MINUTES

OF THE

NOVA-SCOTIA

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT HALIFAX,

On Monday and Tuesday, 27th & 28th June, 1836.

TOGETHER WITH

Their Circular Letter, Missionary Notices, Remarks, &c.

> HALIFAX : PRINTED BY H. W. BLACKADAR. 1836.

ALLY UMPS 111008-1707 AIDOSRA WRIT On Monday and Trasday, 07th & 28th Trans. THE in MANNING, city, and pr A Colle preceding. At the Munro, who pointed Clerk HTIW SIHTIOOP Clerks, Bret Their Circular Letter, Missionary Notices, letters, and , E. A. Crawle Romarks, Sc. appointed to e Association, Elder A.] and F. W. Mil ITALTFAX # ed to take a se STATED BY H. S. MALOKADIN. The Lette Messengers bei

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MINUTES, &c.

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MONDAY, June 27th 1836.

JEANTA V. . . Joadi V.

THE introductory Sermon was preached by Elder EDWARD MANNING, from Jonah iii. 2—"Anise go unto Ninevch that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee."

A Collection in aid of Missions was staken on the Sabbath

At the commencement of business prayer was offered by Elder Munro, who was appointed Moderator. William Chipman was appointed Clerk, and J. W. Nutting, and Richard M'Learn, assistant Clerks. Brethren J. Pryor and F.W. Miles, were chosen to read the letters, and Joseph Dimock, George Dimock, T. S. Harding, E. A. Crawley, W. Burton, F. W. Miles and R. M'Learn, were appointed to examine Letters, Petitions, &c. to report thereon to the Association,

Elder A. Drinkwater, from the State Convention of Maine, U.S. and F.W. Miles from the New-Brunswick Association, were requested to take a seat with us.

The Letters from the Churches were called for and read, the Messengers being seated, the following Minutes were taken.

STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

[The names of ordained Ministers are in SMALL CAPITALS; Those of Licentiates in *Italics*; Ministers not present marked with an Asterisk*; Churches from which no information was received marked +; and vacant Churches distinguished by a dash ;—— Churches from which no information was received are returned as they stood last year.]

		AD	DEI). II	D		D	T
CHURCHES.	MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS.	Restored	By Baptism	By Letter	Dismissed	Excluded	Died	l'otal
Annapolis and UpperGranville	R. CUNNINGHAM .		6	3	6	1	1	113
Lower Granville	*J. B. COGSWELL .				1	1		102
Wilmot	*NATHANL. VIDITOE		85	1	3		4	225
1st. Cornwallis.	EDWARD MANNING DAVID HARRIS				12			277
Newport	GEORGE DIMOCK James Anthony James Mosher James Marsters	••	6	1	intre	3	7	105
1st. Clements .	James Edwards J *ISRAEL POTTER	de	no.b.	20	3	0		147
Onslow	JAMES MUNRO Dr. Lynds Asa Daniels	1.4	17		logije	1		97
Lunenburg	MAYNARD PARKER	1			2	2		84
Nictaux	INGRAHAM E. BILL	2	108	10	3	1	3	370
+Digby Neck .	*PETER CRANDALL	1.,	994					103
River Phillip .	William Wetherby Timothy Wetherby		1	1	ibosi L*to		1	38
Horton	T. S. HARDING .]			4	5			255
Windsor	RICHARD MCLEARN	1			.0	1		28
-			1	2				4
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	MESSENGERS.	ored	Baptism		ottor	Ind	led
Chester	JOSEPH DIMOCK JAMES SKERRY N. Bakman S. W. Beckwith	2	2		2	1	
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Sissiboo †2nd Halifax †Waterford	*CHARLES RANDALL	•••		2	• •	•	.1
2nd Cornwallis Yarmouth	WILLIAMCHIPMAN J. J. Van. Buren *HARRIS HARDING	•	3	2		· · ·	2
1st. Halifax .	JOHN BURTON	5	11	3	3	121	O MAR
Aylesford	William Henry	1	14.				ľ

*EZEKL. MARSTERS

Robert Walker

Sidney Welton

Obadiah Saunders

Abraham Stronach

*THOMAS DELONG

WELLINGTON JACKSON

A. V. DIMOCK

John Cogswell

*HEZEKIAH HULL

David Shaw

E. Stronach

Liverpool +Brookfield New Albany . +Tryon & Bedeque Sydney 2nd Clements . +Little Forks . Ragged Island Bryer Island . Falmouth

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CHURCHES.

+Westchester . +Guysborough . STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

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†Tracadie Windsor Road Sherbrook Baddeck		11	2	2	• 6	2	2	27 35 24
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St. Margaret's Bay †Economy				. 28	14		141 0	14 12
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	WILLIAM BURTON	131	1	3		1	99	24
tWellington Springfield Dalhousie		2	6 2	33	100	00	Ao A 110	I0 21 20

CFA Letter from the Church at Port Medway has come to hand since the meeting of the Association. Messenger, Brother PORTER, Added 13 --- present number 28. Manager M Manager M Manager M

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FROM CORRESPONDING ASSOCIATIONS.

Received as follows :

MESSENCERS

Washington, Maine,	Minutes.	
Dodenham Maine	Minutes.	
New-Brunswick, F. W. MILES,	Minutes:	
That hat a	Minutes,	

Voted,-That brethren Silas T. Rand, Walter Reid, J.Cogswell, Simon Fitch, and Isaac Chipman be invited to take a seat in conneil Voted -That Brother R. W. Cunningham prepare the Circular Letter for next year.

Voted .- That Brother R. McLearn superintend the printing of the Minutes, and that 500 extra copies be printed.

Voted .- That Brother William Chipman be our Messenger to

the United States; and in case of failure, brother 1. E. Bill; and that he attend the Convention in Maine, and as many Associations as convenient; and receive for his services £10.

Voted .- That Brother Charles Tupper, be our Messenger to the New-Brunswich: Association, and that instructions be afforded him of the duties to which he is required to attend, and that he receive

Voted .- That Brethren T. S. Harding W. Chipman, and R. McLearn, be a committee to give needful instructions to our Mes-

Voted .- That our Messenger to the New-Brunswick Association be instructed to confer with that Association on the expediency of uniting with us in sending alternately, a Messenger to the United

Voted .- That the following remarks and resolutions in favor of Domestic Missions be adopted.

Whereas, it appears from the reports of Missionaries that there are increasing claims for the gospel in many parts of the Province, especially on the Eastern and Northern Shores, in Cape Breton, and Prince Edward Island, and that the utmost efforts that can be made by our Missionary Board would still be totally inadequate to supply the many pressing calls for Missionary labor. And whereas, it is highly desirable that renewed vigor should be given to all our Mis-

It is therefore Resolved, That this Association do earnestly recommend to all Ministers and Churches throughout the Province, a greater degree of attention to this most important subject, and that they adopt such measures as may be most effectual for increasing funds for

And whereas, it also appears expedient, for the purpose of obtaining a greater degree of local information, and diffusing a wider interest

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throughout the denomination, that the present Board of Domestic Missions should be increased. Therefore it is Resolved, that brethren I. E. Bill, W. Burton, E. A. Crawley, R. McLearn, and J. W. Nutting, be added to the present Board, who are continued for the ensuing year.

And whereas, greater benefit will arise from more frequent and regular meetings of the Board for the transaction of business, and the consideration of the various claims for Missionary help; It is therefore Resolved, that the Board be recommended to hold quarterly meetings in each year, in such places as may be most central and convenient, and that seven members of the Board do constitute a quorum, for the transaction of business, and that the first meeting of the Board be held at Horton Institution, at 11 o'clock on the first Wednesday in August.

That W. A. Chivman be continued Treasurer, and William Chipman and Richard M'Learn be the Secretaries of the Domestic Board; and that J. W. Nutting be Treasurer, and E. A. Crawley, Secretary of the Foreign Missionary Board.

Adjourned until Tuesday morning. In the evening Brother R.W. Cunningham preached from Psalm viii. 3. 4.

Met according to adjournment, Tuesday morning, at half-past ten o'clock. Prayer by Elder T. S. Harding.

The Report of the select Committee on Letters and Petitions was read and adopted.-

2st. In reply to a Letter from the Cburch in Lunenburg—" Is it right to receive travelling Preachers who are not licensed to preach by any Church."—we would say according to a Resolution of a former. Association, That Churcher cannot consistently patronize public speakers unless they are suitably licensed.

2nd. In reply to a Letter from a number of Baptist brethren and sisters residing in Aylesford, requesting a Council to afford them advice in relation to some difficulties subsisting between them and the Baptist Church of Aylesford, of which they are members; we would say, that in our opinion the request of those brethren should be granted, and that the following brethren meet at Aylesford on Wedne-day the 6th of July :--Elders E. Manning, Joseph Dimock, Maynard Parker, R. M'Learn, W. Chipman, John Chase, N. Viditoe, R. Canningham, W. Burton, T. S. Harding, and I. E. Bill.

3rd. In reply to a Letter from the 1st Church of Halifax, on the subject of Church discipline, we say, that our Association or any part thereof, have no intention to interfere with their Church discipline, nor with their ordinations, unless invited by said Church.

4th. We reply to a Letter from a number of persons calling themselves the African Church of Halifax, That we are unacquainted with said Church, but having reason to fear that their organization is irregular we recommend the appointment of a Committee to enquire into their Brethren were appo 5. In r Missions, neration fo

The Re mitted by and progre tion, the R more the op adequate to on the dem only for the tion, but in operate with The Report liberarity of tance to our

The follow unanimously.

Resolved,--Baptist Chur opinion that the tage in its infl to the cause of its support, als the Baptist de

Resolved,— Association be difficulties throu have waded, and have discharged minute account receipts and ex time to be public

Resolved;—T ciation, we raise sum equal to all sutution.

On offering this and a subscriptio oon as the sum re *Voted*, That t u heretofore. of Domestic solved, that Learn, and ontinued for

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into their character and circumstances, to give them needful advice. Brethren T. S. Harding, J. Manro, William Barton, and I. E. Bill

5. In reply to the Church in Cornwallis, on the subject of Don estic Missions, we believe that six dollars a week is not too high as a remu-The Report of the Committee of the Education Society was sub-

mitted by brother Crawley. After giving a brief detail of the rise and progress of the Institution, and of its present, prosperous condition, the Report proceeded to show the importance of enlarging still more the operations of the Institution at Horton, in order to make it adequate to the growing wants of the country. The Committee urged on the denomination the importance of increasing the funds, not only for the purpose of defraying the charges now as ainst the Institution, but in order to secure the labours of an efficient Professor to cooperate with brother Pryor, and to obtain a Philosophical apparatus. The Report concluded with a happy allusion to the kindness and liberality of friends in the United States, who afforded timely assis-

The following resolutions in favor of the Horton Institution passed manimously.

Resolved, --- That the members of this Association representing the Baptist Churches in Nova Scotia, are strongly and unanimously of

opinion that the Horton Institution is one of the highest public advantage in its influence both as a literary Institution, and as subservient to the cause of true religion, and as such do now pledge themselves to is support, also that in their opinion such is the universal sentiment of the Baptist denomination as a body. of done tent notation to one , bedsit

Resolved,-That the Report now given be received, and that this Association being of opinion that the public is but ill aware of the difficulties through which the Committee of the Education Society have waded, and the unremitting pairs and assiduity with which they have discharged their functions, respect the Secretary to prepare a minute account of the erection of the Academy, and of the various receipts and expenditures from its commencement uatil the present asoni eti esinerlej m

Resolved,-That during the present year, or before the next Association, we raise by voluntary subscription, the sum of £1800, or a sum equal to all demands which can then be made against the Inhis very liberal domation of \$ 100 to the Itorian Lastinut

On offering this resolution, several stirring addresses were delivered, and a subscription of £634 15s. was made on the spot, to be paid as oon as the sum required shall be subscribed outside entry and as about Voted,-That the Officers of the Education Society be continued heretofore. rother Silds T. Hand preached from J.

Voted,—That an Agent be appointed to solicit subscriptions for the Horton Institution, for the purposes expressed above ; and that R. M'Learn be the agent.

Adjourned for one hour.

Met at the appointed hour, and after prayer, it was

Voted,-That the Annual Meeting this year be held in Lower Granville, on the first Sabbath after the 20th of September next.

Voted,—That it be recommended, that particular attention be paid to the encouragement of Sabbath Schools throughout the Churches connected with this Association.

Voted,—That a prayer meeting on the evening of the first Monday of every month, be recommended to be observed in the several Churches, for the spread of the Gospel at home and abroad.

Voted.—That the next Association be held at Yarmouth, on the first Monday after the 20th of June next, and that brother Munro, preach the introductory sermon, and in case of failure, brother T. S. Harding.

Voted,—That Brethren Crawley, Nutting, and M'Learn, be a Committee to examine the Circular Letter, preparatory for the Minutes.

Voted,—That Remarks on each Church will not be required this year, but that observations on the general state of religion throughout the Province, may be published with the Minutes.

Voted,—That this Association being fully satisfied in concurrence with the Association of New Brunswick, that the interests of religion in connection with this denomination require the publication in Halifax, of a weekly Newspaper, combining religious, with other useful and interesting information, in lieu of the Magazine now published, are of opinion that such paper ought to be commenced with the beginning of the ensuing year, provided a sufficient support can be secured ; and in case of its publication the Members of this Association pledge themselves to sustain it to the utmost of their ability.

Voted,—That Brethren Pryor, and M'Learn, of Nova-Scotia, and F. W. Miles, of New-Brunswick, be a committee to enquire into the best means of securing sufficient support to such Paper, and to give timely notice to the publishers and agents of the Magazine.

Voted,—That thanks be presented to the Baptist Education Society of Massachusetts, fcc their distinguished kindness in offering to sustain, on their principles, five young men, who may study for the sacred Ministry at the Horton Institution.

Voted,—That thanks be presented to Mr. Stephen Chipman, for his very liberal donation of £100 to the Horton Institution.

Voted, — That thanks be presented to the Church of Halifax—the congregation, and other benevolent friends for their hospitality and kindness during this session.

The Meeting was concluded by prayer. At half-past 7 o'clock, Brother Silas T. Rand preached from I. Cor. 1, 23, 24. DEAR I

The s your atten are aware And the d curious spec of divine on thus the min us to expec ourselves, i author of the glory boasting on leads us to ledging our

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CIRCULAR LETTER.

DEAR BRETHREN, "standators sublassed and sold wind bas men s The subject to which in our present Circular letter we would call your attention is the influence of the Holy Spirit. This doctrine you are aware we consider one of the fundamental truths of Christianity. And the discussion of it, we look upon as by no means a useless or curious speculation. By it we are taught that religion in the soul is of divine origin ; not the native production of the human heart; and thus the mind is freed from that ignorance and pride, which would lead us to expect to be our own Saviour. For if religion commenced with ourselves, it might reasonably end with ourselves, and being the author of our own salvation, we might properly claim to ourselves the glory arising from it. But this doctrine effectually excludes boasting on the part of man, stains the pride of all human glory, and leads us to live a life of hope, dependance and thankfulness, acknowledging our obligations to him, "of whom and thre' whom and to whom, are all things," stoom di sector by dom a si paidto M -- : ha ta bo

The first operation of the Holy Spirit on the human heart, is that of convincing the sinner of his guilt, and thus showing him the need of a special divine interposition, to save him from deserved wrath, and prepare him for the glad reception of that grace, which is manifested in the salvation of the Soul. There are probably but few persons in a community where the Gospel is preached, who have not had occasional apprehensions, that probably all was not right with them, some misgivings of heart, some alarm in prospect of eternity : This may exist without that conviction which results in genuine conversion.-This latter is always the work of the Holy Spirit .- Thus our Saviour asserts this to be one of the great purposes for which the Holy Spirit should come into the world, "When He is come, he will reprove" i. e. convince, " the world of sin."-And we are furnished with proof of the fact in the examples which are given by Sacred Writers. On the day of Pentecost it was by his influence that the three thousand were pricked in their hearts, and led to cry out "men and brethren what shall we do." The same influence operated effectually in the case of the Jailor, who sprang trembling before the Apostles, crying "what must I do to be saved." The same fact is observed at the present day, when by the effectual operation of the Spirit upon the mind of the sinner, his dream of thoughtlessness is disturbed, conscience assumes the stern office of a reprover, and he feels within

himself the sentence of death, the rememberance of long forgotten iniquities is revived, in all their prominent and revolting features; the follies of childhood, the crimes of youth, and the unrighteousness of riper years. A retrospective glance summons to the distinct recollection of the sinner his hardened heart, his unbending will and his ungodly desires. The sins which before appeared quite venal and trifling are now collected and embodied before him in all their aggravation, and he trembles in view of the righteous judgment of God. This, not merely thro' the fear of punishment, but he is affected by the odious nature, the "exceeding sinfulnesss" of sin as committed against a pure and holy God; and like David the language of his heart is, " against thee, thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight;" and he feels that unless God in mercy interpose he must perish eternally.

In addition to this work of conviction, it is by the influence of the Holy Spirit alone that men are regenerated and turned unto God. The proof of this doctrine is as simple as it is convincing :-- For if the Holy Spirit is not the author of regeneration, who or what is ? Say some, we will place the truth before the mind of the sinner, and this truth operating in the form of motives will regenerate the soul. But upon what is the truth to operate as a motive? Unless we deny the express declarations of the Scripture, the natural heart does not love God, nor the truth of God, but is wholy averse to them. If then the motive is calculated to excite a holy disposition to action, the sinner has naturally no holy disposition, and consequently cannot be affected at all :- Nothing is a motive unless it meets a corresponding taste. An invitation to a feast is no motive to an invalid, whose sickly taste nauseates the banquet :- So the truth cannot move the heart to love, until a corresponding taste be first excited there. Increasing light thrown upon an object which is disagreeable to us only excites our disgust. The light of truth so far from extinguishing the flame of our rebellion, is only oil cast upon the fire. The clearer views unawakened sinners have of the truth, the more this enmity is enflamed. Because if an object be hated, it will be hated the more in proportion as it is more clearly perceived. Unless the heart is first changed by some higher influence, the truth of itself cannot produce love to God. The disorder lies not on the surface, it is deep within, and the same Almighty power which first formed the heart, is required to reform it. This is evident from the language in which the change is mentioned in the Bible. The expressions " to be born again" " to be made a new creature" "to be raised from the dead"-are allowed to be metaphorical; but they are designed to convey a most momentous truth, to exhibit to us not only the greatness of the change but its us of the Jailor, who sprang fremeling Author also.

But this leads us to the question, who is the author of regeneration? How do any of the children of men ever come to possess a principle of true holiness? No effect can exceed its cause? Whence then

does assure the co divine nor of self sa Spirit. selves, of the t then it that she similar of God is by his to God. operatio and then this wer that som attribute They are which the more to re not the sa Paul bec bited far 1 lion, and while the the gospel hardened t nature less in with the for as in 44 besides it n brought to tion to the too, that n effectual. time than an the means o his heart wa facts are ine: agency; and that which c was promised means and m heart I will g ing forgotten features; the chteousness of tinct recollecll and his unte venal and ll their aggrament of God. affected by the mitted against of his heart is, his evil in thy he must perish

nfluence of the ed unto God. g :- For if the what is ? Say inner, and this the soul. But ss we deny the t does not love n. If then the tion, the sinner nnot be affectsponding taste. ose sickly taste e the heart to Increasing light nly excites our the flame of our ws unawakened med. Because oportion as it is anged by some e love to God. within, and the , is required to h the change is again" " to be -are allowed to nost momentous change but its

of regeneration ' ssess a principle Whence thea

does it proceed ? To the law and to the testimony. The Bible assures us it is the work of God's spirit, and leads 's to trace back the commencement, progress, and perfection of religion in the soul to divine agency. "Who are born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." He that hath wrought us for the self same thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit." By grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." " Except a man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." "So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy." It is evident from these passages, and many similar ones that the work of regeneration is performed by the Spirit of God He claims the honor of it as being the efficient agent. It is by his special influences that men are brought to submit themselves to God, and become his willing and obedient subjects. And this operation is not confined merely to placing the truth before the mind, and then suffering it to act of itself by its own inherent efficacy .- If this were so, the question would at once arise, How comes it to pass that some obey the truth, and others disoboy? To what are we to attribute this difference ? Why do not all alike comply or all refuse ? They are alike free agents ; why then do some yield to the motives which the Bible presents, and others reject them ? If God does no more to render means efficacious in one case than in another, why do not the same motives produce the same effects in all cases ? Why did Paul become a disciple, while multitudes of the Pharisees, who exhibited far less opposition to christianity than he, continue in their rebellion, and why did one of the thieves on the cross embrace Christ, while the other continued to revile him ; and why is it that wherever the gospel has been preached, some have believed while others have bardened their hearts. Will it be said that those who believe are by nature less depraved, less averse to holiness, and more inclined to fall in with the invitations of the gospel ? This cannot be said with truth. for as in "water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man;" besides it not unfrequently happens that the very chief of sinners are brought to the Saviour, while others who manifested far less opposition to the truth, continue in their unbelief. How comes it to pass too, that motives which have long been resisted sometimes prove effectual. If God does no more to render means efficacious at one time than another, how happens it that the sinner, who has long abused the means of grace, is converted ? Why were they not effectual when his heart was less hard, and his habits in sin less confirmed? These facts are inexplicable without admitting the fact of a special divine agency ; an influence which is exerted on the heart over and above that which consists in presenting truth to the conscience. Hence it was promised to rebellious Israel, who had long resisted the various heart I will give you, and a new Spirit will I put within you, I will

take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh, and I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments and do them."-(Ez. xxvi. 25. 26. 27.) The idea contained in this passage evidently is, not merely that God will persuade them by the influence of motives to be obedient and holy, but that he will give a new heart, and a new spirit, i.e. will exert a direct influence on the soul. It is a special influence over and above the mere influence of motives. A supernatural influence, something beyond the stated operations of divine power, through the medium of second causes. God gives a new heart and newspirit, and the consequence is that a new direction is given to all the powers and faculties of the mind. The account which is given of Lydia by the sacred writers is illustrative of this subject. A certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple of the city Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us, whose heart the Lord opened that she attended to the things which were spoken of Paul."-Acts xvi; 14. The language here used shows that the influence which was exerted upon Lydia was direct upon her heart, the work of God, not merely by the instrumentality of the truth operating as a motive, persuading her to open her heart and receive and obey the Gospel; but her heart was opened preparatory to her attending to the things which were spoken by Paul; it was because her heart was opened that she attended. There is another passage having a bearing on this subject. "And hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given us."-Rom. v. 5. Here evidently is a work direct upon the heart, wrought by the Holy Spirit. The truth may be known and felt by sinners without being loved and obeyed by them. When however the natural enmity of their hearts is changed to love it is done by the Holy Spirit shedding abroad the love of God in their hearts. Many other passages might be adduced, which speak of a direct influence upon the heart. The general argument drawn from the above is briefly this : God employs various means and motives in order to reclaim transgressors from their sins. He instructs, warns, invites, places before them the most solemn considerations of their duty, and interest. But these means of themselves have ever proved ineffectual. In addition to all this God is pleased by his own act to open the heart to the reception of the truth. He is pleased to give a new heart and new spirit and thus cause them to walk in his ways. He actually sheds abroad his love in their hearts. Besides presenting the truth and enforcing it on the mind and conscience, the Holy Spirit takes away the stony heart and gives a heart of flesh. The Bible makes a plain distinction between exhibiting light and giving eyes to see ; between employing means of instruction, and persuasion, and giving a new heart and a new spirit. The former are necessary according to the established order of divine operations, without the latter none are ever converted to God. The wear a line , to y svig Hiw I stand

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Such, Dear Brethren we believe to be the doctrine of the Bible upon this subject, and in conclusion we would direct your attention to the inferences which naturally arise therefrom.

The subject we have contemplated suggests one important reason why the means of grace are frequently attended with so little effect. Too much reliance is placed upon them, too little upon the Divine Spirit. God will not give his glory to the means by which he works. When then the necessity of a special divine agency in order to render the misplaced zeal of his people, and rebukes their presumption. But when this necessity is felt, is relied upon, we have every reason to expect the blessing of heaven.

Permit us then, Dear Brethren, to urge upon you the necessity of encouraging in your minds a lively and cheering expectation of the powerful influences of the Spirit of God. Let us implore those influences for ourselves. Were we not culpably wanting in fervour and frequency of supplication for this heavenly gift, how clear might be our views of divine truth, how rapid our progress in divine knowledge, how vigorous our faith, how ardent our love, how eminent our bour views.

Let us implore this influence on our families. Do not many of the promises which regard the effusion of the Spirit present an aspect towards the children of believers in the hightest degree encouraging and delightful; and have not many Christian parents pleaded these promises with all the confidence of faith, and been rewarded with the most glorious success.

Let us pray that a copious effusion of the Spirit may descend on the churches with which we are connected. Who can estimate the power of prayer when presented by the united members of a Christian Society meeting together in the name of Jesus, and agreeing on this as the leading object in their approach to a throne of grace; that with one heart and soul they will supplicate the effusion of the Holy Spirit on their Pastor, themselves, and the congregation at large. Who can tell what ample communications of light and life, and love may be granted in answer to your prayers, to your Minister; who can tell how full of blessings may be the channels of divine ordinances to which you are accustomed to repair; who can tell how numerous may

be the additions to your society " of such as shall be saved." Let us pray for the effusion of the spirit on the human race at large. Is it not the express promise of God " I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh ?" He is expressly called the Spirit of promise, and the promise of the Father, and the glory of the Christian Economy when compared with that by which it was preceded, consists greatly in this, that it is the " ministration of the Spirit." The present population of our globe exhibits, it is true, a dreary waste of moral desolation, but it shall only continue until the Spirit in copious effusion be poured out from on high, " then the wilderness shall be as the fruitful fieldthen instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree, and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." There should be then no intermission in our importunity at the throne of grace, no rest given to him that heareth prayer " till he establish, and make Jerusalem a praise in the earth."

And does not this subject authorize an earnest and affectionate appeal to the Ministers of the Gospel of Christ, and to those who are about to be engaged in its arduous services. If on the face of the whole earth there be any order of men, any class of christians who may be expected most deeply to feel their need of divine influence, surely it is the order of christian Ministers. Without a powerful impression of the necessity of that influence, you cannot to any effect, study the scriptures, or address your hearers on the things that belong to their eternal peace. You may bring forth out of your treasuries things new and old, you may present interesting elucidations of divine truth, you may make impressive appeals to the understanding and the heart ; you may awaken attention and excite admiration, and after all you may only be to your hearers "as a very lovely song of one that has a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument, for they may hear your words and yet do them not." It far transcends the energies of the most able and most holy minister to chase away the darkness of the benighted understanding, to open an avenue to the heart, which is closed against the admission of truth, and to say to the troubled conscience, " Peace be still." Let then the persuasion of incompetency to secure the grand objects of the christian ministry, powerfully urge you, dear Brethren, who preach the gospel, to seek with the utmost importunity the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. Ever honor the Holy Spirit by the strain of your public and private devotions, and by the character of your discourses from the pulpit. Let the Deity and Personality of the Holy Spirit, the nature of his various operations, and the promises of his gracious influence hold a due prominence in your discussions, and in your exhortations, and then may you hope to be in some measure prepared to say with the Apostle " thanks be unto God who always causes us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us." But let this doctrine be obscured or blotted out, let the Holy Spirit be no longer fully and heartily acknowledged, as the exclusive agent in shedding abroad the love of God in the hearts of men, and we may indeed write upon the gates of our Zion. " Ichabod, the glory of our God is departed." To thing? and belles rises of re at

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REMARKS, &c.

THE Association was for the first time, held at Halifax, in the Meeting House of the Granville-Street Church, on the 27th and 28th of June. During the Session there was apparently a lively interest excited in favor of Evangelical piety; and we hope the pleasing indications will not pass away without a lasting blessing.

The Ministers and Messengers delegated from our Churches, assembled on Saturday the 25th; and according to previous arrangements, public worship commenced at 3 o'clock, P. M. The first sermon was delivered by brother W. Jackson, of Brier Island, on the nature and importance of repentance. At half-past 7 in the evening, brother W. Burton preached from the 99th Psalm, and 2d verse-"The Lord is great in Zion, and he is high above all the people." A Public Prayer Meeting was held on the morning of the Lord'sthe following days, to implore a blessing on the religious services of ings of the past year.

At 9 o'clock, we attended the Sanday School, connected with the Granville-Street Chapel. The school contains about 170 scholars and is well sustained with pious teachers. We have attended many well conducted schools, but never were we more impressed with the services than on this occasion. The singing performed by the children was delightful.

At 11 o'clock, Elder James Munro, preached a sermon full of religious instruction. At 3 o'clock, brother F. W. Miles, from the New-Brunswick Association, preached an impressive discourse on the value of the soul; and in the evening; Elder A. Drinkwater, from the Baptist State Convention of Maine, preached to our mutual edification and consolation. On Monday morning the Association Sermon was delivered according to previous appointment, by Elder E. Manning, from the word of the Lord to Jonah-" Arise, go to Ninevah that great City, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee."-Jonah 111.2. In the Evening, brother R. W. Cunningham, preached from the animated exclamation of David-"When I consider the heavens the work of thy fingers, the moon and stars which thou hast made, What is man that thou art mindful of him, or the son of man that thou visitest him ?" The last sermon connected with the Association was delivered on Tuesday evening, by brother Silas T. Rand. Every sermon was followed by several appropriate and impressive exhortations. The whole of the religious and devotional services were well adapted to inspire the humble christian with love to God, and increasing zeal in his church. We sincerely hope that Ministers and Messengers enjoying such & refreshing season will be prompted to greater diligence and energy during the present year, and

we trust the Church in Halifax thus favoured with a succession of religious services, will not forget their obligations to improve them to the glory of God.

The bu iness of the Association commenced immediately after the close of the introductory sermon. A brief allusion to several important subjects which engaged the attention of the Association may be interesting to our Churches throughout the Province; and a few remarks on our inattention to several departments of christian labor may be useful.

The reading of the Letters from the several Churches gave intelligence of a happy union subsisting generally throughout the body, and powerful revivals of religion have been experienced in some churches. To the churches at Nictaux, Wilmot, and Wilmot Mountains, several hundreds have been added, and the prospects of Ministers are still cheering.

It is truly gratifying to know that our Churches throughout the Province enter warmly into the Temperance reformation—indeed, nearly all the Members of Baptist Churches are comprised in Temperance Societies. We fear however, that zeal in this good work may abate too soon! The Letters from the Churches did not contain as much intelligence of the progress of the reformation as we expected to hear. We hope our pious friends will not abate their zeal until intoxicating beverages are exterminated.

We regretted on hearing the letters, that more interest was not manifested in favor of Sabbath Schools. The importance of this department of christian labor we believe, is not yet duly estimated. In many of the Churches there are flourishing schools, but in others they are badly conducted, and in some we fear, altogether neglected. Were our youth regularly, and thoroughly trained up in Sunday Schools and Bible Classes, we should remove a great amount of ignorance which now prevails in many parts of the Province. The Session was much occupied with important business, or a plan had been proposed for the improvement of our Sunday School system; we hope the subject will at the next Association, receive the attention it demands.

We are sorry that the souls of the poor heathen appear nearly forgotten. A few years ago our Churches felt the deepest sympathy for their brethren of the East, millions of whom are bound in Satan's chains; our sympathy was evinced too by our benevolence; but this year, only a few churches cast their mite into that department of the Lord's Treasury. Can our Christain Pastors who are sustained by the prayers of an enlightened Church, and who are surrounded with deily comforts, ever fail to excite an interest in favor of the perishing heathen? Can our brethren and sisters who enjoy the richest blessings of the gospel of peace, and all the bounties of providence, ever forget the toils and privations of those beloved men who have gone far hence, beneath a scorching sun, to preach the gospel to Pagans taining Th

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The Association entered warmly into the subject of Domestic Missions. The intelligence received from various fields of missionary labour was cheering, and the Missionary Society were encouraged to enlarge their operations. They hope to be able shortly to employ several Missionaries to travel constantly under their directions, besides the occasional itinerating labors of Pastors. It was truly gratifying the occasional itinerating labors of Pastors. It was truly gratifying funds of the Society. We trust our denomination will shortly know that on them rests the responsibility of sending the gospel to every shore and every settlement in our Province. We heard too with States have resolved to support one or two Missionaries in our Islands

No subject which claimed the attention of the Association excited more interest than the business of the Education Society. A Report of their Proceedings was delivered by the Secretary, and will soon be published. The report gave an outline of the rise and progress of the Institution, with a statement of its present advantages and prospects of future usefulness .- It stated the necessity of enlarging our operations to meet the increasing wants of the country, by employing a Professor to co-operate with brother Pryor, the worthy Principal ; and it showed the importance of obtaining a Philosophical Apparatus, by which various branches of science might be illustrated. The Report made an allusion to the kindness of our brethren in the United States, in patronizing our Agent the Rev. R. M Learn, who travelled through their country-and the resolution of the Baptist Education Society, to sustain at Horton five young men through their course, preparatory for the Ministry, was mentioned with the strongest expressions of gratitude. The Report ended with a statement of the

Several resolutions in behalf of the Institution were unanimously passed, as will appear by our Minutes. One resolution of great importance to the Institution is, that during the present year we raise by voluntary subscription £1800, or a sum equal to all demands against the Institution, that it may in future be held perfectly free from debt. It was truly astonishing to observe the interest felt by nearly all the brethren present, which they manifested by a subscription of more than £600. Half the sum in the resolution is now subscribed, including a subscription of last year. It is strongly hoped that our brethren throughout the Province, will harmonize in the resolution, and make a vigorous effort to free the Institution from debt. It will then be in a perfectly manageable state, and we can guard against future embarrassments. To accomplish the object howtwer, will require large sacrifices from some, and liberal donations from others. Having raised our Institution to its present state of usefulness, let us not fail in this emergency to afford it that aid which it imperiously demands, and which our delegates have unanimously resolved to give.

The Weekly religious Newspaper, which has long been under consideration, received due attention. Several addresses were made setting forth the advantages of such Paper, and showing how it might hopefully be sustained. The objects of the Paper have already been published in the Magazine, and future numbers of that work may more fully explain its design. Several persons came forward and proposed to become responsible for the charges of the paper, who will constitute a publishing committee as soon as the work shall be commenced. The Association passed a resolution to relinquish the present Magazine and adopt the Paper, as soon as it is fairly ascertained that the latter will be sustained. A committee was appointed to obtain all needful information on the propriety of relinquishing the Magazine and adopting the Paper. All persons interested in the subject are requested to express their sentiments to that committee. It is hoped the Paper will very shortly go into operation.

The most perfect harmony pervaded the Association throughout the deliberations. The resolutions and measures adopted by the body all appear judicious, and when carried into effect must be highly beneficial to the interests of the people of this Province. The weather was exceedingly fine during the whole session—the attention and hospitality of the people of Halifax were extraordinary—and every circumstance favourable to our meeting combined to make the season delightful. May our hearts overflow with the warmest gratitude to our God and Saviour.

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On Wednesday, the 3d of August, the Board of Domestie Missions met at the Horton Institution, and transacted the most important business of the present year, connected with our Missions, in appointing several Missionaries to the most destitute districts of the Province. Elder T. S. Harding received an appointment for six months in the Eastern Section of the Province. He is requested to commence his labours at Parrsborough, and supplying the destitute churches on his way, to proceed to Pictou, and thence to visit Prince Edward Island, and the settlements eastward from Pictou.

Elder E. Manning was requested to perform a Mission for six months in the western districts of the Province. Two important objects are connected with this Mission, viz.—To visit all the feeble and destitute churches on the western shores, and in the interior, to build them up, and 'To set in order things that are wanting"—and also to visit on his way the large and flourishing churches, in order to excite amongst them a laudable zeal in the Missionary cause.

Elder David Harris was appointed Missionary to the Eastern Shore, from Margaret's Bay to Canso. He is instructed to visit all the fishing settlements on his way, and break to them the bread of life,—To visit the coloured people in their several settlements around Halifax, to enquire into their circumstances, and, in co-operation with our aged and respected brother, Elder Burton, to afford such counsel and assistance as may meet their spiritual wants.

The deepest interest was felt by the Board for Cape Breton, and Prince Edward Island. They heard with grateful emotions the kind and benevolent proposition of the American Board of Domestic Missions, "To sustain a Missionary at Cape Breton as soon as a suitable man can be obtained." We hope they may shortly procure in that Country a pious and useful minister for this important station ; in the mean time we hope to select for the present a substitute from amongst ourselves, whom we may recommend to their patronage, that the ground may be occupied as soon as possible. Elder James Munrois appointed to undertake a short Mission to Prince Edward Island as soon as convenient, and is to be succeeded by Elder Bill. They are instructed to confine their labors chiefly to Charlotte Town, as the Board intend in future to sustain the preaching of the gospel there as regularly as possible. The Board received a short communication from a christian brother who recently visited the Island, setting forth the character and circumstances of the Baptists there, and showing the importance of affording some assistance to the brethren of Charlotte Town to erect a Meeting House, where the Gospel may be preached. The Board accordingly resolved to recommend to our Churches throughout this Province to take a collection in their respective congregations about the first week of January next, to aid in

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the above object. The money will be received by the Rev. Richard M'Learn, one of the Secretaries of the Board. The sum of Five Pounds is contributed by the individual above alluded to. Several other appointments were made to destitute parts of the

country, which we hope will prove satisfactory to all concerned in the Missions. The Meeting of the Board was highly interesting and harmonious, and we hope the arrangements and appointments will be conducive to the glory of God, and the best-the eternal interests of

RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPER.

THE Committee appointed by the Association to make inquiry as to the practicability of sustaining a Religious Newspaper in connection with the Baptist denomination : feel the strongest encouragement to recommend the publication of such a Paper without loss of time. It is however, absolutely necessary that its friends in both Provinces should feel a deep and permanent interest in its success, and put forth every effort in order to secure for it a wide and extended circulation. As the object of the Association in recommending the adoption of the measure was, that a Newspaper conducted on proper principles might prove an enlarged means of communicating sound religious and other useful knowledge to the population of these Provinces-we doubt not that those who shall be more immediately connected with its publication will be fully influenced by those principles, and that its character and usefulness will very shortly more than realize the most sanguine hopes of its friends.

Its ultimate success however, as was observed, must depend on the vigorous and continued efforts in its behalf of the friends of religion, and especially of the churches of our denomination .- Such churches throughout the Province should, in their collective character, and each member in particular, feel that the present is a measure which calls for their earnest prayers, and persevering endeavours for its success, and that the increase of vital religion, the efficiency of a Gospel ministry, and consequently the prosperity of our cause may be vastly accelerated by their cordial co-operation in the present case; and finally, it is hoped that every individual who wishes well to our Zion, will manifest such feelings, by at least adding their names to the number

F. W. MILES. JOHN PRYOR. R. M'LEARN.

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE Undersigned, the Agent of the Horton Institution, having been appointed by the Education Society to carry into effect the resolution passed by his brethren, at the Association, to raise during the present year £1800, or a sum equal to all demands against the Institution, respectfully solicits the cordial co-operation of all friends of religion and sound learning. Half the sum required is now subscribed, but no proportion of it can be demanded until the full sum is pledged.

The Agent respectfully informs the public, that by divine permission, he will preach a gospel sermon at the following places, and give a statement of the objects and wants of the Horton Institution :-At the Baptist Meeting House in Chester, on Friday, the 26th of August, at 4 o'clock, P. M. ; at Lunenburg, N.W. Meeting House, on Lords-day, August 28th; and at Liverpool, September 4th .-Commencing a tour westward, he will preach at Falmouth, upper Meeting House, on Monday, September 19th-at the Baptist Meeting House, Horton, on Tuesday—at Kentville, on Wednesday—at Canar on Thursday—at Perro on Friday—at Bill Town, on Saturday -at Pleasant Valley, on Monday, September 26th. On Tuesday, at Aylesford-Wednesday, at Nictaux-Thursday, at Wilmot-Friday, at Bridgetown, and Saturday, the 1st of October, at Lower Granville ; on Monday the 3d of October, at Clements, in Mr. Potter's Meeting House ; on Tuesday, at Annapolis, and on Wednesday at Round Hill. All the above appointments will be attended at 4 o'clock, P. M. On Friday the 21st of October, he hopes to preach in Truro Village, and on Lord's-day following, in Onslow.-On Tuesday, the 25th, at River Philip, and on Friday following at Amherst; and on Tuesday, the 1st November, at Parrsborough. The last mentioned weekly appointments will be held early in the evening.

The Agent requests the friendly assistance of his ministering brethren of different denominations, to carry into effect the above object of the Association.

RICHARD M'LEARN, Agent Horton Institution

WINDSOR, July, 1836.