

Shelburne and vicinities, and has since given his time to Barrington, Wood's Harbor and Pubnico.

Soon after the dedication of the new Meeting House at Barrington, the church enjoyed a season of refreshing. Two were added to the church by baptism, one of whom proposes to devote himself to the work of the ministry.

In this mission during the past year, 130 sermons were preached; 2 were baptized.

Rev. L. B. Gates had an appointment of three weeks to Annapolis Royal. He reports that he was especially careful to visit all that he could ascertain were Baptist in sentiment, and that he found 22 who were members of various churches throughout the Province.

The New Meeting House is progressing favorably; and the brethren hope to have it opened for divine service in the Autumn. This is an important station, and those friends who are doing so nobly there, should be encouraged and sustained by the denomination. Sermons preached 10; Families visited 26; Collected in aid of the Mission \$8.00.

In addition to the above appointments, the sum of \$25.00 was voted as a grant in aid to Bro. J. F. McKenne laboring at East Ragged Islands. Your Board are impressed with the necessity of securing, wherever possible, permanent missionary appointments. But notwithstanding, they have not been able to remedy this defect during the past year, excepting in the case of brethren Miller and Richan.

By a proper distribution of the mission field, labor might be so expended that many sections now enjoying but a few weeks' preaching in the course of the year, might have the stated and regular ministry of the word. Let a man be placed at Annapolis Royal, and Milford and Greywood might be regularly supplied. It could be arranged to unite Shelburne with Sand Point and Jordan River, that field would probably in a few years, if assisted by the Board, become self-sustaining. Springfield combined with New Albany, might with a little assistance sustain a preacher, and afford help to one or two outlying sections now almost wholly destitute. Of course short missions, in some localities, would be necessary under any system. The two must be blended. But by occupying permanently centres of population, and radiating thence to the outlying and destitute sections, the short missions would soon become the exception, not the rule, in our missionary policy.

Your Board reaffirm the sentiment expressed last year as to the importance of united effort in the Home Mission work of the Province. They trust that wise counsels will prevail in accomplishing an object so desirable. Let the Baptists of Nova Scotia have no sectional jealousies, let there be no east, no west. Let them be united in one grand aim, the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom in the planting of New Testament christianity in every town, village and settlement throughout the length and breadth of the land.

The application made by the Board of the Home Missionary Union proposed a year ago at Berwick to deliver over to that body the Home Mission Funds and work entrusted to us. Your Board felt bound respectfully to decline, as we regarded the Union as incomplete, not having been accepted by the Associations and Home Mission Society, and therefore not in a position to take charge of said funds and work.

Your Board, in retiring from the work assigned them, may be permitted to say that they have endeavored to do their duty. Thankful for the divine favor that has attended their work, they nevertheless wish they could have done more. They trust that those whom you may appoint to succeed them, may have more men and money, more wisdom and zeal, more ample scope and a more abundant blessing in their efforts to build up the church of Christ in our beloved land.

The following summary of the work of the year has been reported:—

Number of Missionaries employed 5; Weeks of service 102; Sermons delivered 317; Conference and other meetings 52; Families visited, 263; Baptized 6; Added by Letter 2; Collected by Missionaries, \$53.94.

Respectfully submitted,
M. P. FREEMAN.

A NOBLE WORK, TRULY.—The young women in the Lowell Mills, Mass., have recently dedicated a home for the shelter and support of worthy girls out of work, and also to take care during working hours of children whose mothers are employed in the mills. Another object of this home is to aid those seeking employment.

For the Christian Messenger.

ACADIA COLLEGE.

SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.

To the Baptist Churches of the Convention of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island.

Dear Brethren,

The importance of sound scientific instruction cannot be over-rated. It is an essential part of a good education. Looking at the present state of public opinion, and the tendencies of philosophical speculation and research, educationists are abundantly confirmed in their conviction that the youthful mind should be well indoctrinated in science. The works of God should be studied as well as his word. A scientific department has become necessary to the completeness of every College. And it is observable that strenuous efforts in this direction are now made in all Institutions of learning, both in the old and the new world.

Since the departure of Professor Elder, the studies of the scientific department of Acadia College have been for the most part suspended. But that state of the things cannot continue. Suitable arrangements must be made for next year.

Correspondence has been carried for some months past with a gentleman in Montreal, a graduate of McGill College, whose testimonials are entirely satisfactory, and to whom the Committee which had been entrusted with the business desired that the appointment of Professor should be given. But at the last meeting of the Board of Governors it was resolved, "That in the present state of the College finances the Board deem it inexpedient to appoint a Professor of Natural Sciences." It was also resolved at the same time, "That the matter of provision for instruction in the College, in view of the vacancy in the Scientific Department be referred to the Rev. Dr. Cramp, Rev. T. H. Porter, Hon. Dr. Parker, and Rev. S. W. DeBlois—to report to the Board in August the arrangements that they may deem advisable for the year to come."

On behalf of that Committee these statements are laid before the churches, with a view to obtain contributions towards the Scientific Department of instruction in Acadia College during the next year.

Allow us, dear brethren, to solicit with earnestness your generous aid. The object is confessedly of the highest interest, especially at the present time, when infidels are labouring hard to prove the contrary of Scripture to science.

We are anxious to make such provision for instruction in the Scientific Department, as may give completeness to the arrangements of the College, till the state of the endowment shall justify the direct appointment of a Professor.

Several contributions have been already promised, ranging from ten dollars upwards.

Friends disposed to assist are respectfully requested to signify their intentions to the undersigned, or any other member of the Committee, before the 15th of August next, as the Committee will be expected to report to the Board of Governors at the Convention.

J. M. CRAMP,
Wolfville, June 26, 1873.

P. S. It is desired and hoped that those who respond to this Appeal will regard their contributions as additional to any aid given by them to the general funds of the College. It is a special effort.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., July 2, 1873.

THE NOVA SCOTIA WESTERN ASSOCIATION.

The Annapolis Valley in June is always beautiful, and a visit to it is in itself a rich treat. Whilst all the Western part of the province presents attractions by the richness and variety of its scenery, and the fertility of the soil, such as can hardly be surpassed, the neighborhood of Bridgetown with the mountain sides rising up north and south within reach of the eye, is perhaps the choicest part of the county. An air of comfort surrounds its dwellings. Quiet and peace reign over the landscape. Happiness and plenty appear to be enjoyed by the inhabitants. The lovely elms and other ornamental trees in its streets are objects of admiration by every lover of the beautiful and picturesque. Its churches are indications of the religious character of the

people. The new Methodist church with its brick basement, is a model of neatness and appropriate ornamentation. The Presbyterian church is smaller, a substantial, brick structure, fully equal to its necessities, and highly creditable to the enterprise of the body to whom it belongs. The Baptist edifice is less modern, and yet with a fair exterior its interior is very neat and well finished, capable of seating five or six hundred people. The gallery is suspended from the ceiling by iron rods, giving a clear open space all over the lower part of the building. If a good sized vestry were built at the back of the present building, communicating with the aisles by large doors it would afford great facilities for social meetings and for the Sabbath School and other special occasions. This has been talked of and will doubtless be carried into effect, before a great while, and would give a commodiousness to the building greatly to the advantage of the church in its future operations.

The uniform kindness of the friends at Bridgetown in addition to the external attractiveness of the place, rendered our visit last week to attend the Association a most pleasant one, although too short to accept of more than a small part of the hospitality tendered.

In our last we gave some account of the Association up to Monday morning.

In the afternoon three new churches were welcomed into the Association—one at Lockport—another at Lawrencetown and Valley West in Annapolis County—and the other at Tiverton, Digby County—and the right hand of fellowship was given to their representatives respectively. The Reports of the French Mission Board and of the Infirmary Ministers Fund were presented and adopted, and the Board re-appointed.

The Home Missionary Board also presented their Report which may be found in another column.

The Committee of the Nova Scotia Baptist Missionary Union—Revs. E. M. Saunders, Geo. Armstrong and Isaiah Wallace, appointed to confer with the Association, presented before the body the action of the Union, by calling on the Secretary to read its Minutes to the Association. An extended discussion took place in a somewhat irregular manner. It was participated in by Revs. Geo. Armstrong, Dr. Day, Isaiah Wallace, Dr. Cramp, E. M. Saunders, Dr. Sawyer, J. H. Saunders and Bro. Robert Brown.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

Whereas, At the late meeting of the "Home Mission Union," at which a large number of the churches of this Association was represented, the Union in Home Mission work was cordially agreed to, and

Whereas, The "Home Mission Union" is the organization through which the Union is hoped to be reached, and

Whereas, There appears to have arisen some difference of opinion concerning the vote passed at the last meeting of this Association—the French Mission Board understanding it to authorize them to hand over their work and funds to the Board of the Home Mission Union—the Domestic Mission Board understanding it to give no such authority;

Therefore Resolved, That this Association accept the "Home Mission Union" and direct its Domestic and French Mission Boards to hand over immediately all transferable funds and work to the Board of the "Home Mission Union." And to take such steps as may be necessary to qualify them to hand over all invested funds as soon as the "Home Mission Union" shall be legally qualified to receive them.

THE PUBLIC MISSIONARY MEETING on Monday evening was a most interesting occasion, there being present the three brethren appointed to the Mission field, and expecting soon to enter upon their work; Rev. Dr. Tupper, our aged brother who was for many years the devoted Secretary of the Foreign Mission, and Rev. Dr. Cramp the present Corresponding Secretary of the Board, together with a large number of other aged and younger ministering brethren.

The two aged brethren—almost retired from their life work of more than half a century in the service of Christ, the three Missionaries to go into the regions beyond, in the dark recesses of Siam, all untried and not knowing what shall befell them; these brethren surrounded by representatives from the churches listening to words of counsel and encouragement from their sermons derived from their own experience, and recommending them to trust in the promises given in the sure word of prophecy, "Especially in that given by our Lord, "Lo I am with you even to the end of the world," formed a spectacle which could but awaken strong emotions, in every

heart having any sympathy in the advancing progress of the Redeemer's Kingdom. The French Missionary too with his story of contest with superstition and evil nearer home, formed a combination of laborers devoted to the service not often witnessed.

After singing and prayer, the Moderator Rev. W. H. Porter called for the Report of the Committee on Missions. Rev. George Armstrong the Chairman read the report as follows:

The Committee on Missions have learned with regret that our Sister Miss DeWolfe has been compelled by failure of health to leave her work in the Foreign Mission, and in search of health to return to her native Province, where she is now awaiting the dispensations of Providence concerning her life and work. May she be sustained and comforted by the gospel, and soon be prepared to enter with renewed energy and strength on her loved employment among the heathen. Our sister, Miss Maria Norris is pressing her chosen work among the Karens with great steadiness, energy and perseverance, and is much encouraged with the hope of enlarged usefulness and success in leading sinners to the knowledge of Christ and salvation.

We recommend to W. M. Aid Societies to continue and extend their praise-worthy and benevolent exertions in support of the Foreign Missions.

In view of soon establishing our own Foreign Mission in the Kingdom of Siam, this Committee would urge upon our churches increased prayer, energy and liberality, to maintain and carry on that great and important work in the name of the Lord.

In our Home Mission field considerable work has been done. But the present seems with us a transition period in respect to Home Missions. Existing organizations that have accomplished much good have been represented as unadapted to present exigencies, and as being effete and inefficient. This view, however, your Committee does not by any means endorse. But of this your Committee is satisfied—that in order to fulfill our duty in respect to the Home Mission field, inviting and demanding faithful missionary labour everywhere, wise counsels, well-understood and hearty union, great energy, increased liberality and prayer are indispensable. Whether this shall be effected by a new organization, or by working our existing organizations with greater faith, energy, and concentration is for you and the sister Associations in the Province to determine. Much as to success will depend on the spirit with which the work is undertaken and carried on. Humility, faith, union and prayer, in connection with earnest work, will result in large spiritual harvests.

Your Committee have learned with pleasure that the Acadian French Mission has been vigorously worked during the year, and that the prospect of increasing success in that department is very encouraging. The Missionary is faithful and earnest in the great work to which he has given himself.

Respectfully submitted,
Geo. ARMSTRONG, Chairman.

Rev. Dr. Tupper on being called for, arose and addressed the meeting on the vast blessing of the gospel ministry and the obligations laid upon all to endeavour to make known the good news. He related incidents of our Missionary operations, giving an outline of what had befallen the body in its former efforts in sending the gospel to heathen nations.

The hymn,

"The morning light is breaking"

was sung, and Rev. Dr. Cramp called attention to the predictions of God's Word concerning the ultimate triumph of the Gospel, and the assurance given that those who go forth in this work shall be accompanied by the Lord himself. He received some of the predictions of the glorious future, and enforced the duty of rejoicing over such blessed anticipations. It may be many years before the full manifestation of gospel light reaches all lands, but it must come. It is God's work, and it must be done. The world now so full of crime must be filled with the glory of God. He explained to the people the necessity for enlarged contributions to carry out the project now before the churches.

Rev. M. Normandy in referring to what Dr. Cramp had said of his first visit to this place 27 years ago on behalf of the Grand Ligne Mission as the inception of the labors among the French of this Province, asked, "Is the French Mission now a settled institution? If so, does God show that He approves of what has already been done? He thought the adherence of its friends to it in prosperity and adversity was some answer to the enquiry. The work of conversion too which is being carried on, showed that it received Divine favour. He gave some statements of the success already attained, and showed by statistics that there was a growing state of inquiry and readiness on the part of the French to read and think for themselves.

Mr. Rufus Sanford was requested to give some statement of his wishes and designs, and entered somewhat into

detail concerning the religious exercises he had, before deciding to give himself to the missionary work, since which time he had felt ready to go in the name of the Master. Further light had continued to break upon his path and he now felt assured that it was the path God had prepared for him. He could not express the joy he had experienced in the prospect of laboring among the heathen. He wished to have the people with him, and felt that having their hands ready to take hold, he was ready to endure whatever he might be called to pass through for the sake of Him who gave his life for us.

Mr. George Churchill expressed his satisfaction that he was not to plead a cause of which he knew nothing. Having been so long a missionary people, they were better acquainted with some of its features than he was. He had been, from his first religious convictions, desirous of laboring as a foreign missionary. He had applied to and been accepted by the American Board, but being a Nova Scotian (a native of Yarmouth County) he had been induced to join hands with his own people, believing that it was the intention of our Lord to bless them in their work. His interest in Foreign Missions even before his conversion, had been a great means of leading him to Christ, and now his great desire was that he might be employed in carrying on the work which Jesus began. This he felt to be his highest desire, and the strongest motive that pressed him forward to the work.

Mr. W. F. Armstrong alluded to the vast needs of the heathen, and the stations to which missionaries have gone as but points of light amidst the terrible darkness which covered the people. The Home Mission field is as the Lord's garden, where many pleasant things grow, but the Foreign Mission is His farm, where the cultivation is not so minute and complete, yet all was part of His home, and he was present to cheer and comfort his servants in their labors. He had of late been spending some time in the United States, and had learned to love and appreciate many there, but he was glad to find himself in company with his own people and brethren. He had of late read much on Missions, and had found the study a most profitable one, greatly strengthening him in his desire to be employed in the work, and in the assurance that success would be given to faithful labor. The changes going on amongst the nations he regarded as indications of the nearer approach of the Redeemer's kingdom. The European nations were experiencing powerful upheavals which shew what may be expected before very long. —The recent efforts of Japan to obtain light, the giving of freedom to four millions of slaves in the United States, the exploration of Africa, and the deep interest of the people in behalf of the down-trodden everywhere, all shew that the truth is marching on, and will prevail over ignorance and sin. In India the marvellous work among the Telugus is an evidence that a powerful impression exists that God is working, and will have his people join in the work and go forth in far greater numbers than ever before. We are as yet but on the vestibule of Zion's triumphs. The great temple all lies out before us, and it will be for us to labor for a fuller realization of the glories that are to appear.

The report of the Committee was adopted, and this deeply interesting meeting brought to a close by devotional exercises.

TUESDAY MORNING. The Committee of the H. M. Union stated that it was requested by the Union that a Committee of three might be appointed to confer with three from each of the other Associations at Windsor the day before the Convention, respecting any changes in the Constitution of that body to adapt it to the necessities of the work contemplated. Brethren Revs. G. E. Day, W. G. Parker and P. R. Foster were appointed said committee. On motion it was

Resolved, That this Association rejoice in the accession of brethren Armstrong, Churchill, and Sanford to the Missionary band, and affectionately recommends those brethren to the prayerful and active sympathy of the members of the Denomination throughout these Provinces, trusting that as they visit other Associations, and the churches generally, they will excite a spirit of growing zeal and benevolence in the cause of Missions, which shall develop itself in ample and persistent contributions, and thus pledge the Baptists of the Convention to the support of our new Mission in the East.

After some routine business, EDUCATIONAL MATTERS were brought up by the reading of the