

manifest results of the efforts made than can be done at present. Yet we are not without evidences of divine favor and of God's blessing having attended the ministrations of his word. There are at Bedford several candidates for baptism who expect shortly to follow our Lord in this ordinance, and unite with the church at Sackville. There are others whose earnest enquiries have shewed them to be anxious seekers for the priceless pearl. These also we yet hope to see professing faith in Christ, and obeying his commands.

The district which your society has adopted as their field for missionary operations, is one of more than ordinary interest;—one in which continued, faithful effort might produce most happy results for the cause of truth and righteousness.

Bedford, the present terminus of railway communication from Halifax, is a growing village, and there is reasonable expectation that it will continue to increase. With the exception of occasional services, it has been heretofore destitute of gospel ministration. Its inhabitants are glad and attentive listeners to preaching, and the means being used we might fairly anticipate a thriving interest here at no very distant day. A house of worship is a desideratum which might soon be supplied, with the aid of friends in Halifax and neighbouring places would willingly render it, as we are fully assured from pledges they have already given.

At Tuff's Cove there is a settlement containing 100 inhabitants, and these with a few exceptions, of Baptist parentage. Of all this number, but four or five have made profession of religion. Since old father Burton used to spend his time, for weeks together, among them, they have been much neglected. At periods too frequent, longer or shorter, they could with reason use the language, "no man careth for our souls." They should be cared for. There are encouragements to labour among them.

For several years the Society at Dartmouth has been declining. During this time there have been occasional additions, but not enough to fill the vacancies occasioned by death and removals. Yet "while there is life we may hope." More! there is a resurrection power in gospel truth, applied by God's spirit, and even though it were dead, yet, in the earnest, prayerful use of the means, shall it revive and live.

Harvests invaluable, golden, are perishing. Labourers zealous, and faithful, are required. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." I have spent eleven weeks in the service of the Board.

Yours truly,  
R. D. PORTER.

The financial account with Bro. Porter is not quite ready. So soon as his salary is all collected it will be published, together with the names of contributors. It is the intention of the Board to continue the above mission. It is proposed to build a chapel at Bedford. Measures are already contemplated to obtain the means.

D. FREEMAN, Sec.

For the Christian Messenger.

Home Missions.

MR. EDITOR,

Since the last Anniversary meetings of our Associations my mind has been deeply impressed with the duties which rest upon us as a denomination in this department of christian enterprise. In our own dear country hundreds of our fellow men are destitute of the bread of life. The Eastern Association almost wholly missionary ground with fewer men and far less means than either of the other Associations, is allowed to struggle on comparatively alone, without any tangible evidence of co-operation from the other Associations; notwithstanding they possess the power and willingness, if some efficient plan could be adopted, which we conceive should have been attended to, at the last Anniversaries of our Associations and is loudly called for at the present time. Look at the encouragements. God has greatly blest this enterprise. Some of our best churches once were aided by our Home Missionary Society. They are not only now self-supporting but paying back both principal and interest. There are churches creditable to the denomination and useful to the cause of Christ, that would not have been in existence to-day had it not been for this Society. A little aid in their extremely low state inspired them with hope and courage, and a determination to live, otherwise

\* Six were baptized on the 6th inst.

they had sunk and died. God has blessed this enterprise. New churches have been planted in the wilderness. Old ones revived, feeble members of Christ's body invigorated and Christ has seen of the travail of his soul. The fruits of this enterprise are immediate and apparent. For the discipline of our faith, it is well that a part of our bread should be cast upon the waters, that we receive it not again for many days. Let it go to the heathen far away, and let us wait with patience. But lest we faint some of it should be cast hereabouts where the return will be both sure and speedy. The more any community does for the heathen the more they will do for the home enterprise; this is as obvious as the sun. Last year the Western Association made appropriations to some eight or ten stations. A hundred dollars here and fifty elsewhere together with what has been raised by the respective churches thus aided, have kept them alive and growing. These churches help themselves and perhaps some obtain pastors and in accordance with one of the first principles of divine economy, they should be helped. The statistical report of last year shows the amounts raised for missions and other benevolent purposes; this shows them to be *live* churches. God has blessed them. They frequently report conversions. There are doubtless many others that need aid, to say nothing of the importance of planting new churches. The cry for help is loud and imperative. The pastors of all our churches should take hold of this subject. Could the claims of this enterprise be pressed home upon the churches with all the zeal inspired by the faith of Christ and the love of souls, not only on the Lord's-day, but in Missionary meetings organised for that purpose, at the most favorable time of the year, there would be a response grateful to the well-wisher of Zion, and hopeful to this cause. We have not the shadow of doubt, but that if Missionary meetings were held and interesting addresses made before our people and their minds informed in regard to the destitution prevailing, double the amount of last year's contribution would be raised. Brethren in the ministry, if this be so, is there not a fault? Will not these feeble faltering churches be witnesses against us in the day of acceptance. Will not the teeming thousands unsaved, bear testimony in that dreadful day, to our want of fidelity to Christ, O men of God, men of grace, of mind, of money, now is the day, now the hour. The fields are white, the harvest day approaches. It is come now. To-day, if you will hear his voice, to-morrow the dread summons comes. The day is for labour, the night cometh, there will be sleeping enough in the grave, there will be rest enough in heaven.

SCISS.

Shelburne Co.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit.

MESSRS. EDITORS,

It had been in contemplation for some time past to make a donation visit to the Pastor of the Baptist Church of Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot. This took place on the 11th inst. Upwards of two hundred of his friends assembled at his residence, and took tea on a beautiful clover plot in front of his house. Through the assiduous kindness of the ladies—the means being liberally provided by the gentlemen—the tables were bountifully and richly furnished. After thanks had been given by Rev. W. G. Parker, the multitude partook of the repast thus generously provided, and improved the opportunity afforded for friendly intercourse with much apparent pleasure.

The tables being cleared, the attention of the assembly was called, and an affectionate address delivered to the Pastor by the Chairman, Deacon Sydney Welton, closed by the presentation of a purse containing, £17 8s. in cash, with a list of useful articles contributed, to the value of £17 17s. 9d.; together making up the handsome sum of £35 5s. 9d. This, with an abundant supply of excellent wood still on hand, was wholly an effusion of benevolence, apart from his stated salary paid annually.

The Pastor, in reply, gratefully acknowledging, on behalf of Mrs. T. as well as for himself, the manifest affection and substantial kindness of their numerous friends, was naturally led to introduce some reminiscences of Providence, suggested on the present occasion. About forty-two years since he was unexpectedly requested by one of his youthful associates, the late Richard English, Esq., who was then teaching the only

school in Lower Aylesford, but wished to engage in trade, to occupy his situation as teacher. According to the proposal, he entered on this labour October 1st, 1814. At the close of that year providential circumstances led him to visit the Western part of Horton, where a revival of religion was then in progress: and on the Lord's-day, January 1st, 1815, he received those deep convictions of sin which, as he humbly trusts, terminated in sound conversion. Among the pupils under his charge a gracious work ensued. Some now present received abiding religious impressions at that period. Two of the scholars awakened there had subsequently entered the ministry. From the school the sacred influence spread to some extent among the sparse population at that time inhabiting this part of the country. Under these circumstances a strong mutual attachment was then formed.

Though he had long laboured in the gospel ministry in regions remote from this people, yet he had ever cherished a deep and lively interest in their spiritual welfare. The intelligence of an extensive revival of religion among them in the years 1828 and 1829, had been peculiarly delightful to him.

On sustaining the affliction of the fracture of a limb, March 8th, '51, he had felt greatly reconciled from the contemplation that it was doubtless ordered for some wise and useful purpose. While confined to his couch, he received a unanimous call from the Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot Baptist Church to take the pastoral charge. (The thought that his services might be obtained, was suggested from the consideration, that it would probably be difficult for him to travel now as extensively as heretofore.) On making it a subject of earnest prayer, considering the circumstances, and consulting with his family, he accepted the invitation. This has been renewed with unanimity by the church and congregation; by whom he has been uniformly treated with respect and kindness.

He readily acknowledged the valuable assistance afforded by ministering Brethren and others, and desired to give all the glory to God alone; but it was a cheering and encouraging reflection, that in the course of the five years which he has spent with this church, since July 1, 1851, there have been two special visitations of mercy; and the nett increase of the number of members has exceeded 150, being an average of full 30 added in each year, above the diminutions that have necessarily occurred. It was highly gratifying to see the body now in a state of union, and to witness the present manifestation of affectionate regard to the Pastor, evinced by so large an attendance, and so liberal donations, in both of which were included, not only members of the church, but also those of the congregation, with some from abroad, and persons of other denominations, all delightfully commingling on this pleasing occasion.

Highly interesting addresses were subsequently delivered by Rev. Messrs. Angwin, (Wesleyan,) W. G. Parker, and G. Armstrong. Prayer was offered by Rev. A. Stronach, and the benediction pronounced by Rev. E. Stronach.

Though there were frequent appearances of approaching rain, yet the weather proved favourable. About sun-set the company separated, with evident indications of gratification and increased mutual affection. May all meet again in the mansions of endless day! So prays,  
Their obliged friend, and  
sincere well-wisher,  
C. TUFTER.

French Mission.

Agreeably to notice given, the collections for this good cause have been taken in Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot. The amount contributed is £21 6s. 1½d. It was forwarded to the Treasurer, William Churchill, Esq. of Yarmouth, with 8s. 10d. raised by the Union Society since the Session of the Association, for the Home Mission, (together £29 5s.) on the 15th inst.

Wilmot, Sept. 16th 1856.

Christ's Loss our Gain

Oh! what a melting consideration is this, that out of his agony comes our victory;—out of his condemnation our justification;—out of his pain our ease;—out of his stripes our healing;—out of his gall and vinegar our honey;—out of his curse our blessing;—out of his crown of thorns our crown of glory;—out of his death our life.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

RACHEL POTTER.

DIED, at Westport, May 30th, Rachel, wife of the late Franklin Potter, Jr., and sixth daughter of Eliza and Sarah Payson, aged 37 years and 7 months. This is the first breach made by death in a family of twelve children, whose united ages added to the parents of the deceased at the time of her death, amounted to seven hundred and eight years one month and 21 days. The subject of this memoir had been called to drink deeply of the cup of affliction. In the winter of '52 Death removed from her embraces a kind and affectionate husband. In the winter of '55, the Scarlet Fever entered her family, and five of her children were attacked in a few days. The younger was removed by death in a week from that; the elder, a most promising girl, was taken from her; the others suffered very severely. This severe trial, and much exposure had such an effect that she never recovered from it, and it became evident that she would soon follow her husband and children, to the narrow house appointed for all living. Consumption fastened upon her, and she wasted away. She felt deeply for her four surviving children, and would often say she would like to be spared to see them grow up to be enabled to help themselves. Still she did not complain, and at the closing up of her life she was enabled to commit them to God, in whom she trusted; and died, rejoicing in her Saviour. She was a consistent member of the Baptist church, and we trust she has gone to join the church triumphant above.—Communicated by H. E. P.

MRS. SUSAN MORSE.

The beloved wife of Mr. Asa Morse, was the third daughter of George and Diadamy Bishop. She professed religion under the ministry of Rev. I. E. Bill, during a gracious revival in 1837, and united with the Baptist church at Nietaus, of which she remained a member until called to join the church above. For some time before her death it became visible that consumption had marked our sister for his victim.

In the autumn of '55 she began to fail more rapidly, and her health gradually gave way to the power of disease.

At first her mind was somewhat beclouded which caused her to doubt and fear. But she who has promised never to leave nor forsake those who put their trust in Him, appeared for her deliverance to the joy and rejoicing of her soul, and as the outward man decayed, the inward man was renewed day by day. She waited with patience the will of the Lord, but "desiring to depart and be with Christ, which is far better." Those christian friends who conversed with her saw abundant indications that she was ripening for a better land.

On July the 11th, death performed its work, and her spirit went to God. July 13th her emaciated body was committed to the grave to wait the resurrection morn and come forth a glorious body. The large procession that followed gave evidence that many hearts were pained at her departure. She left a beloved husband and little daughter, a kind father and mother brothers and sisters to mourn their loss.

Sister thou wast mild and lovely,  
Gentle as the summer breeze,  
Pleasant as the air of evening  
When it floats among the trees.

—Communicated by Rev. W. G. Parker

Religious Intelligence.

For the Christian Messenger.

LOWER MACCAN, Sept. 6th.

DEAR BROTHER,

I send you a short notice of our quarterly meeting, held at River Hebert on the 21st July, according to appointment. Circumstances were such that we could not continue our meeting longer than the second day, yet we had quite an interesting time. A number of members belonging to several churches were present; these, with the ministering brethren—McPhail, Rowe, Miles, and DeMill, made it pleasant for us and our people. We had good preaching and speaking which must tell with what good effects hereafter. We have had a missionary employed nearly all the time since our Quarterly meeting in April; and more than that, while he has been doing good we have been able to pay him when his work, for the period engaged, was done. I am sorry to say that Missionary Boards are not always able to do this. The report which our Missionary handed in was encouraging. We intend continuing our operations after our next meeting, to be held with the Amherst church on the 20th October.

We hope that these meetings will be a means of enlarging the borders of our Zion, as also of developing among us more of the spirit of the