DECEMBER 22, 1880.

Halifax Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor.

The Annual meeting of this Association was held on Tuesday evening of last week, in the Y. M. C. A. Hall. John Doull, Esq., the President, occupied the Chair. The meeting was opened by Prayer, after which the Secretary, Mr. D. Blackwood, read the reports of the several departments of work done by the Society as follows :

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

In presenting the Fourteenth Annual Report of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, the Board of Directors desire to express their thanks for the liberal response which the charitable public has given to the cry of the destitute and suffering.

Contributions have been received as per detailed list from 115 contributors, amounting to the sum of \$1,776.

The Treasurer's statement is made up to the 1st November, 1880, and shows a balance due him of \$1,669.48. To meet this there is an account due by the city for broken stone for \$2,527.28. If this had been paid before the closing of account, the balance at the credit of the Association would have been \$857.79.

BEQUESTS

in former years, amounting to \$800 are included in that sum. It was intended to invest the bequests and use the interest only. But as advances have every year to be obtained for the purchase of stone for the stone shed, it was more convenient to allow the amount to remain in the Treasurer's hands but it is not the intention of the Directors to expend it.

THE STONE SHED.

By donations and subscriptions, including interest on A. K. Doull's By received from the city for broken stone..... 2,103 52 By stone sold to Imp'l Goverment 92 56 Balance due Trea. carried down... 1,669 49 \$5,641 5

1880. Nov. 1. To balance due Treasurer brought down.....\$1,669 49 W. S. STERLING, Treasurer.

Audited and found correct. JAMES FARQUHAR, SAML. BROOKFIELD. Auditors.

A great loss has been sustained by the death of Mr. Joseph Donoughoe, who had faithfully discharged the duties of Superintendent for many years. 'In accordance with the resolution passed at last meeting, the wages for breaking stones was advanced to 3 cents per bushel, any lower rate not affording a fair remuneration to the men, for their labor. As the city only allows 4 cents for the stone when broken, which does not quite cover the cost of the stone and the labor of breaking, it leaves the whole cost of management, procuring and repairing hammers, sledges, wheelbarrows, Association, and shows a loss of \$300 on the sales of broken stone, without any allowance for interest due the Union Bank for the necessary advances required. A tabular statement of the number of men employed, and the work done by them, was also given. It showed that the average number employed was about 90 per day, and the average earnings about 45 cents per man.

The following named officers were elected:

Mr. John Doull, President. Mr. W. H. Neal, Vice President an Superintendent of the Stone Shed. Mr. W. S. Sterling, Treasurer. Mr. D. Blackwood, Secretary. Messrs. Jas. Farquhar and S. M. Brook-

CHRISTIAN **MESSENGER.** 1 = 13

called of God to enter it. Now, let no belongs to a class of considerable pro- rare. The efforts of the Convention are stout ecclesiastic enraged at our belief, portions, and correspondents give you strongly directed to break up the attempt to cut off our head, because we some names, as perhaps the popular isolation, and bring two or more of the think that a call to the ministry may be pastor of the Calvary Church in New small churches under the care of determined in part by the bearing of York, or the Memorial Church in Phila- one pastor. With you, a church may people towards us.

earth, Horatio, Then are dreamt of in your philosophy." reasons so fewsof the sons of rich men and rich churches enter the ministry. the pulpit, and in the pew, but forbear brethren of sections where no preaching The country churches, and the poorer of just now. them too, furnish more of the pulpits and educational chairs of the land. Shall we have an illustration just her?? We will take it from another State, simply because we are more familiar with the case than with many nearer us. There is

POULTNEY, VT.,

a small post office village. In the whole certainties the Christian's faith rests township there are only about 2500 inhabitants. For many years a Baptist Church has been in the village. It has &c., to be borne by the funds of the always been small and weak, having formerly about 80 members, and now perhaps about 60. Shall the Baptists of that State, let that little church die? Before you answer, look at its record. It sent forth on his splendid ministerial career that noble patriarch, Dr. Pharcellus Church, and his genial peer, Dr. Kendrick, of Poughkeepsie, and also the distinguished Greek and biblical scholar, Prof. Kendrick, of Rochester University. Besides, Dr. V. R. Hotchkiss, of Buffalo, who for some years was professor in Rochester Theological Seminary, had his start in that little church. shrewdness. He is one of the heavy There are others too whose names have slipped our present memory, and who have come from that little church to distinguish themselves for good works. Let this church die and others like it, scattered over the hills and valleys of the Bay State? "Nay," our Convention replies. They must not die. They are often to the larger churches what the springs are to the rivers. Their smallness and weakness are owing to their giving. Their young people move away to the stirring centres of manufacture and trade.

which he might step, nor will he feel patriotism. We said just now that he exceptions to this statement are very adelphia. But they are illustrations have sections or divisions, and a meeting "There are more things in heaven and merely of the many excellent ministers, house in each, the pastor preaching in and laymen who were born under the one in the morning of Sunday, and in English flag, but have chosen this land another in the afternoon, and so go We think this is one of the great as their home and the field of their toil. around to all the sections in a fortnight We could give you many names both in or a month. In the mean time, the

> Mr. Foljambe's text, was 2 Tim. i. 12, meetings. This system is practically an and his theme, " The Intellectual and Spiritual Assurance of the Christian." The sermon delivered, the audience upon, how great may be his assurance, and the comfort which springs from it? Such a sermon is like Elijah's meal, in the strength of which, we could go forty days and forty nights into the wilderness of this world.

The afternoon session was occupied mainly with the choice of officers, and with the report of the General Secretary. This year a layman was horored by election to the presidency,

HON. EUSTACE C. FITZ.

A more fitting choice could hardly have been made. Mr. Fitz is only in the prime of life, a man of sterling integrity, and of large wealth, all gather ed by his own business industry and

is done, hold prayer and conference

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an association of several churches in the support of one pastor, and all, have preaching by turns. Bu there, isolation went out to dinner, exclaiming, "That is carried to the extreme. Small, weak was a grand sermon," and we had to churches though only two or three miles respond, "yes, grand, such as we have apart, will not unite, and if they cannot heard from him before too" O, what have a pastor or preacher all their own, will shut up their houses, and rarely have prayer meetings, and perhaps, dismiss the Sunday School. O, the wretched system almost starves pastors and crushes the churches ! If it were not that supplies are so easily obtainable, the results would be shamefully disastrous, if not fatal. The Convention has secured the association of a few churches in this way, very few only, and is urging it forward at the peril of the withdrawal of aid.

We think we notice a change in the policy of your Home Mission Societythat is in giving aid to churches which shall do their work in their own wayselect their preachers or pastors, keep them so long as they like, and dismiss them when they please, instead of send-

During the last season owing to the scar. | field. Auditors. city of work, the number of applicants bushel, whilst the city was only paying Dist. 4, Mr. A. M. Bell. four cents, the result was a loss on the Association's operations. The full particulars will be learned from the lucid statement of the chairman, which is appended hereto. No doubt this is the best branch of the Association's work, as it affords an opportunity for those willing to work to obtain sufficient to keep them from starving.

INSPECTOR.

In accordance with the resolution of the Directors, Mr. James Graham was appointed Inspector. He visited a large number of those relieved. His reports aided materially in the proper distribu-tion of relief and in checking attempted frauds. His management of the

SOUP KITCHEN

gave good satisfaction. The quality of the soup was excellent, and the large quantity of 6,834 quarts was distributed by sale and grants.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF RELIEF.

In 1879 the sum of \$2, 224,94 was disbursed. In 1880, owing to the large number of applicants, and the pressing need for relief, although every effort was made to distribute it prudently, the sum expended reached \$1,646.25.

Owing to the loss on the stone broken and to the increased relief granted whilst the contributions were only about \$70 in advance of 1879, the funds at the disposal of the Directors have been reduced, as compared with last year, by \$248.

Appeal .- The record of this Association shows it to be one which is approved of by its supporters, for every year, without collectors, by voluntary offerings, the needed funds are forthcoming. This year the prospect is that work will be still scarcer than it was last year. The Directors are determined to use the utmost vigilance to have the relief reach the deserving, according to the rules of the Association. It is hoped, therefore, that a larger sum than was contributed last year may be given this, and that the new friends who have not made this a channel for their benefactions may now do so. With the exception of a trifling sum which the necessary stationery costs, and a small amount paid for inter est on a loan to buy the stone at the beginning of the season, and the necessary wages of an Inspector, every dollar given is spent upon the poor, and the amount of suffering which is relieved cannot be ascertained, or can human language adequately express it. Mr. W. S. Sterling, Union Bank, Hollis St., is Treasurer, and will gladly receive all contributions. JOHN DOULL, President. Halifaz Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, in account with W.S. Sterling,

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Chairmen of Districts :- Dist. 1. Mr. was very large. As the rate for breaking | S. M. Brookfield; Dist. 2, Mr. H. P. had been advanced to three cents per Burton ; Dist. 3, Mr. John Ervin, Jr. ;

The city has agreed to take 60,000 bushels of stone this year, and the stone shed will be opened on Monday, January Mr. W. H. Neal is now prepared to 3. receive tenders for the supplying ofstone to the shed.

The following is a statement of the various articles distributed by the As sociation during the past year :--5,876 bushels coal, 5,829 loaves bread, 561 lbs. cornmeal, 1,719 lbs. oatmeal, 679 quarts molasses, 5,160 quarts soup, 22 lbs. tea, 53 lbs. sugar, 9 lbs. rice.

Corvespondence.

For the Christian Messenger. The last about the Massachusetts Baptist State Anniversaries.

The great day of the feast was Wednesday. The annual meeting of the together. Massachusetts Baptist Convention then came "on the boards." This is really a Home Mission Society, and it was called by that name in its childhood. There was then no national Home Mission Society as now, but since the existence of the larger society, this found respect for the preacher. His State organization has been known by the name of Convention. Still its mission is the same. It cares for and helps the churches of the State, too weak to walk and work in their own strength. There are many of these financial weaklings in our old rich States The question is often raised, "Shall we not let them die ?" But no sooner is its head lifted up like a venomous cobra, than better thought smites it down. Let these churches die ?- that would be to cut off much of the supply of life and power from the churches of cities draw-backs not in themselves very and thriving towns. We need not call strong, his commanding talents of in an expert, skilled in statistics to public address would place him foreprove our assertion. It is a fact open to the observation of every one having common eyes, that by far the larger number of the earnest noble laymen in to advanced scholarship. He is modest city churches, has come from the country, where a small or weak Baptist Church, in some instances able to walk alone, and in others not, has taught his sermons are strong, massive, rich, them the principles of our faith, and trained them for their present usefulness. And as to ministers, Who does minute. Words come in torrents from not know that one born and bred in the his lips, and in such quick succession, affluence of city churches is almost as rare as a bird of Paradise in these latitudes? What is the explanation? We heard one offered a short time since, and we think it worth giving here. It Phillips Brooks. He is too, one of that was this : In the society of the rich, the minister is patronized, but in the society of the poor, he is respected, and looked readers will be the more interested in up to. The young man of spirit and of him, if they are informed of his English parts, will not brook the patronizing birth. He is a genuine John Bull, but courtesy. He will have the independ. his acquaintance, and marriage in the of ours in respect of the difference ence of manhood, and its respect too, family of Uncle Sam, have thoroughly referred to. Here, there is no associa- Church.' It strikes us that these names or he will not take the position into domesticated his sympathies and his tion of churches under one pastor. The are sectional." \$5,641 57

THE CONVENTION

was called to order by Dr. R. C. Mills, of Newton Centre. We will not detain you with the details of organization. The income of the Convention from invested funds, and from the churches has been this past year nearly \$13,800.00. Fifty-four churches have been aided, and the aid granted has, in most of those churches, kept pastor and people

A part of the morning service consisted of a sermon by Rev. S. W. Foljambe, of Malden. The first sermon we ever heard in Boston, was from him, and so deeply did his stirring eloquence impress us, that we were awed into provoice is very rich, and has great compass and power, and his rhetoric is just as rich and full as his voice. We have since heard addresses from him many times, during the period we looked up to him in affectionate loyalty as pastor, which were specimens of masterly few members two years ago, the little eloquence. We have been fairly stunned by the force and majesty of his utterances, and when he has finished a topic, the listener feels there is nothing lists, for less than half its value, and in months for the fulfilment of their orders. more to be said. Often have we been quite spell-bound, and but for certain life of the town. most among the Baptist leaders of the These are: specimens of the work State. He is self-made, and not of the doing now by our Convention ; the outschools, and hence makes no pretentions look for our denomination in the State, has not been so hopeful for many years too, shrinking away from leadership and For a moment judge of it by another responsibility, perhaps from a lack of standard. Many churches have been executive and organizing ability. But greatly in debt, but this has been A YEAR OF DEBT PAYING eloquent. He is a very rapid speaker, in the State. From one and two thouarticulating surely about 200 words a sand dollars to forty thousand, have rested on the activity and usefulness of churches like a painful nightmare terrias almost to run into each other and fying the worshippers. Many churches puzzle the hearer. We think he speaks have said, "Let us pay what we owe" more rapidly than the great Episcopal and, as far as heard from, nearly \$230,orator of the Boston pulpit, Rev. 000,00 have been pledged, and in great part actually paid, of church debts. class of considerable proportions now, A difference is to be noted between an Englishman Americanized. Your Massachusetts Churches and those of Nova Scotia, and

firm of Fuller, Dana & Fitz, the leading iron merchants of Boston. He is also a giver of large donations to christian causes, like his partner, Hon. Robert O. Fuller, and is likely to follow in the footsteps of the late and honored Gardner Colby. Missions both Home and poor, all miss the noble patron, Mr. magnauimous heart. God bless him.

The Secretary's report gave us new light upon a "new departure," entered upon, a year ago. It had been a growing conviction that more brain must be put into the management of the funds of the Convention, and it was believed that the new Secretary had the brain. Of old time, the Convention has helped churches without regard so much as The business was finished, the addresses now to the prospect of large growth and made, many had gone home, but a few self support. It was a short-sighted remained to hear the benediction. Some policy. The children of this world are wiser than our managers have been, until now. But now a little business shrewdness is put into Convention work. There are growing towns in our State of 3, 5, 6, and 10 thousand inhabitants. People are shifting their local enthusiastic church. habitation to these centres, towns like Brockton, Franklin, Spencer. The Convention has begun to foster Baptist Churches in these towns, and others like pen. But just a word as to the business them. In Brockton, a nice house of prosperity of this country; "times" are worship has been builded, and from a church has grown now to number nearly a 100. In Franklin, a large fine meeting shouse has been bought of the Universa-Spencer, where everything is moving in | Mills and shops are running, some all the shoe trade, like the Bigelow Heeling night, some till 9 and 10 o'clock; and Machine, a church has been organized, the railroads are crowded with freight, and is growing like the fast increasing

ing to churches, which may make a request, missionary pastors who shall have much of the independence of Titus, Bishop of Crete. Let us whisper

A WORD OF CAUTION.

Our Convention has tried both ways, and it is much better to send out good Foreign, Education, Churches, and the and tried missionary pastors to the weak churches. One of our pastors Colby, and the hope is that young men and wisest organizers for Christian work, will be raised up to continue and enlarge urged this change in our policy of helphis good works. Mr. Fitz has the large ing weak churches, and the proposition executive ability, and is growing to the met with much favor on all sides. Your old plan, we think, is much better .--Perhaps occasional departures are wise to meet special emergencies, but your system surely has the highest approval of experience.

> Just to show the temper of many Baptists and laymen in the State, let us speak of a little benevolent spurt which occurred at the close of the Convention. one said in substance, "Brethren, cannot we help the Brockton Church a little," and the pastor said he wished we would, and, in a few minutes, in gifts of 5 and 10 and 20 dollars, upwards of 600 dollars were raised to cheer the young

Well, we have said nothing about the evening addresses, and must let them pass without comment, soon to drop our excellent. No men out of work now. Business moves with wondrous activity and rush. Shops and mills are full of work-more than they can do. Purchasers are obliged to wait weeks and from one shore of the country to the other. But the loyalty and patriotism of Nova Scotia girls are admirable. A few months ago, a young lady from Queen's Co., came here, had to borrow money for her passage. She arrived, poorly clad, at four o'clock one afternoon, and went to work next morning, for 71 dollars a week. Still, she will not wince at all at the suggestion of shopmates, that Nova Scotians at home have "hard times." She declares she never saw "hard times" in Nova Scotia. Ah! this is true grit. But our pen slips out of our fingers, just as we finish our savory pseudonym,

Treasurer. 1879. Nov. 1. To balance due Treasurer.\$ 897 76 To purchase of stone, stone breaking & implements. 2,971 31 To Soup Kitchen, &c.... To Nova Scotia Printing Co 42 00 24 50 To Envelopes and Postage 1 00 (Secretary)..... District No. 1..., \$125 44 " 2.... 889 11 " 8.... 657 86 " 4.... 523 84 ____ 1,646 25 To interest on advance Union Bank

YOUR PRACTICES ARE FAR IN ADVANCE

POTAGE AU GRAS.

One of our U.S. exchanges says :---"We wish the brethren at the South would change the names of some of their churches. Recently we saw a reference to the 'Hell Hole Swamp Baptist Church,' and here comes the Christian Index, of October 28, with an account of an ordination at 'Yellow Dirt Baptist Alter Oats