

And if this suffice not, one more thought and I have done. Remember, brethren and sisters, it may be hard ploughing; it may be true that this is a frozen time, that the winter is very sharp upon Christ's Church; but let us plough on very hard, for the harvest will pay for all. Why, I can say the little harvest I have reaped already pays me for ten thousand labours, ten thousand times told. When I have grasped the hand of some poor woman who has been saved from sin through my ministry, I have felt it were worth while to die to snatch that one soul from hell. Ah, it is a blessed harvest that God gives us here; but what a harvest will that be when we shall see all souls gathered above—when we shall see the face of Christ, and lay our crowns at his feet? Then look, labour, hope. An hour with your God will make up for all. Oh, may God the Holy Ghost fill you with energy, give you fresh strength, and may you, all of you, begin to plough straighter, deeper, longer furrows than you ever made before. Never look back, never take your hand from the plough, for in due season you shall reap, if you faint not. Keep at it still, and be ye not like the sluggard, who would not plough by reason of the cold—who shall beg in winter and have nothing.

For the Christian Messenger.

Missionary Appointments.

The following missionary appointments were recently made at Hillsburg by the D. M. Board of the Western Association:

- Rev. A. Martell, twelve weeks at Argyle.
- Rev. E. N. Harris, six weeks at Shelburne and Jordan Bay.
- Rev. T. C. Delong, twenty four weeks at the Head of Sable River, Shelburne Jordan Bay, Pubnico, Barrington and Wood's Harbour.
- Rev. A. W. Barss, fourteen weeks at Lewis Head.
- Rev. John McKinnon, ten weeks at West Dalhousie, Lake Louise, Millford and Annapolis Cape.
- Rev. James Spencer's Mission at Parker's Cove and Youngs Cove is renewed.
- Brother Thomas Blackadar, Licentiate, six weeks at Barrington, Wood's Harbour and Pubnico.
- Brother Warren L. Parker, Licentiate, twelve weeks at East and West Dalhousie and Sherbrook.
- Rev. Isa Wallace, twelve weeks at Digby, Digby Joggins and vicinities; and in case Brother W. cannot perform this mission, Rev. R. R. Philp is appointed to fulfil it.
- Rev. O. Parker eight weeks at North West and Mahone Bay.
- Brother Wm. Hall, Licentiate, eight weeks at East Sherbrooke.

In cases where more than one Missionary is appointed to the same field, it is the wish of the Board that both should not be on the ground at the same time. Brethren so appointed should communicate with each other, and so arrange that one may succeed the other.

It is highly desirable that the Missionaries should use all proper means to collect as much as possible in aid of the missions in which they are engaged. The duty of contributing liberally to each mission should be distinctly, faithfully and kindly set before the people. It is well to remind the people that a neglect to do so, operates injuriously on the Missionary, the Board, and themselves. All that is expected is, that the people should do what they can.

Missionaries should keep a journal; and at the close of each mission, or such portion of it as may have been performed, and for which payment is desired before the whole is finished, a full report should be made and sent to the Secretary. An Examination of the Report made by the Board to the Association this year will suggest what is required.

All communications connected with the business of our Domestic Mission can be addressed to the Secretary at Bridgetown, or the Rev. N. Vidito, Chairman of the Board, Paradise.

By order of the Board,
GEO. ARMSTRONG, Secretary.

Christian Messenger.

HALIFAX, JUNE 20, 1860.

Our Religious Anniversaries.
WESTERN ASSOCIATION.

The centre of attraction for the Ministers and Delegates of the Churches composing this body was, this year, the beautiful village of Hillsburg, situated on Bear River, about four miles from where it discharges its water into the Annapolis Basin, immediately opposite Digby Gut. The charming scenery around this place, has rendered it famous to the few who have been willing to go out of their direct way from Digby to Annapolis. The ferry at the mouth of the River renders it unnecessary for the tourist to pass through Hillsburg, yet those who have time to go up

the river side till they come to the first bridge, will be amply repaid for doing so, by the lovely views of hill and dale, river and valley, probably unsurpassed in this or any other country. From some points, the river may be seen as if closed in by the foliage of the high trees and the hills which rise from its banks on either side. The illusion at some places is perfect, until broken by the sharp point of a white sail, which is seen as if penetrating the foliage on the side, and emerging from the brilliant green of the maple woods, which hide from view the passage of the river. The village itself is situated on the steep hill sides in the vicinity of the bridge. In consequence of the steepness of the hills there is but little regularity in the buildings, either in their position, or the order of their architecture. A beautiful variety is seen; but all manifesting a cultivated taste, and an air of comfort and prosperity, equalled by but few, and probably surpassed by none of the villages of equal size in the Province. Their places of worship are finely finished buildings with granite basements, particularly the two belonging respectively to the Baptist and Methodist congregations; the interior of both of which is not inferior to any of the church edifices in Halifax. The modern improvements of low pulpits, with scroll ends to the pews, and the absence of pew doors, shew that in this particular the people are resolved to make their meeting-houses not inferior to the best of their dwellings. Lumber and cordwood are the staple exports from Hillsburg. More than a million feet of the former are sawn and taken from here in a year, and thousands of cords of wood. The dense forests of the interior reach to within a mile or two of the village.

But we are forgetting the charms of the Annapolis Valley,—the profusion of beauty, and prospect of abundance displayed by the apple-trees, for miles and miles, as one passes through this incomparable mine of Agricultural wealth. Nature seems here to revel in luxuriance; tints, varying from the whiteness of the peach-blossom to the redness of the rose, delight the eye of the traveller. It is pleasing to observe the contrast between the bustling activity of Bridgetown, and the quiet solemnity of the old capital—Annapolis; and the dilapidated ruins of the iron works at Moose River, with the lively little town of Clements on its banks, so beautifully fringed with the tall bright foliage of the maple. But we must not forget that our duty demands, that we shall forget for a while the pleasures of the tourist, and return to inform our readers of the proceedings of the brethren who came together for the purpose of attending to matters relating to the Kingdom of our Lord and Master, which is not of this world, but which consists of righteousness, peace, and true holiness.

On Friday evening the Delegates began to make their appearance, and were greeted with a cordial welcome by the friends at Hillsburg. On Saturday the village gave indications of an invasion, such as a Baptist Association only presents. At 2 o'clock, P. M., the Delegates came together in the spacious and handsome meeting-house, and although the rain, it was thought would interfere, yet the people soon collected so as to fill the place to overflowing. The people of Hillsburg and also the visitors had to come as they best could, amidst the rain which fell at intervals during each day of the session.

The letters from the churches gave indications of spiritual activity. The additions by baptism, &c., during the year, although fewer than in the previous year, shewed an increase of 317. Contributions to benevolent objects were handed in, amounting, when increased by collections during the session, to upwards of £250.

On Lord's-day morning the Rev. Dr. Cramp, Rev. E. M. Saunders, and Rev. S. W. deBlois preached in the Baptist Meeting, and Rev. Dr. Tupper, Rev. E. N. Harris, and Rev. Jas. Parker in the Methodist Chapel. Rev. Chas. Crandall, Rev. Geo. Armstrong, Rev. Isaiah Wallace, Rev. R. R. Philp, Rev. A. W. Barss, and Rev. James L. Reid preached in the other places in the neighbourhood. About fifty Baptist ministers were in attendance.

THE CENTENARY SERMON.

Dr. Cramp introduced his discourse at the central place of meeting, by informing the congregation, that this year, 1860, was the Centenary of the Baptists in this Province,—the first Baptist minister as far as information can be obtained, having arrived here in 1750. He brought forward an exceedingly interesting amount of information respecting the progress of the denomination during the past hundred years, giving the names of the ministers who had died, their age at death, and the number of years they had labored in the Gospel. Other particulars were also given, showing the immense changes which had taken place from period to period in the body, and also the part taken in the work by

those excellent men, who, after devoting themselves to the cause of Christ, had passed away to their reward. As a special request was afterwards made that Dr. Cramp would publish the discourse in a form suitable for preservation, and as a memorial of this centenary year, we shall not now give any further details of this valuable contribution to Baptist literature. It will doubtless be a highly acceptable collection of facts, and reflections, to thousands of the members of the churches in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, planted, in many cases by those who have now gone to their rest, and have joined the church triumphant in glory.

The Circular Letter shewing the means by which the churches may be rendered more efficient for the accomplishment of their work, was read by Rev. A. H. Munro.

At 6 o'clock on Monday morning, the brethren met, and enjoyed a solemn season of Prayer; the congregation assembled at 10 o'clock, for the regular business of the association.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by the Rev. T. A. Higgins, the subject of which was the value of Education to the Christian ministry. He took for his text Isaiah l. 4, and showed with great power and effect, how many disadvantages a minister must labour under, who has not the benefit of a liberal education, and an extensive acquaintance with divine truth. He showed the position of those who, suited to times and places—had achieved so much with comparatively few advantages. He demanded for ministers of the gospel, an amount of cultivation, equal at least to that afforded any of the professions. Talent of the highest order, and mental improvement, which would render the possessor not inferior to the most cultivated mind in his congregation, should be provided for those, aiming at the sacred office of the Christian ministry. As, however the sermon of Mr. Higgins is also requested to be published, we refrain from a fuller use of our notes, believing that our readers, both ministers and people, will prefer to obtain it as a whole. We hope Mr. H. and Dr. C. will be induced to allow the publication, and that brethren generally will engage to take a sufficient number of copies to enable them to do so.

The Rev. Geo. Armstrong read the Report of the Missionary Board, which shewed that missions had been sent to various destitute districts, amounting to 72 weeks of labor, in which 184 sermons had been preached, and 67 other meetings held; 347 families had been visited, and 23 persons baptized.

On Monday evening a highly interesting Missionary meeting, combining Home, Foreign and French Acadian operations was held.

Rev. Dr. Tupper moved the first resolution, expressive of gratitude to God for granting so much success to the missions in which our churches are engaged. He thought that believers were not yet awake to their great responsibilities. Although much has been done in the dissemination of truth during the past fifty or hundred years, yet vastly more requires to be done before the world is leavened with the Divine Word. Gratitude is not merely expressed in words, but develops itself in actions. Many circumstances he said, had drawn out the sympathies of Baptists towards Burmah. The voice of God heard in Judson's conversion to the views held by Baptists, was an indication which could not be mistaken. Dr. T. referred to the circumstance of Mr. Burpe being sent out from these Provinces, and the barrier which seemed to prevent the employment of any but native preachers. The fact contained in the Report, that we are employing six native preachers, is one which should encourage in this work. The condition of the heathen, and the degrading character of Buddhism present such barriers to the reception of Gospel truth, that nothing but an influence from above will break the claims and render it effectual to their salvation. The prophecies and facts of Scripture, as well as the experience of the church in all ages shew, that persevering effort will be blessed and rendered effectual.

Rev. E. N. Harris, thought it a pleasing feature in the resolution that it embraced three subjects—the Home, Foreign and French Missions—and yet they are but one. He thought there was scarcely a contributor to these missions but might enlarge his subscription if he tried. By a little contrivance, where dollars are given, he thought they might appropriate pounds. By cutting an extra cord of wood; by setting apart the fruit of one tree; or the fleece and lambs of one sheep, or the eggs of one hen, they might often have the special blessing of God, and afford much aid to this great work.

Rev. Mr. Normordy, thought there were many proofs of God having heard the prayers of Christians in Nova Scotia. He felt that he was greatly indebted to God for hearing prayer on behalf of the French Acadians. He referred to several instances in which God

had interposed to bless his labors in converting Acadians at St. Mary's Bay. Whilst injuries are being inflicted on the converts by those who should be their friends, and efforts were made to deprive them of the Bible and to prevent his having access to them, yet in several instances they had publicly renounced their connexion with the Roman Catholic church, and had been baptized; and he hoped before long to have them formed into an Acadian Baptist Church. He had often been greatly indebted to brethren who had accompanied him in his labours, particularly brethren Randall and Delong. Their company whilst he was preaching strengthened him, and often prevented his enemies from offering him any assaults. The Roman Catholic religion is so subtle, that it is not easy for a Protestant to discover its workings. The priests have great means of obtaining news of all that is passing amongst their people, even to their thoughts. Some of their people will not now listen to them, but bring forward the Bible to sustain their course. He had himself challenged the priest to meet him, and discuss the truths of the gospel. He at first agreed, but refused when he found the people were interested in it. He felt very happy in carrying the word of life to his fellow countrymen.

Dr. Cramp moved the second resolution, expressing confidence in the final success of the truth. We must be sure that it is the truth on which we stand, we then have solid ground. In human nature there is imperfection. The decrees of God encouraged us to believe that there will finally be a complete triumph. The operations of his people are in harmony with this future revelation. Errors may arise in various forms, and assume the Christian name. The devil may for a short time appear to succeed in his plans, but he must be overthrown; Dr. C. referred to several facts in history, to show how he endeavours to destroy the truth, as in the death of Williams, the imprisonment of Bunyan, and the efforts to put down Luther, and crush Wickliffe and other martyrs who have suffered for the truth. It is not for us to judge the designs of the Almighty. It may not be best for us to see too speedily a success. There may be many hard battles to fight, but victory is certain. Papal Rome shall fall. Superstitious Spain shall come to the faith, and all opposition to Christ's kingdom must come to an end.

Rev. W. H. Humphrey, believed that the success of Gospel could only be expected from the accomplishment of God's purposes. The events predicted concerning localities even, have reference to Gods purposes of salvation. It is unnecessary to look beyond present appearances and prospects. Times of great darkness had frequently preceded seasons of great illumination. It is not yet 100 years since the breaking forth of the desire in the church of Christ, for the accomplishment of God's purposes of salvation. It is not 50 years since Judson went out to Burmah, and caused so general an interest, in the evangelization of that benighted land. The recent events in connection with China, shew that its walls are insufficient to shut out the progress of gospel truth. The barriers will be torn down, and the soldiers of the Cross will doubtless shortly go up and possess the land.

Rev. J. C. Morse had been thinking of some of the difficulties in the way of Brother Normondy. He described the locality of the Acadians, and their condition in his own neighbourhood. He thought in our dealings with them, we should strive to give what is just and equal for their produce, and shew that our religion makes us better men and more disposed to do them good. The Acadians do not commonly distinguish between Protestant servants of Christ, and Protestant servants of the devil. It is only by shewing them that Protestantism makes men better, that we can hope for them to embrace its truths. Many refused to aid the mission because they supposed the English might be more easily reached. Mr. M. believed the work to be of God. Its beginning and subsequent history shewed, that it was brought about and had been sustained, by the interposition of God's grace and mercy.

Rev. A. W. Sawyer moved the third resolution recommending enlarged operations. The majority of the congregation had professed to consecrate themselves to Christ. This was not at the time of its commencement intended to be partial, but entire and unreserved. The world too often comes into our hearts, and brings us into captivity. Warm hearted speeches are not all that is required. A determination must be made to carry on the war beyond the meeting-house. Satan may be willing to allow us to feel an interest in the work here, if he can prevent it being carried beyond the door, into the world.

Rev. H. Angell exhorted to a greater expenditure of means for rescuing dying men from perdition.

Rev. N. Vidito referred to instances of true devotion to the cause of Christ, and the expenditure of a much larger proportion of