

occurs of making what appears to be a judicious appointment, the Board regards it as a duty to make such appointment; well knowing the ability of Baptists to provide funds.

It will be borne in mind that all monies should be forwarded directly to the Treasurer, John Whitman, Esqr., Halifax. Complete lists of contributions and of contributor's names are requested in order to publication in the annual report.

The Lord dispose the people to give.

Very truly yours,
S. N. BENTLEY.

Halifax, March 4th, 1858.

To the Secretary of the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society.

DEAR BROTHER,

The copies of the Constitution of the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society, sent to the Windsor Church, were duly received. On the 1st of last November we met and organized an Auxiliary Society. The first Quarterly Meeting of said Auxiliary was held on the 1st of the present month, when it was found that thirty-one dollars had been collected, which our Treasurer will remit to the Treasurer of the Parent Society, whose Executive Board is at Halifax, to be expended as that Society shall think best.

This amount, our first quarter's collection, though small in itself, is sufficient, all things considered, to prove the feasibility of Auxiliary Societies, as a means for promoting the Home Missionary cause, and to remind how much more might be done, than is now being done by our churches, if more enlarged and systematic efforts were made. If even our larger churches should organize each its own Auxiliary, and in this way, cooperate with the main Society, how abundantly able they would be to render assistance to feeble churches and send the gospel to the destitute parts of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward's Island. And in what way shall these Auxiliaries be brought into existence? By an Agent employed to visit the churches for this purpose? Would not the expense of such Agent for one year well support a Missionary for the same length of time? Would it not be well then for every Church to become its own Agent, organize its own Auxiliary, and thus cooperate with the Nova Scotia Baptist Home Missionary Society?

I am, yours truly,

D. M. WELTON.

Rev. S. N. Bentley, Halifax.

For the Christian Messenger.

The French Mission.

DEAR BROTHER,

At a meeting of the French Mission Board, held in this place Feb. 10th, I was requested to forward a report of the proceedings for publication in your paper, and, also, to make an earnest appeal to the pastors and members of our churches for aid at this present juncture. In order that present liabilities, especially those on the Mission house, may be removed, and that the work may be carried on with greater efficiency, we need a considerable increase in our funds. The Mission, in order to permanent success, requires two men in the field, and the only thing that has prevented the Board from securing a second laborer has been the want of means.

The Board felt deep regret that Bro. Chute's health compelled him to tender his resignation. It was, however, deemed advisable that Brother Chute should be requested to remain in the field for a while and do what he could, so that it might not be left entirely destitute, and that he might be on hand to advise with the Colporteur from Canada when he should arrive. We sincerely hope that Brother Chute's health will soon be restored, and that he may engage again in the chosen work. Meanwhile, let us uphold the Mission with more fervent prayer and more liberal contributions, and let us hold up the hands of the new missionary whom we hope to have in the field shortly.

Success has already attended our efforts. Souls have been converted, and if we are not weary in well doing we shall see greater things. To slacken in our efforts in this good cause would not only be a disgrace, but a sin. The blood of perishing souls would be required at our hands.

We would then say to our brethren in the ministry and in the churches: Men of Israel, help. Help, by your sympathy, your contributions, and your prayers.

Yours truly,

HENRY ANGELL, Secretary.

Yarmouth, Feb'y. 18th, 1858.

Report of the proceedings of the French Mission Board.

According to appointment the Board met in the Baptist Vestry, Yarmouth, on Wednesday,

Feb'y. 10th. The following members were present: Revs. C. Randall, O. Chute, J. V. Tabor, H. Angell, and Brethren Joseph Shaw, C. Pinkney, Joseph Rogers, and William Churchill. Joseph Shaw, Esq., was in the chair. Opened with prayer by Brother Randall. An interesting letter from Brother Cyr, of Montreal, stating that a Colporteur could be obtained, was read.

To the deep regret of all present Bro. Chute stated, that, owing to his continued ill health, he felt it his duty to resign as missionary of the Board. He further stated that his heart was still in the work, that it was exceedingly painful for him to think of leaving the field, and that nothing but a stern sense of duty had led him to tender his resignation. He pledged himself still to do all he could to advance the interests of the Mission, and hoped that after a season of rest his health would be so far restored as to enable him to engage in the work again.

The following resolutions were then unanimously passed:

Moved by Brother Randall, seconded by Brother Tabor,

Resolved, That Brother Chute's resignation be accepted.

Moved by Brother Tabor, seconded by Brother Randall,

Whereas, Brother Chute has resigned his connexion with the Board, and as the claims of the French Mission requires the continuance of Brother Chute's labours as far as his enfeebled health will allow.

Resolved, That the Board continue to sustain Brother Chute at one half his former salary until the coming Association.

Moved by Brother Tabor, seconded by Brother Churchill,

Resolved, That we forthwith secure the services of a Colporteur from Canada, that an appeal be made through the Christian Messenger for an increase of pecuniary aid, and that the pastors of our churches be requested to take immediate action to obtain a sufficient amount to meet the expenses pertaining thereto, as well as to liquidate present liabilities.

After attending to some routine business the Board adjourned, to meet at Bridgetown with the Western Association.

HENRY ANGELL, Secretary.

For the Christian Messenger.

Donation Visit at Maccan.

On Tuesday evening, Feb'y. 2nd, you might have heard a merry jingling of bells, as a large number of well stored pungs came to a stand before the parsonage door; and although the afternoon was unfavourable, with a storm of sleet and rain, more than seventy persons assembled at the house of the pastor. A large proportion of these were heads of families, and members of the church, which gave to the scene an interesting and encouraging appearance, of which the pastor seemed to be deeply sensible. The ladies were soon seen spreading their rich stores of well prepared food, and the observer would find it difficult to decide which was the most perfect, the preparations made by the ladies, the justice done by all present to the entertainment, or the union and love that were manifest among all the friends. About eight o'clock the company were called to order. An appropriate Address expressive of esteem and confidence, a purse containing seven pounds, and ten pounds worth of useful articles, in all £17, were presented to the pastor. These were followed by a Reply from him, thanking the friends for their kindness and giving words of encouragement. Soon after this the company dispersed, some saying, "It was good to be there," others, "this was the best party we were ever at," some, "we hope this is not the last,"—and others, "we must have one again next year."

ONE PRESENT.

Maccan, Feb'y. 27, 1858.

For the Christian Messenger.

Obituary Notices.

MRS. DELIA MACOMBER.

Dear Brother,—In looking over the pages of the Messenger of late I observe in the long list of deaths that is there recorded a large proportion of them are of those far advanced in years.

I was recently called to attend the funeral of Mrs. Delia Macomber, relict of the late Captain John Macomber. She was one of the oldest inhabitants of this town. It is said that she was the first child that was born in this settlement after the landing of our forefathers from the United States in June, 1760, to settle in this place just before the close of the French war. Her parents resided among us a number of years before their death. I was called to attend her husband's funeral about 23 years ago: I have also attended the funeral of several of her sons, her grand-son, and her great-grand-daughter. Thus we have witnessed that five generations have gone the way of all the earth in a brief space of time. It was a solemn time at the house of mourning to see so many relations there, composed of so many generations.

The deceased had entered the 98th year of her age. Her only surviving brother, who has entered his 90th year, was also with us. It was a solemn thought that part of the five generations have their sepulchre with us.

Since the above was written I was called again into the neighbourhood, near the house

referred to above, to attend the funeral of a child of tender days. The hasty sojourner entered our disordered world for a short time and in a few weeks was called away. Thus we see death spares no age: in a short space of time all must submit to his cold embrace.

Ever yours, in Christian bonds,
GEORGE DIMOCK.

Newport, January 28th, 1858.

[Other Obituary Notices, sent with the above, will probably appear next week.—ED. C. M.]

MRS. SAMUEL BLAIR,

Died, at Onslow, on the 29th of Decr., 1857, aged 76 years.

In early life Mrs. Blair seems to have been the subject of religious impressions; but it was not until some time after she was married that she obtained the confidence of her acceptance with God, which brought peace to her mind. It was a painful dispensation of providence that wisdom chose as the means to bring her to exercise trust in God.

One of her children, a little girl, to whom she was particularly attached, was instantaneously killed, by a cart body falling upon her. She was brought to her mother lifeless! This seemed more than she could endure, and to it she was not reconciled. She betook herself to prayer, there God graciously manifested to her his saving power. "My grace is sufficient for thee, for my strength is made perfect in weakness," were the sweet words of promise which brought comfort to her aching heart. An inward peace she experienced which she had never before known. God's sovereignty, guided by infinite wisdom and goodness, left no cause for her longer to repine. Her deep trial, the very valley of Achor, became a door of hope. In the faithful word of promise she relied with full confidence. Peace reigned. Each murmur was hushed. So clear to her were the manifestations of God's grace and goodness that in her subsequent life she never felt any doubt of the reality thereof in her own case.

On her death bed the writer asked her if she could rest on the faithful promise of God, "My grace is sufficient for thee." Her countenance lighted up at the mention of that early prop, and consoling word. "O yes," was her reply, "many years ago since, that first comforted me, and it is precious now as ever." She was a member of the Presbyterian Church. Death had lost its sting, the victory was achieved, and she waited with patience the call to her desired home,—then, peacefully yielding her spirit into the hands of her Saviour, she fell asleep in Jesus. —Communicated by Rev. D. W. C. Dimock.

MRS. SARAH EMBREE,

Wife of Deacon Robert Embree, died, at Amherst, February 19th, aged 57 years.

Mrs. Embree was first convinced she was a sinner and needed a Saviour under a sermon preached by the Rev. Mr. Pope, Wesleyan minister, from John xx. 27. The impression then made was afterwards deepened by hearing quoted the 9th verse of the 11th chapter of Ecclesiastes, particularly the words "know thou" took a deep hold of her mind, and she found no peace until brought to experience a saving knowledge of Christ. She did not publicly profess religion until fifteen years after, when, in 1844, she was baptized by the Rev. C. Tupper, and united with the Baptist Church here, of which, until her death, she was a valued member.

The departure of our esteemed sister was sudden and unexpected. In view of death the believer's hope was her consolation. A husband and six children mourn their painful bereavement, the Church feels that a "mother in Israel" has been taken away, and the poor know they have lost a kind friend. "The memory of the just is blessed."

"Who would not wish to die like those
Whom God's own Spirit deigns to bless?
To sink into that soft repose,
Then wake to perfect happiness."

—Communicated by the Rev. J. E. Balcom.

Amherst, March 4th, 1858.

(Christian Visitor please copy.)

Provincial Parliament.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FRIDAY, Feb. 26, 1858.

Our last gave part of this day's proceedings. The remainder of the day was occupied in the discussion of the hon. Mr. McCully's Bill to amend the Usury Laws.

Hon. Mr. Pineo moved that it be deferred three months, which motion was lost by 6 against 12.

The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole house on a future day.

MONDAY, MARCH 1.

The resolution granting £30 in aid of the erection of a wharf at Fisher's Grant was passed, and ordered to be referred to the House of Assembly.

The Bill for the better protection of the estates and rights of married women, was read a third time, and passed, and also sent to the House of Assembly.

Hon. Mr. Almon, as chairman of the committee to whom was referred the bill for giving effect to the surrender to Her Majesty, by the legal and personal representatives of the Duke of York and Albany, and by the General Mining Association and their trustees, of the mines of Nova Scotia, and to a lease of part of such mines to said Association, reported that a majority of the committee recommended the bill to the favorable consideration of the house. Some discussion then took place as to the second reading of the bill.

Hon. Mr. McCully proposed that the second reading of the bill should be delayed.

Hon. Mr. Almon thought that as the bill had been for some time before the Legislature, and had been fully debated in the other branch, that no new light could be thrown upon it; and that, therefore, unless some substantial reason were given, the bill should take its second reading immediately.

Hon. Mr. McCully thought he was not, by the rules of the house, required to give any such reason. He would not ask for any unreasonable delay, but thought that it was not too much to ask that a bill of so much importance should lie on the table for a day or two.

Hon. Mr. Almon, in deference to the wishes of the hon. gentleman, would move that the second reading of the bill be the order of the day for Wednesday.

Hon. Mr. McCully remarked that from the feeling evinced by the house to-day, it was evident that any thing he would say would have but little influence, and that the termination of the debate was clearly "a foregone conclusion." (Laughter.)

Hon. Mr. Bell also spoke to the same effect. Hon. Mr. Almon's motion then passed nem. con.

WEDNESDAY, March 4.

The Council were engaged this day in speaking to a resolution of respect to the memory of the late Hon. Mr. Morton.

FRIDAY, March 5.

Hon. Mr. McCully asked leave to introduce a Bill relative to Trusts. Referred to a select committee.

The Reporter for the Legislative Council has given, with the proceedings of the Council, a synopsis of the Report of the Superintendent of Schools, presented on the 26th ult. It is a voluminous document of 85 pages.

He refers to School Sections being ill-defined. The sum of £45,435 7 6 was paid last year to the Teachers of Common and Grammar Schools. Of this sum £32,055 11 1/4 was raised by the people, (being an increase of £6491 8 11/4 over the sum received from the same source in 1856) and £13,379 16 4/3 granted by the Province.

The average cost of the education of each pupil at the Common and Grammar Schools, is 12s. 10 1/2d. per annum, of which 8s. 7 1/2d. is paid by the people, and 4s. 3d. by the Province. The average salary of the teachers is £45, being an increase of £9 within the last five or six years.

There has been a large increase in the number of teachers, of whom 200 more were employed last summer than in the previous winter, and 300 more than in the preceding summer. There was an increase of 5000 in the number of children attending school, and of upwards of £6000 in the amount raised for the support of the Schools.

Dr. Forrester gives twelve distinct and satisfactory reasons for the adoption of the principle of district assessment for Schools.

The total number of children who attended the schools during last summer was 37,087—during the previous winter, 31,626. Of these about one-seventh were free scholars. The number of free scholars in the City of Halifax, is about 700 or proportionably three times the number sent by any other District in the Province. Nearly one-half of the pupils in the city of Halifax are free scholars. In the other districts of the Province the proportion varies from one-twentieth in Pictou to one-fifteenth in Yarmouth except in Richmond County, where the free pupils are more than one-third the number of the paying scholars.

It appears that the numerical proportion which the children attending school bear to the whole population of the Province is 1 to 7. Dr. Forrester does not consider this a satisfactory state of matters. In the New England States (where the assessment system has been in practice for 200 years,) the proportion is 1 to 4,—in Maine, New Hampshire and New York 1 to 3,—in the more enlightened parts of the Continent of Europe 1 to 6,—in England, where there is no national system, 1 to 10,—in Ireland, where there is such a system, 1 to 7,—and in Scotland, where the population has far outgrown the national system, 1 to 8. Yet, the Rev. Doctor states, in all those countries, loud complaints are made by all true patriots and philanthropists of the deficiency of the education in point of quantity.

Dr. F. recommends the Irish National Series as the best series of school books. He strongly advocates uniformity in the books used.

Dr. Forrester recommends as the only method of obtaining really useful School Libraries, that a catalogue should be drawn up of the books most likely to be beneficial, and that from this catalogue, after it has obtained the sanction of the Legislature, each school section should make its own selection.

There were 44 Grammar Schools in operation in the Province during the past year. The cost of these schools was about £3,200, of which the Province paid one-fourth.

The number of pupil teachers in attendance at the Normal School during the present term, is 64.

The number of students at the Model Schools (opened in June 1857,) is 196,—the average attendance 165.

The number of teachers employed throughout the Province last Summer was 1099 (579 males, and 520 females); during the preceding winter, 905, (655 males, and 250 females.)

The reverend Doctor concludes his valuable report with some general observations with regard to the advantages of Teachers' Institutes. Inspectors of Schools, a Provincial Journal of Education, and a liberal encouragement of a Model Farm attached to the Normal School.