a few considerations of importance, connected with the duty of early religious training.

1. From the Old Scriptures. Under the former dispensation God, everywhere, and always, required implicit obedience to his commands. How solemn the utterances of blessings to the obedient, and curses to the disobedient, as they floated on the air, across the valley, from Mount Gerizim by half the tribes of Israel, to Mt. Ebal; and from Ebal to Gerizim by the other half of the tribes! The

occasion seems second in import, only to the thrilling scenes which accompanied the giving of the Law on Sinai:—and says God; “These words which I command thee this day shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them, diligently, unto thy children; and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way; and when thou liest down, and when thy risest up.”

2. From the New Scriptures. The New Testament inculcates the same duty. The children in the Temple shouted: “Hosanna to the Son of David,” and while the chief priests and scribes were displeased, Jesus said unto them, yea; “have ye never read out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?” Thus the duty of early religious training, inculcated in the Old Testament, is continued, and sanctioned in the New. Timothy’s unfeigned faith, and early knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make wise unto salvation, are accounted for by the instructions received from his grandmother Lois, and his mother Eunice. He who became the Babe of Bethlehem, when engaged in his public ministry was much displeased when young children were hindered from coming to him, and said: “Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not.” This rebuke, and invitation give the children free access to Christ. From his birth, John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Ghost. Here is the example, and the proof, that children at an early period may become the subjects of renewing grace.

3. From Reason. Reason, in the midst of the light we possess, teaches the duty of cultivating family religion—that children when born should breathe in a religious atmosphere—that their earliest impressions should be, that the household is dedicated to the service of God,—and that their first lessons should be of God, and of Christ, and salvation to our guilty race. Nor will occasion be wanting, at this early date, for lessons on human depravity. Among

the many that might be presented, we offer but a few arguments in favor of early training, as a part of family religion.

1. The soil of the mind should be preoccupied with moral, and religious truth; for as surely as the garden unsown with useful seed runs to weeds and briars, so surely will the soil of the mind produce a crop more mischievous and poisonous than the deadly nightshade. The difficulty with the soul as with the garden is that noxious seeds are indigenous. Constant sowing and weeding are necessary.

Again: early impressions are most lasting. The last memories of age are of early scenes. How all-important then is it that the first impressions be correct. The young mind like the vine clings to the nearest support, and with a tenacity that is not easily overcome. How careful should we be that truth is the pillar to which it clings, and that step by step, as on Jacob's ladder, it may ascend to heaven. Habits formed in youth for good or evil can never be fully overcome. "Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good that are accustomed to do evil." But further, God requires *all* our life in his service. Probably christendom has yet to learn how early children can love God. As a very little religious truth seems the means of the conversion of some adults, parents are encouraged to commence very early in imparting pious instruction to their children.

Another interesting thought, in this connection, is that many are converted young—very young. How many in relating the dealings of God with their souls go back, as far as memory enables them, in giving their first serious impressions, on the subject of religion. Christian fathers and mothers toil on with your children. Your rest remains for you in heaven.

2. *The means* of maintaining Family Religion. The first, as underlying all the rest, is *discipline*—judicious and

affectionate. Upright family government lies at the foundation of Family Religion. Without this, the household are disjointed parts, agreeing to no useful end. Jehovah, the God of order, who heads the first table of the decalogue, saying; "Thou shalt have no other Gods before me;" heads the second by saying; "Honor thy father and thy mother;" and it is impious for children to affect obedience to the former, while the latter is disregarded. As the heart of the child is affectionately turned to its earthly parent, a foundation is laid for teaching reverence, and obedience to the heavenly Parent. An imperious despotism should be guarded against, as but little suited to the law of love, which underlies all true obedience to God.

2. Another means, relating to the conversion of your children, and the religious ordering of your households is *moral and religious instruction*. Faithfulness in this matter, in the present age, is of incalculable importance. Snares are set in every direction to entrap the young. While it is true that volumes of the Holy Bible, tracts, and a sound religious literature are multiplied like autumn leaves, and counted by millions—that churches are rapidly multiplying, and Sabbath Schools, by tens of thousands, are doing a noble work, the painful conviction is forced upon us that error outstrides the truth, and that now, as never before, your children need to have thrown around them the wholesome influence of sound, moral, and religious instruction, that they may be saved from semi-infidelity on the one hand, and licentiousness on the other. We therefore call upon you christian fathers and mothers to maintain family religion, with all fidelity, as a means of defending your children against the wiles of the enemy, and of securing their eternal well-being.

3. Another means to the end desired is *family devotion*. It is no abuse of language to pronounce a prayerless house a graceless one. True prayer may not be altogether neg-

lected, nor special prayer for the children of the household. We freely grant this ; but, christian father, christian mother, family religion requires more than secret and occasional prayer. Your children need to hear your prayers, and to feel that religion regulates the household, and that it is not a fragmentary thing, separated from the common duties of life, but an all-pervading influence, leading its possessor *to be good, and to do good, whatever their employment.*

4. To give full efficacy to wholesome discipline, correct instruction, and daily prayer in your families, a consistent *christian example* is necessary. Failure in example, is failure in all. Children are acute observers of character, and sound logicians. Words, without deeds, are lost to them. Honesty, truth, fidelity, as the basis of christian character, beget confidence with children, as with men. In a word, your example must agree with your profession, then your words will sink into the hearts of your children as a nail fastened in a sure place.

Such are some of the means necessary to secure, *by the blessing of God*, the true and lasting interests of your families. How momentous the subject ! How great the responsibility ! Who shall make an appeal befitting a subject of such startling interest, or on what grounds may success follow its claims ?

1. We urge you to the duties suggested by the influences that come from the cross of Christ. We forego an appeal to parental affection, though it is strong ; and ask you to invite your children, with you, to the cross ; where your hard hearts were melted, your sins washed away, and where you rejoiced with joy unspeakable and full of glory ; and as your souls are again filled with joy in the Holy Ghost, point them to the Lamb of God, that they may look and live, rejoicing with you in the same deliverance, and in a good hope of eternal life.

2. Another imperative claim on you is that *God has made*

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you the natural guardians of your children, and, in a special sense, responsible for them. No man's responsibility ends with himself; much less that of parents. "Am I my brothers keeper?" is a question befitting a fratricide. Christian parents, cheerfully assume the duties arising from your responsibility to your children. They are dear to you. Lead them to Jesus. Tell them of his love. Win them to Christ by your pious instruction, and pure example. Leave not one behind—that you may say, at last; "Here Lord am I, and the children whom thou hast given me." Remember Eli!

3. Another claim for a high standard of family religion, is the peculiar dangers besetting the youth of our times. They stand on slippery places. Trashy literature—unsatisfied curiosity—chafing under moral restraint—premature manhood—sitting in the seat of the scornful, teach you how easy it is to lead your children from the path of rectitude. Think of this, and raise high the standard of family religion. Think of it and act, *asking God to help you.* Act constantly, perseveringly, and your labor shall not be in vain in the Lord.

4. The last claim we present is, *the Lord has need of your children.* He needs the young, and strong, to labor in his vineyard. He needs men of war from their youth, champions to go forth fully clad in Gospel armor, to overthrow spiritual wickedness in high places. As Jesus had need of the colt on the occasion of his memorable entry into Jerusalem, much more, fathers, and mothers, followers of Jesus, does He need your sons, and your daughters, to become the heralds of salvation to the lost. But Jesus our Lord has also made a spiritual entry into our world, and is to-day on his victorious progress, and we announce to you that He asks your children to follow with you in his train, and to grace his triumph; and let all christian parents say—*Amen—for the Lord hath need of them.*

VI

APPENDIX.

(A)

INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND, *in account with* CHARLES RANDALL, *Treasurer.*

1864.		Dr.
June —	To paid Mrs. Vidito, widow of the late Rev. Silas Vidito,.....	\$30 00
	To paid Mrs. Caldwell,.....	20 00
	To paid Mrs. Cunningham,.....	30 00
	Postage, &c.,.....	0 50
Oct. —	To paid Mrs. Cunningham,.....	10 00
1865.		
Feb'y. —	To paid Mrs. Jackson, widow of the late Rev. W. Jackson,.....	20 00
	Total paid out since last Association,.....	\$110 50

1864.		Cr.
June 16.	By Cash in hand as per account rendered in 1864, ..	\$121 21
	Received of Asa T. Morse,.....	70 27
	Interest on Notes,.....	8 00
	Total,.....	\$199 48
	Balance in hand,.....	\$88 98
	CHARLES RANDALL, <i>Treasurer.</i>	
	<i>Milton, June 12th, 1865.</i>	

- Nov. 15th, 1864. Received from the Executors of the Estate of the late W. S. Jacobs, of Liverpool, N. S., the sum of £166 13s. 4d., it being the portion of Legacy bequeathed to the infirm fund of the Western N. S. Baptist Association.
- Nov. 25th, 1864. The above sum invested in Real Estate, interest to be paid annually.

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(B)

BIBLE CIRCULATION.

The sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, is the grand instrument entrusted by God to his people, for the purpose of sanctifying their hearts, dispelling the mists of ignorance and superstition, battering down the strongholds of Satan, and bringing man into subjection to Jesus, and your Committee regard it as the duty of every soul that has tasted of the good Word of God, to do what lies in his power towards extending it to those who are still in darkness and the shadow of death. Much has already been done, but much, very much, still remains to be done. And your Committee would urge upon the denomination increased liberality, without a thought of relaxation in their efforts, until every child of Adam shall have free access to the Word of Life, and at the same time fervent prayer for the speedy approach of that glorious day, when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

Respectfully submitted.

W. H. RICHAN, *Chairman.*

(C)

REPORT ON INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

The Committee on the Infirm Ministers' Fund report as follows:—

1. They recommend that the following sum be appropriated for the present year, viz.:

Brother Henry Saunders, - - - - \$50 00

2 They further recommend that the Infirm Ministers' Board for this year consist of the Brethren:—Rev. C. Randall, Rev. J. C. Morse, Deacon Charlton Sabean, Brethren William John, William Aymar, W. H. Gridley, Samuel Wheelock, and W. S. Raymond.

3. They also recommend that the Board be directed to apply to the Legislature, at its next session, for an Act of Incorporation.

(D)

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

Your Committee report that while they regard all days as valuable, the Lord's day should be prized as emphatically the gift of heaven, "The Sabbath was made for man." It is a recognition of man's spiritual nature that the soul is to be cared for as well as the body. It serves to destroy the selfishness of our hearts by creating a pause in the business of life. While it is lawful to do good on the Lord's day, it is desirable to have as little as possible to do with the cares of life, that we may apply ourselves the more diligently to "the one thing needful." Writing business letters, light reading, trifling conversation, idle visits, travelling for either business or pleasure, and neglecting to attend public worship, are all opposed to the divine command, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy."

Your Committee would also recommend that our ministers preach at least once a year on this important subject.

Respectfully submitted.

ROBERT R. PHILP, *Chairman.*

(E)

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The world's evangelization is largely committed to the Churches and should always engage the ardent zeal, the fond affection and the helping sympathy of all true christians. First saved themselves, their anxious prayer should be, "Lord save this perishing world." And on the altar with their prayer if they lay not themselves, they should at least lay their generous golden offering, as the witness of their faith, the sacrifice of their love, and the pledge of their zeal.

The missionary field is the world, and the gracious conditional promise is co-extensive with it; "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession." The hap-

py realization of this world-wide promise imperatively demands devoted prayer; the prayer of supplication, the active prayer of earnest doing, and the generous prayer of systematic giving.

At our last Anniversary there were hopeful prospects of a missionary immediately entering the foreign field. A devoted brother said to the churches "Here am I, send me," but the God of all grace, overruling, has appropriated his services to the home field, and the call still is, "MEN FOR BURMAH." We are glad to report a generally increasing interest among the churches, and from the large-hearted men and women of our land we hope for more. Four, quite recently, have contributed fifty dollars each for the support of native teachers, and another, fifty-eight dollars to be appropriated by the Board. The legacy of the late Captain Jacobs of Liverpool, \$2,000, has been deposited in a Bank in Halifax.

Several native teachers are very satisfactorily laboring in Burmah supported by the Baptists of these Lower Provinces. Our school there is also doing an efficient work, but greatly needs increased contributions.

And now grateful for past benedictions, your Committee urgently press upon our ministers and members that they earnestly wrestle with God for true-hearted men who in themselves shall respond to the Macedonian call, and leaving home and all its tender and endearing ties, cheerfully say, "This O Jesus I do for Thee!"

Respectfully submitted.

D. O. PARKER, *Chairman.*

(F)

THE REPORT OF THE DOMESTIC MISSIONARY BOARD.

Missionary work to the extent of *seventy weeks* has been performed during the past year under the direction of your Board. The entire cost for this labour is \$550.24;—\$170.97½ has been collected by the Missionaries from the people to whom they preached.

Owing to the smallness of the contributions from some portions of the Mission field, the expenditure for the year, we are sorry to say, exceeds the amount of funds placed at the disposal of the Board. The sum of *eighty-eight* dollars pledged in aid of a missionary labouring for 10½ months at New Albany, Springfield, and Sherbrooke remains due. It is to be deplored that notwithstanding the limited scope of our operations the amount contributed for the Home Mission by the Churches, and that received from the people on the Mission ground, has not been enough to meet the expense incurred. So far as reported only five converts have been baptized by our missionaries during the year. Our brethren employed directly in this work, have, no doubt, put forth faithful efforts to make known the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to lead sinners to the knowledge of the Truth, as well as to edify believers in faith, love, and holiness. But the smallness of results, so far as known to us, calls for humiliation, and ought to suggest enquiry as to whether we are acting in the Home Mission caterprize in such a manner as to obtain the approval of our Lord and Saviour, and secure the blessing promised by Him to those diligent and faithful in his work.

On comparing the small amount of labour expended with the extent and magnitude of the work required of us in the cause of Home Missions, and our ability to compass it, one must feel appalled at the lack of faith, self-denial, energy and benevolence, which our straightened operations, and limited success exhibit. Viewed in this way, it will excite no wonder that the results of our missionary operations are comparatively so meagre and unsatisfactory. We have sown sparingly, *very* sparingly, and we have reaped in like manner. Nor is the promise of success such as to encourage the hope that an abundant harvest will be given in the Mission field without corresponding liberality, effort, self-denial, and faithfulness. God in righteousness withholds from our lean and shrivelled sacrifices, and reluctantly given offerings, the rich and overflowing blessings promised to those who cheerfully and nobly deny themselves for the sake of Christ, and give freely and gladly to make known his precious Gospel to the perishing. Success in this missionary work, whether at home or abroad, requires consecration to Christ and his cause, on the part of those

who desire his blessing. Should we all become imbued with the Spirit of our Crucified Lord,—with his benevolence, his zeal to make known the Truth of God, his desire to save sinners, and his ever-present and all-prevailing purpose to glorify God in all things, we would immediately engage with the full measure of our ability in the heavenly and divine work of making known to sinners the glorious message of salvation through the name of Jesus.

The Treasurer has received from the Executors to the Estate of the late Wm. S. Jacobs, the sum of *one thousand dollars* bequeathed by him to aid your Board in work of home evangelization. The money has been placed in the Bank of British North America, for which the usual deposit interest will be paid. How this money should be managed so as to best advance the cause for which our brother made the bequest, is a matter for the decision of this body. The conviction of the Board is—that the money should be carefully and safely invested, and the yearly interest accruing be devoted to the support of Home Missions, while the principal be regarded as sacred, and continued to be thus held as a permanent source of income to aid in making known to the destitute the great salvation revealed in the Gospel.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. ARMSTRONG, *Secretary.*

(G)

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools beg to report that they regard the Sabbath School Institution as of great importance and intimately connected with the advancement of our Churches. Its excellency they consider apparent from the fact that it is not only a successful means of imparting Bible knowledge to our youth, and thus conferring incalculable benefit, but also of affording a delightful field of usefulness to all who wish to work for Christ.

They are pleased to learn from the letters, that considerable attention is given to this interesting work. They con-

ceive, however, that there is urgent demand for still further improvement and progress and beg to suggest—

1. The desirableness of holding weekly Teacher's Meetings with a view to mutual instruction and encouragement.

2. The importance of each teacher, personally and faithfully, conversing with each member of his or her class, upon the subject of experimental religion and urging the necessity of immediate submission to Christ.

3. That as Sabbath School Concerts, when properly conducted, have a salutary effect, such meetings be held monthly, or as often as practicable.

4. That it is highly essential that the parents and guardians of our youth manifest their sympathy and co-operation by giving their frequent attendance, and liberally contributing funds for the purchase of Sabbath School books and papers.

5. Your Committee further suggest the desirableness of securing the services of some Brother, wise and experienced in the Sabbath School work, whose duty shall be to visit the Churches, and give suggestions and advice to Superintendents and Teachers, in reference to the best method of conducting Sabbath Schools, organize new schools when necessary, and deliver addresses with a view to excite a deeper interest in the good work.

All of which is submitted.

ISA. WALLACE, *Chairman.*

(H)

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The Committee are thankful that they are able to report continued progress and fresh tokens of the Divine blessing. Our Educational enterprises have been conducted during the past year by the Professors and Teachers under circumstances of peculiar interest. The usual exercises have been carried on, and successful results achieved;—ten students graduated at Acadia College on the 6th inst. ; and the attendance at the Academy and the Female Seminary has evinced the high estimate placed on the Institutions by

the members of our Denomination in these Provinces. But, gratifying as these facts are, they sink into insignificance when compared with the spiritual benedictions which the Lord has bestowed. At the beginning of the year the week of prayer was observed at Wolfville, and was followed by a succession of meetings during which there was an abundant manifestation of power and mercy. Many believers enjoyed a spiritual baptism. Wanderers were reclaimed, and sleeping professors aroused. Young persons of both sexes embraced the hope set forth in the Gospel, humbling themselves before God on account of sin, and yielding their souls to the Saviour. Among them were members of the Female Seminary and of the Academy, and thirteen students of Acadia College. The effects of this gracious interposition cannot be calculated. They will extend to other places and other persons, and reach into the far distant future. The fruits of a conversion may continue to be visible for centuries, for the event may mould the spiritual character of those to whose labours even remote nations may be indebted, under God, for renewing and sanctifying influences. If "one sinner destroyeth much good," the restoration of that one may be productive of results extending more widely than our most sanguine expectations.

Your Committee feel assured that the attachment of our Denomination to the Institutions which they have fostered with so much care and at such expense, will be greatly increased by these announcements. The Lord has been merciful to us and has blessed us. Our obligations are manifold; our responsibilities are most serious; our activity should correspond with both.

The Committee have not failed to observe the estimation in which general education is now held in this Province, and the arrangements in progress for its extension and improvement. They trust that the Governors of Acadia College, under whose charge, by a recent Act, the Collegiate Academy is also placed, will be especially mindful of this fact, and take such steps as shall secure continual advancement in all the branches of instruction as well as in the methods of tuition.

Certain resolutions passed by the Governors of the College with reference to the Female Seminary, have been

brought under the notice of your Committee. They commend them to the Association, as demanding prompt attention and anxious solicitude. The influence of that Institution has already proved highly beneficial to the Denomination, and it cannot be doubted that the enlarged plan of operation presented in the Resolutions referred to, will be acceptable to the friends of education and to our churches generally.

Respectfully submitted.

J. M. CRAMP, *Chairman.*

(I)

REPORT ON "CHRISTIAN MESSENGER."

The Committee on the *Christian Messenger* report, That they are happy to know that this periodical continues to sustain its high character as a reliable and fertilizing sheet; the weekly contents of which, enlighten, animate and cheer on in the good way, its numerous readers.

They strongly recommend and most earnestly urge its wider circulation, believing that no Baptist family can afford to do without it.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. N. HARRIS, *Chairman.*

(J)

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The Committee on Temperance report that they regard Intemperance as the one great source of misery and crime, which demands the serious consideration of all friends of humanity and religion. Whilst other sins are generally denounced by good men, this one, in some of its stages, is practised and cherished by many professing christian people.

The voice of experience and the exercise of common sense teach us, that Total Abstinence from all intoxicating drinks is the only effectual cure for drunkenness. It is no less clear that the entire suppression of the traffic in such

articles, as beverages, is the only permanent remedy for the injuries it inflicts on society. Wherever its sale is tolerated, there we may expect to see young men going to ruin, families reduced to pauperism, and sin in all its hideous forms triumphing over virtue, and destroying the happiness of the people.

That "the drunkard cannot inherit the kingdom of heaven," is our guarantee for aiding this reformation. The habitual use of stimulants and narcotics, is demoralizing to men and women, and damaging to the health of families. Every possible effort should therefore be made by christian people to discourage *the waste of time and means* in using and procuring these injurious articles.

Every organization established for inculcating correct sentiments in regard to these social evils, should be encouraged and promoted. Intemperance being a social evil, social combinations are required to overcome and remove it. Whatever will have a tendency to save the young, protect those who are now free from the thralldom, or rescue the fallen from the hands of the enemy should be cherished by us. Whatever position we occupy in society should be used to destroy the causes of drunkenness as well as to denounce its more glaring manifestations.

Arguments in favor of Total Abstinence abound, and we think that christian Ministers, Teachers, Magistrates, and Legislators, fail to fulfil the duties of their several offices, whenever they connive at the abounding of this iniquity. If the law is violated, the guardians of our peace should shew that they will inflict the penalties of disobedience, and so be "a terror to evil doers and a praise to them that do well." Every elector should demand that laws be made for the suppression of intemperance, and do what he can to create a correct public sentiment in reference to the blessings of sobriety. Christian ministers especially would benefit their people by preaching on this subject, and may be the means of great good to the families of their congregations, by giving their countenance to everything which will help them to live "soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world."

Respectfully submitted.

S. SELDEN, *Chairman.*

(K)

REPORT ON UNION SOCIETIES.

Our Union Societies originated about twenty-three years ago, for the specific purpose of gathering into one fountain from the thousand rivulets, the voluntary offerings of the people. When they have been worked upon the original plan, they have been largely productive in developing the scriptural principle of systematic benevolence, but when they have been neglected, the contributions of the churches have been comparatively small. The plan adopted originally, we believe, was for each church to form a Union Society within its precincts, the officers of which to be a President, Secretary, Treasurer and Collectors; that monthly or quarterly calls be made by the collectors, and that public quarterly meetings be held with a view to excite interest in the objects embraced, viz.: Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Infirm Ministers, Ministerial Education, and French Missions.

It is with sad regret your committee report most of the Union Societies in this Association dead or languishing. Very generally the calls for the people's offerings are deferred till just before the Association; the money is scarce, the offerings small, and our religious enterprise crippled.

Your committee present this subject to the prayerful consideration of the churches, and respectfully entreat the the pastors and messengers immediately upon their return home, to lay this subject conspicuously before their respective churches, resuscitate the societies, and work them out according to their original design.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES PARKER, *Chairman.*

(L)

REPORT ON DEPARTED BRETHERN.

Your committee beg leave to report that our brother, Rev. Wellington Jackson, has gone to rest with his Saviour whom he loved, and whom he delighted to preach to his

fellow-men. Our Brother experienced the religion of Jesus in the winter of 1829, during the memorable reformation of that year, by which the counties of Annapolis and Kings were so signally blessed.

He commenced preaching in 1830, and in August of 1832 was, by the church of Nictaux, licensed to preach, and immediately went to the Seminary at Wolfville, where he remained three years. In January of 1836 he visited Westport, and soon after was called to the pastorate of that church, and was ordained to the work of the christian ministry.

Our brother was a warm-hearted, zealous preacher of the gospel, and was considerably blessed in winning souls to Christ, but owing to organic physical disease, his last years were greatly beclouded, and although he partially rallied, so that he would sometimes preach with good effect, yet it was evident that his days of usefulness were past, and he gradually sank, until he fell asleep on the 9th day of October, 1864, aged 51 years.

Respectfully submitted.

CHAS.^d RANDALL, *Chairman.*

MINISTERS IN THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION.

NAMES.	Present Residence.	Date of Ordination.	Where ordained.
Rev. H. Angell,.....	Yarmouth,	Feb. 13, 1853.	Milton.
" H. Achilles, ...	Parker's Cove,..	Nov. 1, 1854.	Marshall's Cove.
" G. Armstrong,....	Bridgetown,....	Dec. 30, 1848.	Port Medway.
" A. W. Barss, ..	Ragged Islands,	June 6, 1855.	Lunenburg, N.W.
" A. Cogswell, ...	Beaver River,...	Jan. —, 1843.	Chute's Cove.
" G. D. Cox,	Clements,	Jan. 4, 1865.	Clements.
" T. C. DeLong, ..	New Germany, ..	Feb. —, 1834.	New Albany.
" W. G. Goucher,	Hebron,	May 11, 1853.	Hebron, [N. B.
" J. E. Goucher, ..	Port Medway, ...	Oct. 5, 1859.	Upper Gagetown,
" W. Hall,	Long Island, ...	July —, 1842.	Fredericton, N.B.
" E. N. Harris, ...	Liverpool,	July 11, 1828.	Kingston, N. B.
" J. C. Morse, ...	Digby Neck,	Mar. 30, 1842.	Digby Neck.
" A. Martell,	Tusket,	Mar. 20, 1849.	Antigonish.
" J. A. Moore, ...	Hillsburg,	Aug. 5, 1857.	Port George.
" P. F. Murray, ..	Chute's Cove, ...	Mar. 14, 1848.	Westport.
" R. S. Morton, ..	Nictaux,	Feb. —, 1852.	Nictaux.
" J. McKenne, ...	Sable River,	Oct. 20, 1859.	Greenfield.
" M. Normonday,	Tusket,	July 20, 1859.	Yarmouth.
" Obed Parker, ..	Aylesford,	Feb. 21, 1844.	Wilmot.
" W. G. Parker, ..	Nictaux,	Jan. 20, 1843.	New Albany.
" D. O. Parker, ..	Brookfield,	Mar. 23, 1861.	Liverpool.
" W. L. Parker, ..	Arcadia,	Sept. 30, 1863.	Upper Aylesford.
" R. D. Porter, ..	Hebron,	Sept. 17, 1857.	Dartmouth.
" W. H. Porter, ..	Wilmot,	Sept. 5, 1862.	Wilmot.
" C. Randall,	Weymouth,	July 11, 1833.	Weymouth.
" S. Richardson,	Westport, .....	.....	.....
" W. H. Richan,	Barrington,	Sept. 30, 1863.	Barrington.
" J. H. Saunders,	Ohio, Yarmouth,	Aug. 11, 1858.	Ohio, Yarmouth.
" J. A. Stubbart, ..	Deerfield, do.	Dec. 17, 1843.	Port Medway.
" James Spencer,	Digby,	May 17, 1853.	Chester.
" A. Stronach, ...	Aylesford, .....	.....	.....
" C. Tupper, D.D.	Aylesford,	July 17, 1817.	Canard.
" J. F. Tooker, ...	Digby,	Apr. 5, 1863.	N. Sydney, C. B.
" N. Vidito,	Wilmot,	May 10, 1832.	Wilmot.
" Amos Weaver,	Milton,	Jan. 16, 1864.	Milton. [N. B.
" Isaiah Wallace,	Lower Granville,	— —, 1856.	Scotch Town,

FRENCH MISSION in account with Wm. CHURCHILL,
Treasurer.

1864.		Dr.	
June 6.	To balance per account rendered, (see last year's Minutes,).....		\$71 69
1865.			
May —	To Rev. J. H. Sanders, expenses on collecting tour,	91 43	
	To Joseph Shaw, premium-of insurance on house,	5 00	
24.	To Missionary's salary one year to date,.....	480 00	
			\$648 12
1864.		Cr.	
June 18.	By Western Association,.....	\$286 89	
	Mrs. Harris's Legacy,.....	12 00	
	Rev. A. Cogswell, donation,.....	1 00	
	Mrs. A. Cogswell,	0 50	
	St. Mary's Bay Bethel Church,.....	6 65	
	Joseph Sabean, donation,.....	3 80	
24.	St. Mary's Bay Church,.....	6 25	
	3rd Yarmouth Church, Deerfield,.....	11 12½	
	Central Association,.....	33 35	
	Eastern Association,.....	12 00	
1865.			
Feb. 20.	Joseph Shaw, donation,.....	5 00	
	William Churchill, donation,.....	5 00	
	Joseph Trefry,	1 00	
	Norman Baker,	0 50	
	Samuel Brown,	2 00	
	Rev. Henry Angell,	2 00	
	John Haley,	1 00	
	Comfort Haley,	1 00	
	Charles P. Morrill,	1 00	
	Joseph McConnell	0 50	
	William Gridley,	2 50	
Mar. 24.	J. Knowland's apple tree produce,.....	1 00	
	St. Mary's Bay Church,.....	5 78	
	New Tuskct,	12 60	
	Weymouth,	4 50	
	Collected by Rev. J. H. Sanders, including \$12.87½ given for charity fund as follows:		
	2nd Hillsburg Church,.....	5 58½	
	1st Hillsburg	8 90½	
	Clements	4 11½	
	Round Hill,	1 62½	
	Lower Granville	8 00	
	Bridgetown	3 25	
	Nictaux	2 00	
	Pine Grove	10 12½	
	Wilnot	11 17½	
	Tremont	1 87	
	Berwick	9 76	
	Upper Aylesford	7 26½	

Kentville and New Minas Church,.....	4 48 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wolfville " "	25 21
Gaspereaux " "	6 68
3rd Cornwallis, Lakeville, " "	12 00
5th Cornwallis, Canning, " "	8 33
1st Cornwallis, Canard, " "	16 45
Hantsport " "	5 56
Windsor " "	4 16
Halifax Granville Street " "	28 00
Mahone Bay " "	5 62 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bridgewater " "	2 50
Port Medway " "	7 00
Milton " "	9 12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Liverpool " "	12 12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Locke's Island " "	12 55

FOR CHARITY FUND.

Daniel Nichols,.....	0 62 $\frac{1}{2}$
Helen Sanders,.....	0 25
Alexander Robinson,.....	5 00
W. L. Evans,.....	1 00
Mrs. T. Twining,.....	6 00
	12 87 $\frac{1}{2}$

May 26.

Upper Aylesford Church,.....	8 00
West Yarmouth " "	9 75
Ohio " "	3 25
	636 29

To balance,..... \$11 83

E. E.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL, *Treasurer.**Yarmouth, June 6th, 1865.*

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, *Treasurer, in account with the DOMESTIC MISSIONARY BOARD of the W. B. ASSOCIATION of NOVA SCOTIA.*

1864.	DR.	
June 17.	Balance from last year's account,.....	\$ 11 75
	Asa Morse, Treasurer of the Association, the amount of contributions forwarded by the Churches, &c., for the Domestic Mission,.....	335 37
	The following sums were collected by the Missionaries:—	
Sept. 7.	Rev. H. Saunders, on his mission of 6 weeks in Lunenburg County,.....	3 00
19.	Rev. Samuel Richardson, for 6 weeks mission in Dalhousie West, &c.,.....	16 55
Dec. 26.	Rev. H. Achilles, for 6 weeks at Milford and Graywood,.....	5 00
	Rev. W. H. Richan, for 13 weeks at Barrington and Shelburne,	30 00

1865.			
Jan. 29.	Rev. Augustus Shields, for 5 weeks at Port Matoon, Port Matoon Island, &c,.....	8	42 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mar. 28.	Rev. Obed Parker, for 12 weeks at Jeddore, Laurencetown and Musquodoboit,.....	48	00
	Rev. Isa. Wallace, 4 weeks to Annapolis Royal,...	5	50
	do donation,.....	6	50
	Rev. A. W. Barss, for 6 weeks to Cape Canso,.....	48	00
			<u>\$518 09$\frac{1}{2}$</u>

1864.		CR.	
June 18.	Rev. R. S. Morton, balance due on last year's mission to N. Albany, Springfield and Sherbrook, ..	40	00
July 12.	Rev. H. Saunders, on account of mission in Lunenburg County,.....	16	00
Sept. 17.	Rev. H. Saunders, bal. due on the above mission, ..	32	00
Oct. 24.	Rev. Samuel Richardson, 6 weeks to Dalhousie West, &c,.....	48	00
	Rev. W. H. Richan, on account of mission to Barrington and Shelburne,	60	00
Dec. 26.	Rev. H. Achilles, 6 weeks to Graywood and Milford,.....	48	00
	Rev. W. H. Richan,.....	30	00
18 ⁷⁵ .	do. do. bal. due on his mission of 13 weeks to Barrington and Shelburne,.....	14	00
Feb. 14.	Rev. Augustus Shields, 5 weeks to Port Matoon Island, &c,.....	40	00
Mar. 28.	Rev. Obed Parker, 12 weeks to Jeddore, Laurencetown and Musquodoboit,.....	96	00
June 9.	Rev. Isa. Wallace, 4 weeks to Annapolis Royal, ..	32	00
	Rev. N. Vidito, 1 week at Milford,.....	8	00
	Rev. A. W. Barss, 6 weeks at Cape Canso,.....	48	00
	Postage, Registry, and Money orders,.....	2	24
	Not collected on subscriptions pledged at last Association,.....	4	00
			<u>518 24</u>

Balance due Treasurer,.....14 $\frac{1}{2}$ cts.

E. E.

GEORGE ARMSTRONG, Treasurer.

June 12, 1865.

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Account of Monies paid in at the Western Association convened at Milton, June 10th, 1865.

CHURCHES.	TOTAL.									
	Home Mission.	Foreign Mission.	Infirm Ministers.	Ministerial Education.	French Mission.	Gaelic Mission.	Bible Circulation.	Am. & F. Bible Soc'ty.		
Annapolis and Upper Granville.....	\$14 00	15 50	4 00	2 68	8 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	44 18
Brookfield.....	5 37½	6 00	2 63	3 75	4 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	21 75½
Beaver River.....	7 12½	5 32½	5 25	1 00	8 62½	1 00	.....	.....	.....	28 32½
Clements.....	10 95½	9 82½	5 02	.....	10 19	.....	.....	.....	.....	35 99
Digby.....	2 78	4 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 78
Greenfield.....	2 00	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 00
Hampton.....	2 50	5 92½	1 00	1 00	2 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	11 92½
Hillsburg 1st.....	3 50	2 50	0 25	1 00	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	10 00
Hillsburg 2nd.....	3 56	1 82½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 63½
Kempt.....	2 00	4 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 00
Lake George.....	0 98	2 87	.....	.....	3 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	6 83
Liverpool.....	14 00	27 64	3 00	2 92	6 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	53 56
Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot.....	13 00	13 00	5 04½	2 00	7 00	.....	.....	1 50	.....	41 54½
Lower Granville.....	5 50	30 00	5 00	5 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45 50
Long Island.....	6 00	6 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12 00
Lewis Head.....	1 00	1 00	.....	.....	1 57	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 57
Milton.....	14 29	11 00	4 00	5 00	8 50	.....	4 00	.....	.....	46 79
Middlefield.....	2 00	1 00	.....	.....	1 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 00
Nictaux.....	20 47½	18 50	2 00	1 75	14 78½	2 16½	2 05	.....	.....	61 72½
New Albany.....	4 50½	2 10	1 25	.....	1 37½	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 98
New Tusket.....	2 00	2 00	.....	.....	11 25	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 50
Port Medway and Mills Village.....	8 00	8 00	8 00	10 00	4 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	20 00
Pine Grove.....	10 00	10 00	8 00	10 00	10 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	48 00
Ragged Island.....	12 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12 00
Sisaboo.....	1 25	2 60	.....	.....	5 30	.....	.....	.....	.....	8 55

St. Mary's Bay..... 1 87½
 Sherbrooke West..... 12 69½
 16 13

PROVINCIAL

Sabbath School Convention.

The Annual Meeting of the S. S. Convention was held at Canard, Cornwallis, on Monday, June 19th, 1865.

The President in the chair. The Officers and Boards were elected as follows:—

FOR THE PROVINCE:—S. Selden, President.

Rev. A. H. Munro, Secretary.

Rev. Dr. Pryor, Treasurer.

FOR WESTERN ASSOCIATION:—Rev. H. Angell, Rev. J. H. Saunders, S. BROWN.

FOR CENTRAL ASSOCIATION:—J. W. Barss, Rev. D. Freeman, and Rupert Eaton.

FOR EASTERN ASSOCIATION:—Rev. J. E. Balcom, T. B. Layton, David Page.

At the Western Association at Milton, a meeting of the S. S. Convention was held on Tuesday evening the 13th of June.

Rev. Jos. H. Saunders read the statistics of Sabbath Schools so far as they had been received.

Addresses were delivered on the following subjects:—

1. Why are Sabbath Schools necessary? by Rev. W. H. Porter.

2. Who should be Sabbath School Teachers? by Rev. W. G. Goucher.

3. Sabbath School Concerts; their nature, advantages and dangers, by Rev. W. H. Richan.

At the S. S. Meeting with the Central Association, Rev. David Freeman stated that only a small proportion of the Schools had sent returns with their statistics; which he supposed to have arisen from the circumstance of no blank forms having been sent. Some supposed that the statistics sent to the Autumn session, held at Cornwallis last year, precluded the necessity for statistics being forwarded again at the present time.

Three addresses were then given:—

1. What are the objects to be sought by Sabbath Schools? by Rev. S. March.
2. What faculties of the soul should principally be cultivated in Sabbath Schools? by Rev. Amos Weaver.
3. The uses of Poetry and Music as means of instruction in Sabbath Schools? by Rev. D. M. Welton.

At the Eastern Association the following subjects were discussed:—

1. What are the essential characteristics of efficient Teaching in Sabbath Schools? by Rev. James E. Balcorn.
2. Prayer in Sabbath Schools. How may the young be taught to pray? by Rev. Mr. Langridge, late of Ottawa, Canada West.
3. Preaching, Teaching, and Training: What are their relative merits in Sabbath School instruction? by Rev. T. A. Higgins.

The time which it is possible to appropriate to Sabbath School matters at our Associational gatherings, renders it impossible for us to organize the Convention properly, or distinguish the Sabbath School Delegates from the members of the Association and others present at the public meetings, or make use of communications from individual schools, as might be done at a separate meeting, solely for the purpose of a Sabbath School Convention. It is nevertheless highly important that there shall be some recognition of Sabbath School work, at each session of the Association. If, therefore, returns could be obtained from all the Sabbath Schools in each of the Associations at an earlier date, so as to present a summary of the whole, and some reference to particular cases or schools before the several Associational gatherings, it would be very desirable. All the schools would then be brought before all parts of the Province united in Convention, and there would be a better opportunity of having the full statistical information published. This work, brethren, is of the highest moment and worthy of your best energies. When we engage in it heartily we follow the footsteps of the Divine Redeemer, the Great Teacher.

At the S. S. meeting held at Amherst the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That this meeting recommends the officers of this Convention to adopt such measures, during the ensuing year, as they may be able, for the purpose of securing an earlier and fuller return of the statistics from the Sabbath Schools in connection with the denomination throughout the Province.

The Secretaries have taken pains to get together the statistics contained in the following tables, and yet they are very imperfect.

As some of the Schools have failed to report their numbers of "males" and "females," both as respects scholars and Teachers, we are unable to give the Totals under those separate heads, and can only give the aggregate number without such distinction. We hope that more care will be taken in future in giving these particulars. The following are the totals of the Returns sent in:—

	Schools.	Scholars.	Teachers.
Western Association,	30	1841	227
Central " "	37	2454	310
Eastern " "	17	848	124
	—	—	—
	74	5143	661

In the Western Association ten schools, containing about 649 scholars, report themselves last year, but have failed to do so this year.

In the Central Association the larger proportion of the schools failed to report themselves, but the Secretary obtained the statistics of a number from the returns sent to the session of the Convention held in September 1864. Still there are eight schools containing upwards of 400 scholars reported last year but not in the above list.

In the Eastern Association fifteen schools, containing upwards of 600 scholars, reported themselves last year, but have failed to do so at the present.

There are, therefore, probably, about one hundred and seven Sabbath Schools, containing about seven thousand Scholars, in connection with the Baptist Churches in our three Associations.

S. S.

Statistics of Sabbath Schools in the Western Baptist Association. June, 1865.

SCHOOLS.	SUPERINTENDENTS.		SCHOLARS.		Average attendance.	TEACHERS.		Members of Church in B. C. & S. S.	Volumes in Library.	Expended during the year.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.				
1st Yarmouth.....	115	160	275	145	11	23	34	20	450	200 00
West Yarmouth.....	20	25	45	28	4	5	9	6	180	19 00
Westport.....	35	40	75	75	7	5	12	40	250	15 00
New Albany.....	17	18	35	80	2	3	5	10	366	11 75
Lower Aylesford & Up. Wilmot, 4 Schools,	96	98	194	156	11	10	21	58	368	22 00
Torbrook, Wilmot.....	30	35	65	55	4	4	8	12	150	20 00
North Hillsburgh.....	38	37	75	60	4	5	9	12	100	30 00
2nd Hillsburgh.....	18	15	33	30	3	4	7	15	100	8 00
Digby.....	16	8	24	22	2	2	4	.....	100	10 00
St Mary's Bay.....	20	30	50	40	3	3	6	.....	200	16 50
West Valley.....	30	20	50	40	2	2	4	5	100	10 00
Lake George.....	35	40	75	60	7	5	12	25	100	.....
Nictaux.....	40	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Liverpool.....	46	70	116	75	8	13	21	.....	128	27 40
Springfield.....	22	20	42	37	3	3	6	.....	200	20 00
Falkland Ridge.....	10	11	21	21	1	3	4	.....	250	.....
Lower Granville, 4 schools.....	.....	.....	195	180	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16 00
West Sherbrooke.....	15	18	33	23	2	2	4	.....	150	.....
Port Williams.....	28	40	68	60	4	10	14	6	250	2 00
Ohio.....	35	40	75	70	10	3	13	6	23	130
Greenfield.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kempt.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lock's Island.....	20	30	50	50	2	4	6	.....	250	.....
1st Hillsburgh.....	.....	.....	75	.....	.....	.....	8	.....	250	24 00
	.....	1841	.....	.....	.....	227	77	230	4072	451 75

Mission to the Acadian French.

REPORT OF FRENCH MISSION BOARD.

Fourteen years ago no Protestant mission was established among the Acadian French of this Province, nor any regular evangelistic labor among them expended. This vast body of our population, numbering some 20,859, lay sleeping in the arms of the papacy; to a sad extent, without bibles, without education or schools for securing it, without an evangelical ministry, or a true knowledge of the way of salvation. Firmly wedded to the delusive superstitions of the Romish Church, they were regarded by evangelical christians as in the way of spiritual darkness leading down to eternal night.

Considering their numbers, their social and moral condition, and their proximity to us; and withal, it may be, the injuries they had sustained at the hands of our forefathers, the hearts of a few among us were touched with commiseration of their condition and yearned for their salvation. Consequently at a meeting of this Association held in Yarmouth in the year 1851, their claims were presented and the sympathies of our denomination appealed to on their behalf. The result was that, through the agency of the Home Mission Board, the services of Bro. O. Chute were employed and a mission was established among them. In 1853 a separate Board for working this mission was appointed and located in Yarmouth. For seven years, with varying prospects, Bro. Chute labored in this cause, at the expiration of which time commodious mission premises had been procured, although somewhat in debt, one person had proposed faith in Christ by baptism, several individuals and some families had renounced Romanism, and a spirit of enquiry seemed to be extending amid bitter opposition, when he was compelled to abandon his post on account of failing health.

In this juncture the friends of the Mission directed their enquiries for a labourer to Canada, whence Bro. Michael Normonday, of the Grand Ligne Mission, was immediately obtained, of whose success in the work high hopes were

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entertained, he being of their kindred by birth, speaking their language as his own vernacular, having been trained in the superstitions of their religion until mature years, and, having been enlightened by heavenly wisdom, manifested a loving and tender solicitude for their salvation. And for years succeeding the hopes thus raised were not altogether disappointed. At successive yearly gatherings of our body reports were made of additional families having abandoned Romanism, additional individuals having given evidence of conversion, additional believers having professed their faith in Christ by baptism, and easier access enjoyed by the missionary to the homes and the hearts of the people, until in 1863 the Mission reckoned as its fruits 10 baptized converts, 21 families friendly to the missionary, mission premises in possession, clear of debt, having cost about £800, one Sabbath School established, a mission day school on the eve of opening, three places for meeting occupied, and interest in the truth from time to time being manifested by additional individuals.

But as professions of change of heart were not, in every case, genuine in the time of Christ and his Apostles, nor have been at any time or in any place, since; so if there should be some professed converts among the Acadian French who disappoint the hopes which may have been cherished respecting them, this should not be surprising, nor have the effect to lessen our faith or repress our zeal. Two out of the 21 baptized have turned back and walk no more with the followers of Christ. And this proportion is not greater than we have occasion to regret in any of our churches where fewer difficulties are experienced and more advantages enjoyed.

Your Board in presenting this, their eleventh annual report, having sketched thus rapidly the past history of the Mission, deem it advisable to describe briefly the field it now occupies. This lies within the Counties of Yarmouth and Digby, which contain a French population of about 8370. The mission premises are located at Tusket, in the parish of which, comprising the settlements of Eel Brook, Pass de Pré and the Forks there are some 500 French families. Adjoining this parish, on the west side of the Tusket river, in the township of Yarmouth is the French settlement known as the Wedge, comprising also some 300

families. About 20 miles east from Tusket is Pubnico, comprising also some 300 families. Northwardly in the County of Digby are the thickly populated French settlements of Chitichamp, Metegan, and Saulnierville, and, beyond, at a distance of some 60 miles from the Mission house, is St. Mary's Bay where communities of these people reside. At the last named place is found what seems to be the most productive soil of the Mission field. Here a house for weekday and Sabbath School purposes, as well as for public worship, has been built by the people when a congregation of 50 or more assemble for social worship and to receive the ministrations of the word. At Metegan, and at Pubnico private dwellings are opened for occasional preaching. Next to the district of the North Range on St. Mary's Bay, for productiveness, Pubnico seems to promise most results for labor expended. Here as well as at St. Mary's Bay the French seem to be of a better class in morals, social elevation and thrift, than in some other parts of the field. But, as a people, it may be said of them, throughout, they are in the darkness of ignorance and error, they are fortified against the truth by the strongest prejudice and the most settled hate, and stand in direful need of earnest evangelistic efforts.

The labor devolved upon a missionary in such a field as this cannot be understood without personal observation. The amount of labor and the manner of it, that seemed to promise most, in the circumstances, has been the following. From Tusket the missionary has made stated tours, at intervals of five weeks, through Chiticamp, Metegan, and Saulnierville to St. Mary's Bay; returning, has devoted a portion of time to the settlements in the neighborhood of the Mission premises and has there completed the round by making a visit to Pubnico. The character of his labors in these districts is varied according to the varying circumstances of time and place. At St. Mary's Bay public meetings are held, at each visit, on Sabbaths and work-day evenings, the services of which are sometimes conducted in the French language, and at others in the English, either being understood by the people. Here it has also been a custom to have informal meetings whenever occasion offered, the people gathering at evening wherever the missionary happened to be, and engaged in conversation, sometimes on

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personal experience, at others on gospel topics, and at others taking the form of animated argumentation and discussion of points in dispute between Romanists and Baptists, which, because of the lively interest felt, would be unconsciously protracted until a late hour. Such meetings as these are of quite frequent occurrence. Next to the place above named, meetings have been held with most advantage at Pubnico. But at both these places family visitation and private interviews, as opportunity offered, have been prominent means for securing the ends desired, while at all the other points, these last have seemed the only means available. Sometimes, on such occasions, the missionary has been allowed to read and expound the scriptures and offer prayer, and where the opportunity has offered, has availed himself of it. During the year he has travelled 2678 miles; made 221 family visits, and preached 49 sermons. Here it might be remarked, that in most sections of the field, the Sabbath is the least favorable day of the week for missionary labor, and preaching the most ineffectual means, as the people cannot be collected into congregations, and on this day are mostly devoted to pleasure. The missionary has also distributed 35 copies of the scriptures and 2000 pages of tracts.

With reference to the results of the year's efforts, with sorrow and shame, we have to report, again, that they are not what we could have desired. Yet we cannot say that nothing has been achieved. We have grounds for believing that three persons of the French have, during the past year, fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before them, through the instrumentality of our missionary. One of these was a woman, a widow, in humble circumstances, who in the early part of the year, turned from the crucifix to the cross and laid up her trust in Jesus as her savior. She has since died in the triumphs of faith. The opposition of her friends, the influence of the priest, nor the neglect and harshness of her only son on whom she was dependent for support, could shake her faith, or daunt her courage. She died in joyful trust in Christ desiring that Brother Charles Randall, rather than the priest, should officiate at her funeral, which request was complied with.

Another, a young man belonging to a family of most determined hostility to Protestantism, was accustomed to

manifest kindness toward the missionary, and take pleasure in conversation with him on religious subjects, yet never avowed his faith and hope in Christ until during his last sickness. Being kept secluded from christian influence during his illness, little is known of his exercises, except the reports given by a sister, herself a convert. Enough however is known to warrant the assurance that he slept in Jesus.

The other is a man, the head of a large family, who only waits to be accompanied by his wife who some time since renounced Popery, and it is hoped, is interested in the blood and righteousness of Christ, to avow, openly, his attachment to the Saviour in the ordinance of Baptism. Having learned that too much haste in bringing persons into an open profession of religion, is calamitous to the cause, the missionary has not urged them hastily to this step.

Encouraging results of labor are also recognized in the easier access enjoyed by the missionary to a number of families before decidedly hostile, and an increasing spirit of enquiry manifested on the part of individuals. There are grounds for believing that from month to month, the truth presented to this people is making its impression, and that results are constantly being obtained that can find no record here, but which future years or eternity will develop.

Among those who, before, publicly put on Christ there is exhibited a pleasing steadfastness and growth in grace. We believe that in soul-stirring and active piety they surpass the members of our English churches generally. At a meeting of your Board, recently held, it was remarked by one who has been more intimate with the majority of them than any other, except the missionary, and whose estimate in the case would be as readily received as that of any other, that "with respect to their decision and piety he has seen nothing so encouraging in his own church or elsewhere for a length of time. Although the Acadian French have not been converted by scores, yet there are results discernable of the past years' labor in view of which we should thank God and take courage.

Your Board, however, would not deem it wise to stimulate hopes of future success which may not be realized. There are obstacles surrounding the mission which can only

be removed by believing prayer and patient protracted effort. The friends of the mission must be aware that the hold which the superstitions of Catholicism take of the minds of its adherents, cannot be at once and easily broken. The influence of the priests; the persecutions by friends; the horrors of excommunication and final perdition, with inveterate prejudices, conspire to make the gospel of God's dear Son, proclaimed in purity and simplicity, to be hated and rejected. These seem to be the necessary and inevitable obstacles in the way of efforts for the conversion of Romanists every where. But in addition to these your missionary finds difficulties of a local kind which are a serious impediment to him in his work. Personal grievances, real or imaginary, have been made, most unreasonably, the occasion for relentless opposition to the cause and work of the mission, by individuals who ought to be its friends. Rumours to the prejudice of the converts and the missionary, which the most superficial investigations of the most careless observer, (much less thorough acquaintance,) would show to be entirely false, have found circulation and credence, thus weakening the faith of the supporters of the mission and thereby impairing the mainspring of successful effort. Even in the immediate vicinity of our present gatherings, grave charges have been propagated and circulated which the Board indignantly repel as unfounded and base. But obstacles and opposition are not a cause for discouragement, Christ must reign until his enemies are put under his feet, and his friends "can do nothing against the truth but for the truth."

Again, the extent of the field and the amount of traveling, consequently which has to be performed by the missionary, must be regarded as operating against immediate results. But, finally, the location of the mission premises must be regarded, for several reasons, as unfavorable to success. These premises are not among the French; they are remote from the points where the mission has, and is likely to have, its greatest success; and they are not among friends. Feeling the disadvantages under which the mission lies in this respect, and a lot with an unfinished building upon it, in a favorable locality, and Saulnierville, having been purchased by individuals and being held for the acceptance of the mission, agreeably with a resolution of the

last Association, an act has been obtained from the Legislature empowering the Board to dispose of the property at Tusket, and a committee has been appointed to finish the building and prepare for occupation of the premises at Saulnierville. At the last meeting of the Board this committee reported that material had been secured and labor engaged for the work. As to the result of this change the Board indulges sanguine hopes.

Nothing has been done in the mission school during the past year, for the reasons, principally, that the mission premises are unfavorably located for gathering a school, and the wife of the missionary has been suffering from impaired health.

In material support for carrying on the operations of the mission, the Board has felt no want during the past year. An agency undertaken by bro. Jos. H. Saunders during the winter in the Counties of Digby, Annapolis, Kings, Halifax, and Queens, was quite successful, and the funds so collected with the sums raised by the Yarmouth Churches, and those pledged to be paid at this Association will meet present indebtedness and leave a balance in the treasury.

During the year your Board has held bi-monthly meetings, regularly, except when interrupted by unfavorable weather, and have taken a watchful and active interest in all the affairs of the mission. At those meetings a regular part of exercises has been to hear from the missionary an account of his doings, discouragements, and successes, and to learn and provide for the wants of the cause we are engaged to promote.

On a careful survey of the situation we see no cause for discouragement. We have a warrant in the commands of Christ for laboring in this field. We have an abundant guarantee for success in the promises he has given. A review of the past is calculated to stimulate our faith. The wants of the Acadians are as imperative as ever. The claims of God on us as a people, in this connection are binding as ever. Cease not praying or contributing, then, brethren, until this branch of our population are taught the truth as it is in Jesus, and renouncing their superstitions, turn to Christ as their Saviour.

R. D. PORTER, *Secretary.*