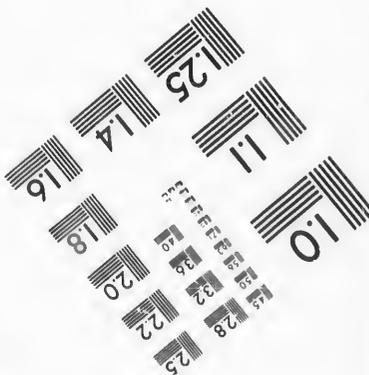
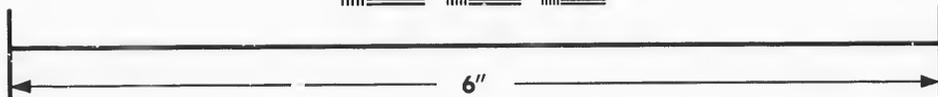
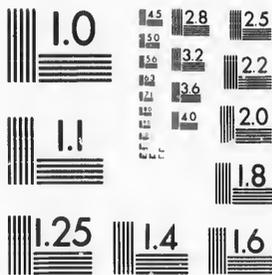


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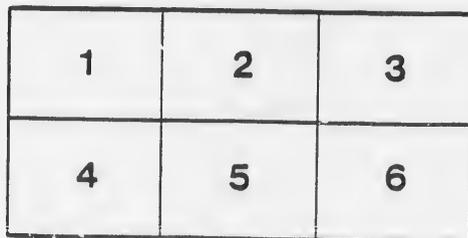
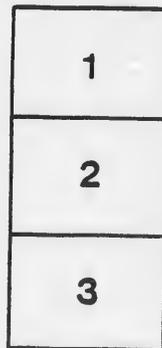
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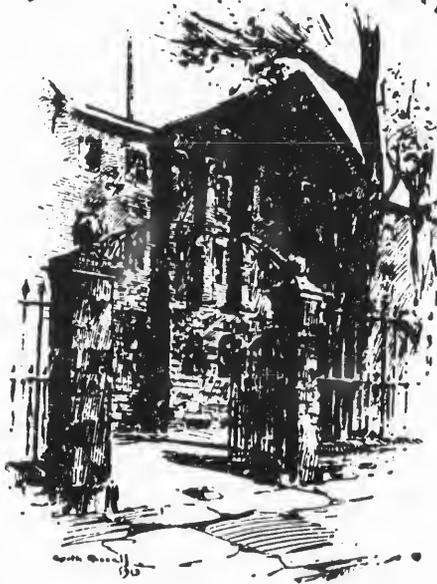
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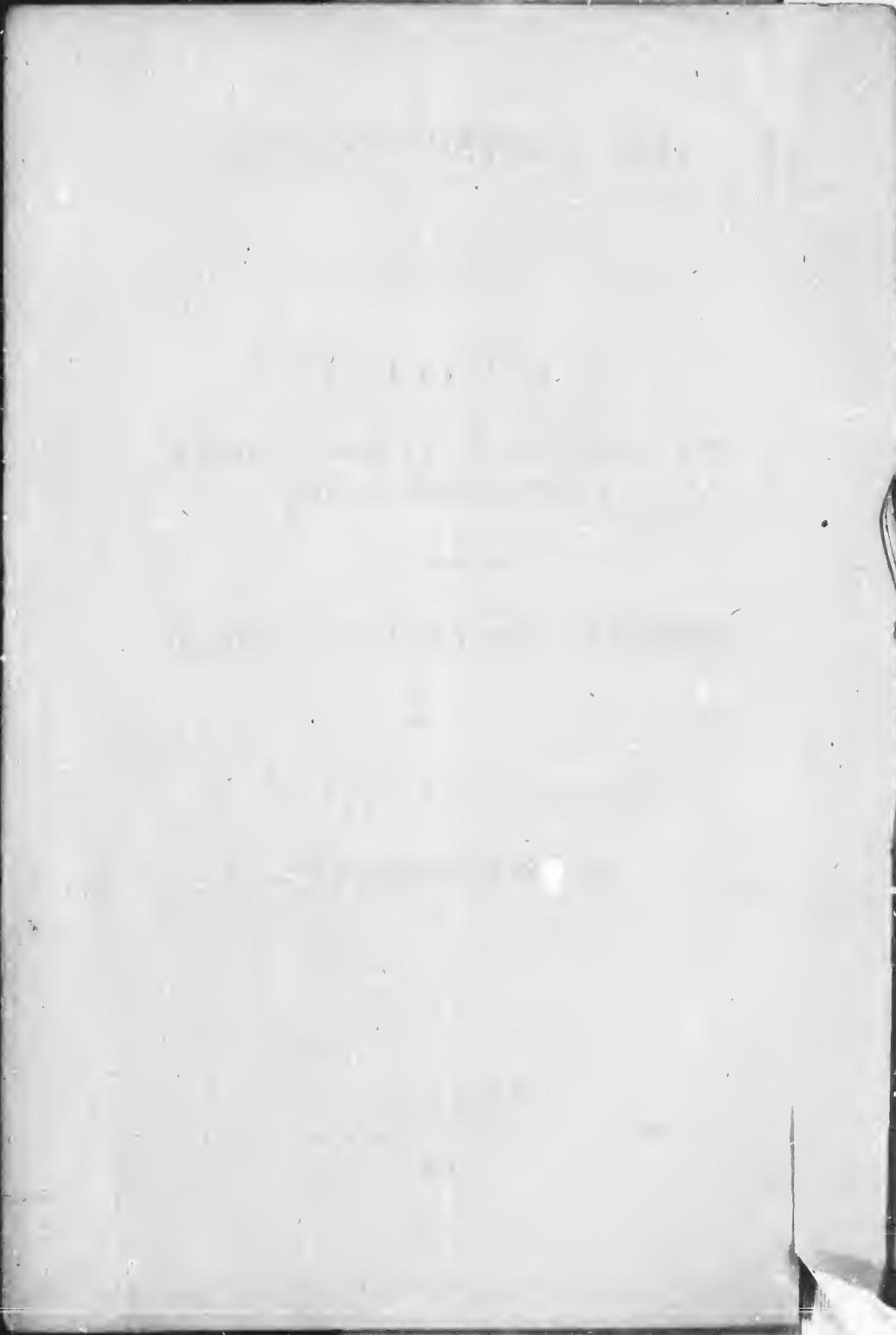
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R E P O R T
CONCERNING A
TEMPERANCE AND EDUCATIONAL MISSION
TO THE
EASTERN SHORE OF HALIFAX COUNTY,
BY JOHN S. THOMPSON, Esq.



THE EASTERN SHORE.

REPORT,

TO A COMMITTEE OF THE GRAND DIVISION,
S. of T., of NOVA SCOTIA,

CONCERNING A

TEMPERANCE AND EDUCATIONAL MISSION

TO THE

EASTERN SHORE OF HALIFAX COUNTY.

BY JOHN S. THOMPSON, ESQ.

Halifax, N. S. :

PRINTED AT THE "ABSTAINER" OFFICE.

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MEMORANDUM BY THE AGENCY COMMITTEE.

In the year 1857 a Bazaar was held at Halifax, under the auspices of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of this Province, for the purpose of raising a fund to be expended in promoting the progress of the principle and practice of Total Abstinence. Of the sum then obtained a considerable proportion was reserved for the exclusive benefit of the City and County of Halifax; but the greater part of this amount remains still in the hands of the Agency Committee, solely on account of the difficulty of procuring a Lecturer who would be likely to impress our city population. The repeated disappointments experienced by the Committee when trying to obtain such assistance, together with the success which had crowned the expenditure of the remaining portion of the fund, which had been employed in defraying the expenses of a number of Lecturers throughout the country—each delivering a course of lectures at various places within a certain distance from his own residence—at length induced the Committee to turn their attention to the remote districts of the County of Halifax, and, accordingly, they procured the consent of Mr John S. Thompson to deliver a series of lectures at the settlements on the Eastern Shore of that County. On Mr Thompson's return after the fulfilment of his engagement, he laid before the Committee a report of his proceedings containing a large amount of valuable and interesting information; and this report they now publish. They hope that the record of Mr Thompson's success in the prosecution of his mission may stimulate the friends of Total Abstinence to raise a fund for permanently establishing a system

of lectures on Temperance in every village and hamlet in Nova Scotia. This, they believe, and this alone, would ere long place in our hands the power of abolishing the traffic in intoxicating drinks, and enable us to avert the ruin which annually falls on hundreds of our countrymen, and the misery which is the lot of all who are so unfortunate as to be their relatives. The Committee are not without the hope also, that the light which Mr Thompson throws on the social and educational condition of a district which is probably less known and cared for by our legislators than any other part of the Province, may tend to obtain that sympathy and assistance without which the efforts to improve their position which its inhabitants are evidently so willing to make, must be to a great extent unavailing. The Committee respectfully commend these topics, to the favourable consideration of the many friends for whose consideration this Report has been prepared.

REPORT.

Some time in the summer of 1859 the Agency Committee proposed that I should go on a mission of about a month's duration, along the Eastern Shore of the County of Halifax. I accepted the proposition, but circumstances made it inconvenient for me to leave town about that time, and I also became aware that the season was quite unsuited for finding the men of the Shore at their several localities, and was told that about Christmas or New Year's would afford the best opportunities. A wish to be home at those seasons was only reasonable, but I left Halifax on the forenoon of December 13th on my way to Musquodoboit Harbour. Some unusual delay occurred on the road, but I arrived at the hospitable home of William Anderson, Esq., at about nine that evening.

Next morning I visited the School, and gave such notice of my intention to lecture that evening, as limited opportunities allowed.

At the hour appointed, the comfortable School-room was well occupied with an interesting audience; I spoke for upwards of an hour, was heard with much attention, distributed copies of printed address and tracts, and obtained eighteen names to the pledge.

Next morning I was kindly conveyed by waggon, a distance of about three miles, to the head of Jeddore Harbour, where I expected to lecture. On enquiring of Mr Myers, the friend of every effort at improving the locality, I found that but few of the men were at home, that I would have better opportunity on my return, and that I might obtain an audience by proceeding three or four miles down the Harbour. On arriving at the place alluded to, I understood that the people would that evening be assembled at a religious meeting, two or three miles lower down, and that I might see them there if I proceeded. I accordingly went on to the School-house at West Jeddore, where I arrived at dusk. The religious meeting was conducted by Mr Bell, a young man on a ministerial mission connected with the Baptist denomination. He announced my lecture for next evening, altering some arrangements of his own to give me opportunity. That night (fording some brooks, which picturesquely, but not conveniently, intersected the road) I proceeded to the residence of George Harple, Esq., near the entrance of the Harbour, whose hospitality I gratefully acknowledge. I lectured at the School-house next evening; courteous attention marked the audience. I distributed papers, and obtained twenty four signatures.

Next morning, Saturday, I proceeded from Mr Harple's to the

dwelling of Mr John Nauffis, "Kent's Island," where I was kindly entertained. I lectured at the School-house of the settlement next evening, obtaining eleven names. I remained at the locality on the Sabbath, and returned to Jeddore on Monday. Here, in the evening, I attended another religious meeting, expecting to be conveyed across the Harbour by some of the persons returning to their homes at the other side. Subsequent to much stumbling and a few falls in night-travelling across rocky fields and along the sea-shore, I obtained a passage, and felt compensated for my unpleasant ambulations, by glassy water, star-lit sky, and the hymn of "Happy Land" well sung by a lady passenger. Arrived at the East side of the Harbour, I remained that night at the dwelling of Mr R. Baker. Next day I made some arrangements towards announcing a meeting, and lectured same evening, to a few, in a sequestered place of worship. The night was dark, paths rugged, and weather threatening. On leaving the place of meeting, a brand from the stove, swayed heartily to and fro, was resorted to, as a means of lighting the track, and so preventing some aggravated renewal of the previous night's experience among the rocks. I obtained twelve names at the locality. A few years ago a conflagration ravaged the woodlands East of Jeddore,—greatly despoiling the appearance of extensive tracts of hill and dale, doing serious damage to buildings, and causing much comparative difficulty in reference to fire-wood and other products of the forest.

Tuesday morning I proceeded to Oyster Pond, towards the Head of Jeddore, where I was entertained at the dwelling of Mr—Mitchell, and lectured in a room of the house that evening. I distributed tracts, &c., and added fifteen names to my list, including those of grandfather and grandchildren.

Next morning I went on by rugged paths, and through swamp and wilderness, a distance of about five miles, to Clam Harbour. Here I was hospitably accommodated at the residence of Mr Fanning Stottard; notice of meeting was kindly given to neighbours, and I lectured in the evening in a room of the dwelling, and obtained six names. An interesting conversation on Education and Temperance followed my address.

I proceeded next day to Ship Harbour, a distance, on a wilderness path, of about nine miles. I was very kindly entertained at the residence of Mr D. F. Currie, found there was but slight probability of having a meeting that evening, arranged to "try again" on my return, and, after some unpleasant delay at the ferry, crossed the Harbour in a private boat, and started on my way towards Pope's Harbour.

At dusk I arrived at the picturesque locality called Shoal Bay—which opened cheerfully, on coast and sea scenery—after a solitary walk on a kind of "sled road" through the forest of spruce and

pine. There was no appearance of a meeting at the Bay, and no practicability of going farther that night; so I remained at the house to which I had been directed. A semicircle of both sexes, and various ages indeed, enjoyed the comforts of a well heaped hearth, taking into consideration shore roads and rail roads, and other topics of interest.

Subsequent to traversing and counter-traversing, along what are well called "blind roads," I arrived at Pope's Harbour, on Saturday afternoon, at the setting in of a chill, drifting snow storm. I went astray more than once during the day, on "sled roads," which were the best to be found, and might well be mistaken for main roads, where of main roads there were none. I felt thankful repeatedly, at the close of a solitary, though by no means monotonous walk, that no maiming of limb had happened, and that I was able to scramble along to next place of shelter. At Pope's Harbour I was kindly entertained at the residence of Mr Neil Polong. Here I passed Christmas day, the cold of which was intense, but the holiday did not lack its warm fireside, hereditary plum pudding, et-cetra. Rev Mr Jamison preached the festival sermon, to a congregation of some four and twenty persons. He kindly announced my meeting for next evening. I lectured accordingly in the little School-house of the settlement, which was nestled in a snug nook shaded by evergreen trees. Here the schoolmaster took the chair, and an interesting meeting, at which twenty-two names were obtained, was held. Among the names, as at Jeddore, were those of grandparent and grandchildren.

Setting out next afternoon, I proceeded over the new snow, to east side of Sheet Harbour, a distance of about fourteen miles, the ample measure of which I by no means questioned. Here I found hospitable shelter at the dwelling of Mr W. Hall, senr., the cold being considered more severe than any of the preceding winter.—Next morning I visited the two school-houses of the place, about a mile apart, but "Jack Frost" appeared more imperative than "Wm. Dilworth;" for only a few children were in attendance because of the weather. Such notice as appeared available was given of my meeting, which was held in the evening, at a school-house about half-a-mile from the Head, and at the east side of the Harbour. Good order and deep attention again marked my audience; I obtained eighteen names, the list being headed by the young lady in charge of the school, to whom I thus express acknowledgement for the good example given.

The weather continued severe and threatening; most of the time allotted for the mission had been expended, and awkward delays appeared probable if I proceeded farther; I therefore turned homeward cheerfully, on Thursday forenoon.

About seven miles from Sheet Harbour, I passed a bye-path,

leading to Taylor's Bay, where, I understood, an opportunity for speaking might be had at the house of one of the principal inhabitants. Doubtful of the circumstances, in consequence of the person alluded to dealing in liquors, and anxious to arrive at Pope's Harbour that evening, I passed along; but, on consideration, retraced my steps for above a mile, and turned to the Bay.

Here I was very kindly entertained, at the dwelling of Mr Henry Leslie, which is situated on a picturesque declivity;—around it were appurtenances of a shore farm,—and before, the curving, cottage dotted beach, the murmuring surf, the bold headlands, wooded islands, and fine Atlantic horizon. Here I held a Temperance meeting, the Mistress of the house giving valuable aid in forwarding the objects of my mission. The meeting was very interesting to myself, and twenty-one names were added to my list of pledged Totaliters. Four or five of the names belonged to the family in whose house I lectured; and the proprietor listened patiently to my plain-speaking. I hope to hear of him also adopting the pledge, and of the resolution being abundantly beneficial to all his best interests. Much pleased with my visit, I set out next morning towards Pope's Harbour, arrived there in due time, and proceeded to Tangier, on my way to Ship Harbour.

At Tangier, I stopped at the house of Mr John Mayer, where I was very kindly treated, but found no opportunity of lecturing. I hope he is convinced by this time, that the mention of wine in Scripture, gives no countenance to the modern intoxicating liquor system.

Leaving on next morning, I resumed my journey along the beach and through the wilderness; crossed Ship Harbour inlet about noon on Saturday, and again found hospitable entertainment at the residence of Mr Curry. That evening, under rather unpleasant circumstances of cold and want of usual accommodation in the deserted school-house, I lectured to a small attentive audience, and obtained nine names. Hearing of a meeting concerning a Militia Company, called for Monday, I considered it my duty, as facilities were presented, to wait and address the assemblage, seeking volunteers also. The meetings were announced, I attended accordingly, about 17 persons assembled, and, subsequent to the Militia enrollment, I delivered an address and added four names to my list.

Immediately subsequent to the meeting, I left on my way to Jeddore, and staid at a house five miles distant that night. Next morning I went on (crossing the just re-opened Salmon River Bridge) about nine miles to the Head of Jeddore, where I lectured at the house of Mr Wm. Myers, and obtained two names. Some fallacious notions seemed to prevent friends from coming up to what I considered the point of duty, as regarded avowal of principles and setting good example.

Same evening, after the meeting, I was conveyed by kindness of Mr James Ritchie, Methodist missionary, to Musquodoboit Harbor; the night was fine, and the moon beautifully illuminated the fields of snow and ice over which the sleigh glided. I again arrived at Mr Anderson's, at about nine o'clock, experiencing very kind welcome. Mr Ritchie offered the use of the Methodist chapel, for a Temperance meeting, for next evening. I thought it my duty to improve the unexpected opportunity,—and remained and lectured accordingly. The audience was not numerous, but very attentive and good humoured; eight names were added to my list of pledges,—making one hundred and seventy names obtained at the thirteen lectures of my mission. Again favoured by the kindness of Mr Ritchie, I left Musquodoboit by sleigh conveyance on the forenoon of January 5th, and arrived at Halifax at about six o'clock same evening, glad to be at home, and, thank Providence, feeling better, rather than worse, for my three weeks winter journey along the Eastern Shore.

In addition to the foregoing outline, a few paragraphs on certain particulars, may not be undesirable.

The line of coast from Halifax round Sheet Harbour, measuring along its chief sinuosities, some two hundred miles, is curiously indented with coves and inlets of the ocean. Between the places named, there are seventeen harbours, so called, some of them fine pieces of water. Running some miles inland,—north of Cole Harbour, Cow Bay, and Lawrencetown,—the road touches the waters of the coast, at Porter's Lake, and then on, by the head of Chezetcook, and Port Peswick, to Musquodoboit; there the course commences, as described in the outline.

At none of the houses where I rested and whose owners names have been mentioned, was any charge made for the accommodation experienced. My expenses were trifling, a chief item being composed of presents made for guidance in the paths between the settlements, and other incidental travelling services. A free, simple, unostentatious hospitality, marked the conduct of the kind people whose homes I visited.

In many places I noticed the elevating, refining, influences of religious profession, where many other advantages were absent. It tended to educate and dignify the mind, and, where a rude state might be apprehended, to give some tone of higher civilization and gentility.

The time of the winter was not propitious for gathering average audiences,—but my addresses were, on each of the occasions mentioned, treated respectfully and attentively. I generally occupied

about twenty minutes on Education, and from fifty to sixty on Temperance. My mode was, on the former topic, to speak of the nature of Education, and the duty of providing that element of respectability for the young; to describe the rudiments of Education, as eminently useful in themselves, but especially as forming an essential introduction to more advanced stages, and to point out some of these stages. To explain the great disadvantages caused by ignorance of the rudiments, in the race of life; to state the condition of Education along the Shore, the improvements that were demanded, the benefits that might be secured,—and otherwise call attention to the great subject in aid of its progress.

On Temperance,—I explained the origin of my mission, and its objects;—dwelt on the non-essential and dangerous character of intoxicating liquors;—on the evils of Intemperance; the deceptive plea of what is called the “moderate” use of ardent liquors, and the reasonableness and safety of “Total Abstinence.” I also combated some dangerous errors concerning use of liquors as common medicine,—concerning their application in cases of exposure to toil and hardship,—and concerning any supposed sanction of our pernicious liquor system, from the wines mentioned in Scripture. On most of these particulars I was in the habit of stating instances in proof of my argument. Supposing the audiences convinced of the truth of the propositions advanced, I then urged generally, not individually, the duty of making avowal of good principles, by acceptance of pledge and enrolment of names.

At some more advanced period, a Missionary might wisely include cottage and field economy, and other general topics, in his addresses.

The Committee having directed my attention to Education, as one of the objects of my mission, I not only made it a topic of my addresses as described, but made frequent enquiries concerning its state as I went along. On this I found some circumstances to admire, and others to lament. Within a few years several school-houses have been put up at various parts of the Shore, and are indications of a change from a state of great neglect and deprivation. Some of these are in useful operation, others are deserted, and additional accommodation is much required at other localities. A small new building, near the Head of Jeddore, was about to be opened for public worship, for different denominations;—and, as was hoped, for school purposes also. Mr Ritchie, the Methodist Missionary, was named as a zealous promoter of the improvement. Causes might be mentioned for the low state of the important Educational element of social life;—such as,—scattered settlement,—scantiness of means in some instances,—character of some teachers,—difficulty of obtaining others,—occasional want of interest and appreciation,—and, chiefly, want of active public sentiment, and

union of effort. While fine groups of young persons appear at each locality along the Shore,—great Educational deficiency or destitution has to be deplored. The remedy, most evidently, is a *wise system* of assessment, arrangement and management. To estimate this too highly, would be difficult,—and its accomplishment might well be considered worthy of some of the best efforts of our most enlightened statesmen, patriots and Christians.

The most respectable schools which I visited, as regarded school-houses, furniture, and teaching,—were those at each extremity of the line: one at Musquodoboit Harbour, and the other at the east side of Sheet Harbour. I heard that a small school was kept near the Head of Jeddore,—but from that down,—west and east of the Harbour, along lines of some twelve miles in extent, and comprising a population of four or five hundred souls, I understood that no school was in operation. About three schools should be on each side. Very praiseworthy anxiety was felt by some of the inhabitants, on this subject, and I hope to hear that the deficiency, in part, at least, will soon be done away. On Kent's Island, near entrance of Musquodoboit Harbour, three families support a school of themselves, rather than have their children grow up destitute of the advantages of Education. A couple of miles up that Harbour, a school is held one half the month; the other half, the teacher is employed at Oyster Pond, about eight miles distant. I found him at the latter place, engaged with his small class, in the family room of a cottage, the good wife's spinning wheel humming away while the children were reciting their lessons. I heard of no school between Oyster Pond and Ship Harbour,—and at the latter fine and comparatively populous settlement, on enquiring for the school teacher, I was told, to my surprise and regret, that no school was held there!—and that the person who recently taught had migrated to Pope's Harbour! Along the Shore, to Pope's Harbour, I heard of one school only; and on my return, the track of one of its little female pupils, across the snow, along cliffs and through bushes, for about a mile, was my only guide, through the otherwise trackless wild. At Pope's Harbour, an interesting school was about commencing,—to which, and to the venerable teacher and his partner in life, both from Auld Scotia, I wish all prosperity. Between Pope's Harbour and Sheet Harbour, I heard of but one school, and that maintained by one man in his own house! At Sheet Harbour were two schools: one on the west side, and the other, before alluded to, on the east. Thus along this coast line of some ninety miles, I found about six schools, two of them having the evidences of efficiency, and heard of two or three others, of but very small pretension and influence. When an observer thinks of the numerous fine-looking and intelligent children, what they will be without the rudiments of Education, and what they might be

with such rudiments well taught, an ardent desire for a better state of things, whether by legislative interference or otherwise, is a very natural emotion. It appears to me that an enlightened people like those of Nova Scotia, should not allow a state of things to exist that admits of such deprivation of one of the essentials of respectability and prosperity. Again I express a hope that the reproach may soon be removed, and not by vague and transitory effort, but by some praiseworthy approach to a wise system.

The places of worship observed by me along the line may be thus named : Musquodoboit Harbour, Free Church and Methodist, —handsome new buildings; Jeddore Head, Episcopal;—West Jeddore, Baptist,—East Jeddore, a small building, I believe Baptist;—Ship Harbour, Episcopal and Roman Catholic;—Pope's Harbour, the same;—Sheet Harbour,—Episcopal, Roman Catholic, and Presbyterian.

The roads of this line of coast, as well as the schools, require some serious attention. The people acknowledge the improvements which have been realized, as compared with a former period, in some parts,—but they complain loudly of the general state of the means of intercourse between the settlements, and of any demand for general taxes, until the localities are better provided for. It would be a difficult task, I found, to set about convincing them that they should contribute to railroads by which twenty miles are accomplished in the midland counties, while the shore is without "tracks," in many parts, except those suited to goats rather than to men or horses. From Musquodoboit, there is a back waggon road, to Ship Harbour, but at each side of Jeddore, and then along the shore settlements to Ship Harbour, the mode of intercourse is, during summer, by boat, when the boats and the hands are required for other purposes;—and in winter, when the boats are laid up, by rocky wilderness paths, through tangled swamps, along the slippery beach stones, and by a kind of steeple-chase course, across fields and over fences. At Ship Harbour, the back road from Halifax terminates, and the distance to Spry Harbour, about fifteen miles, has to be accomplished by pedestrian effort, under circumstances such as have been just described. From Spry Harbour there is a back waggon road to Sheet Harbour, a distance of some ten miles, seven of which are without a dwelling; but if the settlements on the shore are to be visited, the difficulties of cow-paths and no-paths have to be encountered.

Indicative of the roads, I may mention, that no horse is kept at either side of Jeddore. The occupation of that useful animal has not commenced there yet. The patient ox, with its wood sled, lumbers along, through rocky ravines, where the steed would founder. A traveller some time ago, described his attempts at equestrianism, along some of the better of those paths, by remark-

ing that "sometimes his horse carried him, and sometimes he carried his horse." A feeling of self-preservation as well as of consideration for the stumbling quadruped, induces the adventurer to dismount, and lead his horse over the rocks and stumps and roots, and across the swampy places of his forlorn path. At many parts of the shore line, however, the idea of any means of locomotion, except that known as "shank's mare," would be ridiculous. The completion of a waggon road from Halifax to the county line, on the way to Canso, with good bridle paths between the settlements, would be of Provincial advantage and credit. It would facilitate settlement,—would tend to develop districts valuable for fisheries and in several parts for agriculture and manufacturing purposes,—and might, with wise arrangement, be eminently auxiliary to the spread of education, religion, and general improvement.

Generally speaking, I found the people very hospitable, and inclined to morality, sobriety, and religion. Tracks of the liquor traffic, however, could be found here and there, with the usual results of sin and sorrow. On my return from Musquodoboit, the clergyman for Chetzencook passed, and I heard that he had just been lodging complaint against an unlicensed vendor of liquor thus taking a step towards ridding his settlement of one of its plagues. Other friends of law and well being, might find similar opportunity for beneficial suppression, at other parts of the shore. At one place where I rested, the woman of the house, in mentioning some of the deplorable effects of those tipping places, enquired, again and again, why such doings were not prevented. Her enquiry might well resound on many ears and consciences of the land.

During my visit, many of the male population were from home, concluding their season trips to Halifax. In proof of this I may mention, that when I was at east side of Jeddore, a picturesque fleet of thirteen coasting vessels came up the harbour one afternoon, and others arrived after dusk. Perhaps the best time for a mission to the Shore, in reference to finding the people at home, the weather moderate, and the roads and paths practicable, would be during parts of March and April. At several places wishes were intimated that Temperance visits should be periodical.

In consequence of the limited time at my disposal at each place, and the difficulties arising from scattered settlement, want of roads, deficient experience, &c., I did not urge immediate organization of Temperance Societies. That might be prepared for, by circulation of printed advice and rules, and might be attended to at another opportunity. At some places the people expressed inclination for such organizations as Divisions of the Order of Sons of Temperance.

I found the mode of administering the pledge, by acceptance of card, and enrolment of name, convenient and acceptable.

At each place where I lectured I spoke of collections for the Agency Fund, explaining the object and urging the principle,—but not making any direct special appeal, because of other demands for money going on, of privations from failure of fishery, and because it was a first hurried visit of which no regular announcement had been given,—and to the meetings of which people were not expected to come prepared to contribute. Some response to intimations concerning collection was made at Jeddore, and the refusals to charge for accommodation, at the other places visited, might be considered contributions to the cause, as in the case at Ship Harbour, mentioned among other items in the list of names. I believe that under ordinary circumstances, and with due notice, the people of the Shore would readily do their part towards sustaining a fund for the very important object of Temperance Agency.

The printed tracts and other papers, on Temperance, and of general moral tendency, distributed by me during my visit, amounted to about three thousand pages. I have reason to believe that they will be instrumental for good. I would advise that any future printed address for the Shore, include the topics of organization, collection of means, and education.

As regards origin, the people appeared generally to be descendants of English, Scotch, Irish, German, and Dutch emigrants.—Not an Indian canoe or wigwam was seen along the line traversed!

The only traces of the wreck at Marie Joseph, which I found along the Shore, consisted of some illustrated volumes of books, brought by a person who described the destruction of much of similar property, and the activity of persons in making prize of wrecked articles at the locality.

The scenery of my little tour would be, at several parts, under more favourable circumstances, as regards weather, &c., attractive and romantic. The coves, strands, promontories, islands, snow and ice fields, winter aspect of snow laden evergreens, fishing settlements, and the fine inlets of Jeddore, Ship and Sheet Harbours, might furnish many interesting sketches for an artist's portfolio.—Prominent among the more local features, might be named, the fine water power at the foot of which the extensive mill belonging to H. G. Starr, Esq., is situated. The stream proceeds from a lake about 150 feet above the sea level, and where it opens to the harbour, runs in a succession of about twelve graceful cascades, to smooth water. The picturesque head of the Harbour is about nine miles from the entrance. Cottages and fishing establishments were duly sprinkled on both sides,—and a few small vessels, ice-locked, awaited the return of spring.

About sixteen years ago, I aided, as a member of a Temperance Committee, to send a Missionary along the Eastern Shore, and to have a report of his mission published. That was one land-mark,

or time-mark, rather, in the Educational and Temperance history of that part of the Province; the present Report may form another. At some not very distant time both may furnish some interesting data, whereby to estimate the growth, now hoped for as then to be realized.

In conclusion I would briefly express thanks to the ministers of religion mentioned in the preceding outline, who kindly aided my mission; to the friends whose hospitality I have intimated; and to the people generally, for the kindness and attention experienced during my visit, and who, I earnestly pray, may be benefitted by the Committee's effort at effecting some good in that part of the County of Halifax.

I have the honor to be your obed't, &c.,

J. S. THOMPSON.

JANUARY, 1860.

