

Christian Messenger.

A REPOSITORY OF RELIGIOUS, POLITICAL AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

"Not slothful in business: fervent in spirit."

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WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XXV....No. 42.

Poetry.

A Prayer for Rest.

Father, Thy Word hath promise made—
"Come all ye unto me,
Who heavy laden be,
Who labor wearily,
And I will give you rest."
O promise sweet and blest!
Father, I come to Thee.

Not as the little, wandering child,
From fields where he had strayed
Until the evening shade
Had made his heart afraid,
Comes to his mother's breast,
For refuge and for rest—
Not thus I come to Thee.

Not as the happy and the pure,
With meekly closed eyes,
Come at the eventide,
From cheerful toil aside,
Where love and peace abide,
And joys of Paradise.
Not as they come for rest
Unto the tender breast
Of sleep, serene and blest—
Father, I come to Thee.

But as the home-sick wanderer comes,
Whose straying feet have prest
Full many a land unknown, to find
A country still more blest.
Till, with a whirling brain,
Weary with grief and pain,
Through chilling wind and rain,
Fainting, he turns again
To hearts that o'er him yearn,
When through the windows burn
The lights of home, for rest.
Thus, as the weary come
To find a sheltering home,
Father, I come to Thee.

I come to Thee—
Although this earth of ours,
So beautiful with flowers,
With wreathing mists and showers,
With lips that smile, and eyes
That look through love's disguise,
Might seem a Paradise—
Yet here I find no rest.
No rest from care and pain,
No rest from heart and brain,
And now, in agony
I come, O Christ! to Thee.
And O, Thou Pityful!
Thou ever Merciful!
I pray Thee give me rest.
N. Y. Christian Advocate.

Nova Scotia Church History.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Baptists of Nova Scotia.

PERIOD VI.

From A. D. 1828 to A. D. 1838.

LETTER XLIII.

STATISTICS OF THE ASSOCIATION.—LIST OF CHURCHES FORMED.—LIST OF MINISTERS ORDAINED.—MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION.—WRITERS AND SUBJECTS OF THE CIRCULAR LETTERS.—REMARKS.

My Young Friend,

This letter will deal largely in statistics. I begin with a tabular extract of the returns furnished to the Association.

| Year. | Churches. | Baptisms. | Members. |
|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 1829 | 36 | 358 | 2255 |
| 1830 | 38 | 382 | 3101 |
| 1831 | 41 | 420 | 3309 |
| 1832 | 44 | 353 | 3633 |
| 1833 | 47 | 432 | 3915 |
| 1834 | 52 | 621 | 4549 |
| 1835 | 59 | 199 | 4610 |
| 1836 | 59 | 458 | 4985 |
| 1837 | 63 | 393 | 5328 |
| 1838 | 65 | 335 | 5608 |

Thirty-five churches were added to the Association during the period. Four of them—those at Liverpool, Tracadie, Port Medway, and Baddeck, had been in existence for several years before. The others were constituted in the following order:—

1828.

Brier Island. July 8. A Council convened for the ordination of Samuel Bancroft ascertained that the brethren and sisters here had been dismissed from the Digby Neck Church, but were still in an unorganized state. They "organized this body of believers into a regular church, and ordained three

deacons." There were sixty members in fellowship when the church joined the Association in 1829.

Economy. Sept. 21. James Munro visited this place in the early part of the summer, and baptized three persons. He went again in September, and found four more prepared to profess Christ. "On Lord's day morning, Sept. 21," says Mr. Munro, "I baptized these four persons, after which I preached to a large and solemn assembly. As the individuals who had yielded obedience to one of the special commands of Christ were desirous to fulfil the other also, it appeared proper to form them into a church. Accordingly, a Baptist church was constituted upon the principles of the Association, consisting of the seven whom I had baptized, three persons resident in Five Islands, who had been previously immersed, and one who had a certificate from the church in Cornwallis—in all, eleven members. The Lord's supper was then administered. The exercises of the day were attended with a deep solemnity, and the season was truly delighted." The church did not join the Association till 1834, when it contained fourteen members.

Brookfield. Dec. 1. After passing through many changes and trials the believers in this place were formed into a church, at the above date, by Thomas Ansley, during one of his missionary tours. It reported fifty-one members to the Association.

1829.

Guysborough. Organized by George Dimock, but did not join the Association till 1831, at which time the number of members was twenty-eight.

Mabou. Eight persons were united in church fellowship by William Burton. Three had been added to them when they were admitted to the Association, in 1831.

New Albany. June 12. By Messrs Ansley and Bill. Thirty-eight members.

1830.

Falmouth. Jan. 13. Formerly a branch of Windsor church. Constituted a distinct body by the advice of a council. Thirty-four members were in Communion at the meeting of the Association this year.

Westchester. A church of twelve members was organized by Samuel McCully.

Argyle. Aug. 21. The organization of this church took place during a revival of religion. Harris Harding and other brethren assisted on the occasion. It did not then join the Association.

St. Peter's Road, P. E. I. October. By Samuel McCully. The church consisted of about thirty persons.

Third Halifax. In consequence of a difference of opinion respecting the pastorate, a majority of the members left Granville Street Chapel, and worshipped in another place, being still recognized by the Association as the "second" Halifax church. Those who remained, seventeen in number, were received into the Association this year, under the designation of the "third" Halifax church. The "second" church was dropped in the Minutes of the Association after 1837; and the "first" church, over which the venerable John Burton so long presided, ceased to appear in the Association list after 1841. There had been no communication from it since 1839. A large number of members resided at Preston and Hammonds Plains. Attachment to Mr. Burton kept them together during his life. On his death, which occurred Feb. 6, 1838, other arrangements took place.

1831.

Sherbrooke. The brethren Joseph Dimock and Maynard Parker united in constituting this Church, in the month of November. It consisted of eleven members.

1832.

Windsor Road. This church owed its existence to the labours of John Doyle. It was organized in February, and reported twenty six members in the following June. There was a very commendable manifestation of benevolence and activity among them. A Female Mite Society had been formed, which contributed £16 to the Burman Mission; and two Meeting houses were "in the course of completion for the use of the church."

Stewiacke. Fifteen persons, most of them members of the church, at Onslow, were

formed into a distinct church, in the month of November, by James Munro.

1833.

St. Margaret's Bay. Joseph Dimock organized this church, in the month of July. Sixteen persons belonged to it when it joined the Association the following year.

East Point, P. E. I. This church also was organized in the month of July, under the ministrations of John Shaw. Twenty-six members were reported to the Association in 1834. The church at Three Rivers was admitted at the same time. The following account is extracted from the Minutes:—

"A Church at this place was organized some years since, and was designated Scotch Baptists. They were visited by Elders Manning and Harding, (in the autumn of 1832,) who becoming acquainted with them and their religious views of the doctrine of Grace, although somewhat differing in practice from the Nova-Scotia Baptists, deemed it expedient to assist them in the ordination of brother John Shaw, (who had formerly been a Pedobaptist preacher, and for some years past laboured in the Island successfully, and was now immersed,) to the Pastoral charge of this Church. In the Autumn of 1833, Elders Chipman and Bill, visited this Island, and after forming an acquaintance with the Baptist Churches generally, felt united with them, and deeply interested in their welfare. For the purpose of promoting the union of this body of pious believers in the several Churches on the Island with the Nova-Scotia Association, a general meeting of delegates from all the Churches save one (too distant) was notified by them and held at Lot No. 48. The result was, an agreement that our Articles and Rules of faith and practice were to be received and adopted by them, and to commune with us in all the ordinances of God's House—and to be received on application as members of our Association; at the same time they were at liberty to enjoy their own views with regard to a particular point of discipline, and practice accordingly, upon conditions that they allow us the same liberty. Application being now made by this Church on the above conditions, the unanimous and cheerful voice of the Association was in favour of their reception."

1834.

Tusket. This church was organized in October. In 1837, the church at Argyle was united with it.

Long Island. Eighteen members were dismissed from the church on Brier Island, to form this church.

1835.

Dalhousie. A small church, of thirteen members, organized in February.

Third Cornwallis. One hundred and sixty-seven members of the first Cornwallis church were constituted into a distinct body, bearing the above designation.

Wilmot Mountain. Formerly a branch of the Upper Granville church. Forty-five members were dismissed to form the new society.

Wellington. May 5. "Ten members, principally dismissed from the Lunenburg and Brookfield churches."

Springfield. May 18. Composed of twelve members, "remote from any of the ministers of Christ, and seldom favoured with the preached gospel."

Margaree. This church was organized by William Burton, in April, and consisted of thirty members when it joined the Association.

Second Yarmouth. Formed by dismission of one hundred and forty members from the "first" church.

Charlottetown P. E. I. A church of thirteen members, represented at the Association by I. E. Bill and W. Chipman. It was formed in August.

1837.

Second Aylesford. A church of thirty-three members.

Bridgewater. Nine persons were organized into a church by Maynard Parker.

Second Digby Neck. This church consisted of thirty-eight members, dismissed from the first church.

Bridgewater, C. B. A church was formed here, Sep. 28, by Maynard Parker.

Second Digby Neck. This church consisted of thirty-eight members, dismissed from the first church.

Bridgewater, C. B. A church was formed here Sept. 28, by Maynard Parker.

Merigomish. Eight persons were constituted a church, Oct. 17, by Maynard Parker. These two churches did not join the Association.

I will now give you a list of the ordinations that took place between the Associations of 1828 and 1838:—

July 1, 1828. **Daniel McGregor** and **John Austin.** They were "ordained to the work of the ministry by the Baptist Church at Clements." Israel Potter probably presided on the occasion.

July 9, 1828. **Samuel Bancroft,** at Brier Island. Sermon by Thomas Ansley, from Psalm 132. 15.

July 20, 1828. **William Burton,** at Westbrook. Sermon, by Charles Tupper, from 2 Tim. 4, 2.

March 3, 1829. **Ingraham E. Bill,** at Nictaux. Sermon by Edward Manning, from 2 Tim. 4, 15.

March 5, 1829. **Ezekiel Marsters,** at Aylesford. Sermon by William Elder, from 1 Peter 5, 1-3.

March 19, 1829. **William Chipman,** at West Cornwallis. Sermon by Theodore S. Harding, from 2 Tim. 4, 2.

May 25, 1829. **Richard W. Cunningham,** at Chute's Cove. Sermon by Ezekiel Marsters, from Titus 2, 1.

May 20, 1830. **Robert B. Dickie,** at Falmouth. Sermon by Edward Manning, from 2 Tim. 4, 5.

Aug. 4, 1830. **James Stevens,** at Horton. Sermon by Edward Manning, from 1 Tim. 4, 16.

1830. **E. A. Crawley** and **John Pryor,** at Providence, R. I. Sermon by Dr. Wayland.

1830. **Hezekiah Hill.** I cannot ascertain the precise time of this brother's ordination. He attended the Association in 1825, as a Licentiate. His name does not occur afterwards till 1831, when he was marked as an ordained minister, representing the church at Guysborough.

Aug. 29, 1831. **Maynard Parker,** at Lunenburg. Sermon by I. E. Bill, from Acts 20, 28.

Nov. 28, 1831. **John Doyle,** at Rawdon. Sermon by T. S. Harding, from 2 Tim. 2, 15.

Dec. 11, 1831. **Anthony Dimock,** at Liverpool. Sermon by Joseph Dimock, from Isaiah 62, 6.

May 10, 1832. **Na'hamiel Vidito,** at Wilmot. Sermon by Edward Manning, from Col. 1, 7.

July 3, 1832. **Henry Saunders,** at Aylesford. Sermon by William Elder, from Ephesians 2, 8.

July 6, 1832. **Joshua Cogswell,** at Lower Granville. Sermon by Edward Manning, from 2 Cor. 4, 7.

Sept. 18, 1832. **Benjamin Scott,** at Lot 49, P. E. I. Sermon by Edward Manning, from Acts 20, 28.

Oct. 7, 1832. **John Scott,** at North River, P. E. I. Sermon by T. S. Harding.

Oct. 14, 1832. **John Shaw,** at Three Rivers, P. E. I. Sermon by Edward Manning, from 1 Tim. 4, 6.

Nov. 4, 1832. **John Whidden,** at Antigonish. Sermon by T. S. Harding.

May 23, 1833. **Ebenezer Stronack,** at Wilmot. Sermon by T. S. Harding, from 2 Tim. 2, 15.

July 10, 1833. **Charles Randall,** at Sissiboo. Sermon by James Munro.

July —, 1833. **J. McQuillan,** at Baddeck. Messrs. Elder and Cunningham were present.

Nov. 14, 1833. **Theodore H. Porter,** at Billtown, Cornwallis. Sermon by I. E. Bill, from 2 Tim. 4, 5.

Oct. 8, 1834. **Silas T. Rand,** at Canard, Cornwallis. Sermon by T. S. Harding, from 1 Tim. 4, 15.

July 1, 1835. **John Chase,** at Billtown, Cornwallis. Sermon by Charles Tupper, from 1 Tim. 4, 16.

Jan. 20, 1836. **Thomas C. DeLong,** at New Albany.

March 31, 1836. **Wellington Jackson,** at Brier Island. Sermon by William Burton, from 1 Tim 3, 1.