The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., September 3, 1884.

A New Proposal.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER TO JANUARY 1st, 1885, FOR 50 CENTS.

Every family should have a good Christian Newspaper. We are desirous of doing what we can to accomplish this very desirable object. We believe that every person should possess a Bible. We propose therefore to send, by mail, free of postage, A HANDSOME POCKET BIBLE WITH GILT EDGES AND CLASP

TO ANY ADDRESS

for the names of four new subscribers with the amounts as above.

Any person therefore who wishes to get a nice Bible for himself or herself, or to give one to any other person, can do so by sending on the address of four new subscribers with Two Dollars, and the address of the person to whom the Bible is to be sent. No further responsibility!

TO PASTORS, DEACONS AND SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHERS. Dear friends, try and find out who wishes for the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER, and here is an opportunity to get a handsome Bible for every four New Subscribers.

THE BAPTIST CONVENTION OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

The late session of the Baptist Convention was one of the most important and will we believe prove to be one of the most memorable that has been held in these Maritime Provinces.

The order in which the principal subjects were taken up was in the rotation agreed upon several years since. Last year: Saturday, Home Missions; Monday, Educational Institutions; Tuesday, Foreign Missions. This year the Convention began with Foreign Missions on Saturday; Monday, Home Missions and Educational Institutions on Tuesday. Other matters are then taken up when convenient, so as to give time for their discussion, and to come to a decision concerning them.

We omitted some items of interest from our report last week, and shall endeavour to supply these in our present issue.

The following are the names of the brethren ordained to the work of the ministry during the past year:

R. M. Hunt, Sept. 27, St. Stephen, N. B.

H. March, Oct. 11, Willow Grove, N. S.

Jas. Scott, Oct. 16, Canso, N. S.

A. L. Powell, B. A., Oct. 17, Barton, N. S.

C. R. B. Dodge, B. A. Dec. 20, Milton, N. S.

E. T. Miller, Jan. 1, Lower Woodstock, N. B.

W. E. McIntyre, B. A, Feb. 12, Springfield, N. B.

Walter Barss, M. A., July 2, Wolfville, N. S.

William Powell, July. Pt. Medway, N. S.

E. H. Jones, Aug. 19, St. John, N. B.

F. D. Davison, April 1, Pennfield, N. B.

The Report on Foreign Missions stated some very interesting facts which we may quote. In describing the work of the Missionaries at their Stations the Report says:—

The work at the several stations comprises preaching, Sabbath and day school work, teaching native helpers and conducting Bible classes, and visitation of and conversation with people at their homes or places of business.

AT BIMLIPATAM

regular religious services are conducted in the mission house on each Sabbath and at stated occasions during the week. There are also three other preaching stations in the town where three native helpers, respectively, regularly conduct services on the Lord's day, the attendance being mostly boatmen and fishermen. Two other preaching places have been established at villages about two miles out, where on Sabbath evenings the people come together to hear the word. In one of these villages the people are asking for a chapel and school, and have expressed their readiness to meet part of the expense. The Sabbath school, with an average of sixty in attendance, formed into six classes, meets in the morning. On Wednesday evening an English Bible class and prayer-meeting is held; and on Thursday afternoon a Telugu prayer meeting for all who reside on the compound and the pupils of the school. Four Eurasian girls, members of the English Bible class, were baptized during the year, and one of them, Miss Eva de Praser, has, with much activity and zeal carried on a house-to-house visitation, telling of the love of Jesus. They all had to endure much persecution both before and after their public profession of Christ.

AT CHICACOLE,

in addition to the regular religious services at the mission house, street and bazaar preaching and conversation, school and Bible class instruction, etc., a service has been conducted at Old Chicacole and at the new chapel in the centre of the town of Chicacole since its purchase from the London Missionary Society. Two day schools are conducted by teachers under the direction of Mrs. Hutchinson.

AT BOBBILI,

the regular Sabbath services and Sabbath school instruction at the compound, with preaching at the town school house and on the streets, have occupied mainly the time and attention of the missionaries.

But added to all this variety of effort, the missionary has the full care of the church in a deeper sense than can be realized by his brethren at home. He is, emphatically, the shepherd of his flock,—eye and voice and hand in requisition all the time—watching, cheering, comforting, leading, tending, and restraining.

Nor is this all. The property he had secured, the buildings he has reared, the homes he has founded, are his only as steward. They represent to him the hard earned dollars and cents of his brethren and sisters in his native land, freely bestowed that centres of usefulness may be established in the land of the stranger. In view of all that has been accomplished by our missionaries in the midst of such varied and pressing cares, and such responsible duties, during the past year, your Board desire to record their grateful acknowledgements to God and to them. As the situation is understood by the brethren at home, a heartier sympathy, a more earnest prayer, a wide and more cheerful benevolence must result.

Touring is an important part of the missionary's work and on this the Report says:—

Not until last year was an opportunity afforded our missionaries of extending their labors, in anything like a systematic manner, beyond the immediate vicinity of their compounds or the towns in which they are situated. The work so well begun last year has been more thoroughly prosecuted during the year now closing. In hundreds of villages the truth as it is in Jesus has been proclaimed by our missionaries and the native preachers under their charge. A brief reference or two must suffice to show what has been done in this section of missionary effort.

Brother Hutchinson made his first gospel tour early in October last. Ten days were spent upon the field, during which he visited thirty-one villages, in some speaking several times. He was accompanied by Juggiah and Sookriah, each of whom took part in the speaking. Thus one would address the people on The Creation and fall of man, the next on "The Birth and Life of Christ," and the third on "Salvation, and How to Get it." In all the villages but three the people listened with attention and respect. The Holy Spirit seemed to have prepared the way before his servants' feet. In November, with five helpers he spent eight days on the field visiting the district east of Chicacole. In December, sixteen days were spent with his assistants in visiting the country to the northwest, to the Ghauts. During this tour the people of over one hundred towns and villages were permited to hear the Word, and everywhere the missionary was received with respect and his messages listened to with attention. In February, the fielding covered fourteen days, the missionary visiting all the villages from Akalatampara, via Herimandelam to the town of Bottili, sixty miles from Chicacole. After Mr. Hutchinson's return his helpers remained on the field six days longer, preaching and distributing portions of Scripture and tracts.

These items are taken from the record of one missionary; but . . . only indicate the extent of this class of work, which has occupied the time and energies of all our faithful laborers, as the season and relief from the special home duties of their respective stations permitted. Interesting extracts might be given of particular tours made by Bro. Sanford with his five native helpers, assisted by Bro. Archibald, Miss Hammond and the Boarding Girls, by Bro. Churchill in the more remote and darker parts of Bobbili district, with his two zealous assistants; and, since his return, of similar work by Bro. and Sister Archibald. But sufficient has already been said to indicate the great extent of the field, and the assiduous efforts which have been put forth to scatter the good seed of the Kingdom.

Besides the three principal stations where the mission families reside there are several OUT-STATIONS.

We learn from the report that during the year three new out-stations have been established. The most important of these is undoubtedly that at Kimedy, which was formerly our northern station, but was abandoned for Chicacole, on account of the failing health of the then resident missionary and his family. Here a property has been purchased, and the buildings upon it are used for the residence of the native helper and his family, who have been appointed to the charge of the work, and as a place of gathering for religious worship, by those who may accept Christianity.

The town has a population of 15,365 and the Zemindari 280,132. From this point also the Savara people, a population of about 100,000 can best be reached. The appointment of Sookriah to the charge of this station appears to be very satisfactory, and it has the hearty approval of your Board. The cost of purchase has been assumed by the Tabernacle Sunday School, Halifax.

Sookriah is an Oryiah man, who studied in Berhampore, (Hindu) College. He was baptized by Brother Hutchinson on October 4th, having previously been connected with the London Missionary Society. His wife was baptized some years ago at Berhampore. Both were welcomed into the fellowship of the Chicacole church on the afternoon of his baptism. They had been for two years constant in their attendance upon the meetings, and had contributed regularly to the funds of the church. He was at once put to work at itinerating and proved to be a valuable assistant.

At Urlam, some distance east of Chicacole, near the coast, a preacher has been stationed. He and his wife at present occupy a house placed at the disposal of the missionary by a Miss Laval, only the outlay of a few rupees being necessary to make it suitable for their residence. The helper's name is Juggayah.

The third out-station planted this year is at Pedda-Penkie, a few miles east of Bobbili, where a piece of land has been obtained, and Hotiah and Neila his wife were to take up their residence there as soon as arrangements could be made for their accommodation.

The promotion of the Education of the young is a marked result of the missionary work, as it is of the true minister of the gospel every where. We find in the Report some very judicious remarks on this matter in connection with

SCHOOLS.

Among the first signs of the preaching of Christ Jesus having taken some hold uyon the minds of the people, is the desire they express that their children may be taught to read and write, and that the missionary will open a school for that purpose. It is because of the opportunities afforded the missionaries of making the young acquainted with the truths of revealed religion that they so readily respond to the early demands of the people for the establishment of schools.

At each of our stations we have schools in a general state of efficiency. That at Bimlipatam, for boys and girls, has been under the management of Miss Hammond, now Mrs. Archibald. Upon her removal to Bobbili early in the Spring, it was re-organized, one of the boarding girls, who had previously passed a satisfactory examination in the Third Standard of the Course of Instruction prescribed for Government schools, going in as second teacher.

At Chicacole the boys, and girls schools are separate. Both are under the direction of Mrs Hutchinson. Here too, one of the boarding girls has been given a place as instructor.

At Bobbili there were two schools, one of which was for the Godaba children. These were under the management of Mrs. Churchill until her return to this country, when they were handed over to Mrs. Archibald. who with the remaining boarding girls are carrying on the work.

In addition, schools are conducted at Comanapilli, Tekkali, Kimedy, Urlam, and among the Saura tribe, who inhabit the villages at the foot of the Ghauts.

At first it was necessary to carry on these schools by the aid of heathen teachers, but gradually, as Christians could be obtained whose attainments fitted them for the work of teaching, the services of men who refused to yield to the claims of Christ, although possessing some knowledge of the plan of salvation, were gradually dispensed with. As the conduct of schools from the outset of our mission has been regarded merely as a means to the end that the knowledge of Christ might be more widely disseminated, the securing of Christian teachers has been one of the first points towards which our missionaries have directed their energies, with this result, that the Lord has raised up for us a staff of young men and women who have received their education in our mission schools, and who, having themselves learned of Jesus, are now qualified to enter upon the work of teaching others. Thus at Chicacole, Nersimhulu, after three terms in the Seminary at Samulcotta, took the place of Subbrow, the head teacher; and Ruth, Cassie and Nelly, take their places as assistants at the stations. Only at Bobbili is a heathen teacher retained, and his place will be filled by a Christian as soon as the right man is found. Possibly one of the young men now taking their last year at the Seminary may feel their hearts turning towards this work.

After the report had been read it was agreed that it should be taken up and considered clause by clause. This was done—the Secretary giving a brief sentence explanatory of each clause. Discussion and explanation arose on some of them especially the one referring to the necessity for having living agencies employed in the collection of funds. The clause referring to the appointment of Misses Wright and Hamilton was laid on the table for subsequent consideration.

When the solemn fact is considered as stated by Rev. Geo. Churchill that there are now more than a million of people within reach of the three stations our missionaries occupy, and as it was dependant on them for the giving of the gospel of the grace of God, and who have no other living voice to convey to them the Word of Life, it may be felt that we are charged with a momentous work. Not only so, but when it is remembered that the rising race are to be taught to read the Sacred Scriptures, and so prepared for the permanent occupying of the land in the future generations the importance of the work is vastly increased.

The Lord's Day was filled up with meetings. The morning Prayer meeting was a memorable one. It was conducted by Rev. G. F. Miles, and for an hour prayer, praise and exhortation followed in rapid succession making all present feel that the Divine Spirit was in the midst calling forth the exclamation, "It is good to be here."

The afternoon was filled up by an hour in the Sabbath School which is most efficiently conducted by the pastor Rev. G. O. Gates. The singing was conducted by him and sustained by an organ. and a cornopion well played by a young Mr. Crandall. The children sang with the life and spirit of a trained choir. Addresses were given by Dr. McVicar, J. W. Barss, Esq., and Wm. Cummings, Esq.

The Sabbath School is quite large having about 250 pupils, and managed with much vim and vigor. The time was limited and after the hour had arrived we pass into the church to hear the Convention Sermon. This we expected to have placed before our readers in our present issue, but as the copy did not arrive, according to promise, we find that we must defer it till our next.

Monday morning arrived and the moderation of the heat rendered it less oppressive than on Saturday. The morning prayer meeting was again crowded.

At 9 o'clock—standard time, the Convention was again opened with devotional exercises.

The Report of the Committee on the Ministerial Educational Fund was read shewing that 11 students had each received $20 amounting to $220, and that 50 per cent. less had been received from the churches during the year than was received in 1883. A balance of $208.16 remaining in the hands of the Treasurer.

THE HOME MISSIONARY REPORT

was read by Rev. A. Cohoon. The following summary must suffice. We give the substance:

At the beginning of the year the outlook was by no means promising. Two formidable obstacles stood in the way and seemed to shut out all hope of advance. These were the lack of money, and the lack of laborers. Believing, however, that of all our denominational work Home Missions is the most important, inasmuch as it bears upon that which all our other work rests, your Board determined to go forward trusting in God and in their brethren.

FINANCES.

As the raising of funds had been intrusted to the finance committee your Board did not feel themselves at liberty to do more than keep their work and its needs before the denomination. This they did first by a printed appeal sent to the pastors or clerks of all our churches in the three provinces, and afterwards through the *Christian Messenger* and *Visitor*. Full reports of the monthly meetings have also been published, with extracts from quarterly reports of missionaries. The missionaries themselves have frequently published statements concerning the progress of work in their several fields. No field has been abandoned that could not struggle on without aid. and no deserving applications from new fields have been refused. The income, $4,392 74 has covered the debt of the past and the expenditure of the year now closing.

MINISTERS FROM ABROAD.

When the question of ministerial supply was considered it became apparent that some men would have to be obtained from other countries, and it was decided to ask the assistance of Rev. John Brown, of Melksham, England, in procuring the same. In response to his advertisement Mr. W. Powell, who is laboring at Port Medway, N. S. and Rev. W. R. Waters, who will reach Nova Scotia probably in September, have been secured.

GENERAL MISSIONARIES.

One or more general missionaries have been procured, so that our mission field might not be left wholly uncared for. One, Rev. I. Wallace, M. A., responded to our call and was appointed general missionary at a salary of $700. His labors have been confined chiefly to seven churches in Nova Scotia, viz: Tusket, Kempt, Greenfield, Port Medway, Seal Harbor, Isaac's Harbor, and New Harbor. Rev. Mr. Wallace is now stricken down with disease, and it is feared he will never sufficiently recover to labor more.

GROUPING.

Considerable attention has been given to the preparation of a plan showing how the weaker churches should be grouped so as to provide all with regular pastoral care in the most economical way. Your board recommend that the Convention urge that both churches and ministers co-operate with the Board so that as soon as practicable all our churches may be nicely grouped.

THE FRENCH MISSION.

The examination of the committee referred to in our last report confirmed the Board in the opinion that a change would be beneficial both to the missionary and to the field. Brother Normandy was therefore given another mission—four little churches in Kent County, where there is a large French population.

Correspondence has been opened with Rev. A. L. Thurieu, of the Grand Ligne mission, with the view of securing another missionary for the field in Yarmouth and Digby counties, N. S.

STUDENT MISSIONARIES.

The recent changes in our educational work made it necessary that more certain remuneration should be offered to our students at McMaster Hall who would be likely to return to labor with our churches during their vacation. It was decided to offer work at regular mission pay to all our ministerial students at Toronto, Wolfville and St. John. Under this arrangement four from McMaster Hall, six from Acadia and five from St. John seminary have been appointed to missions in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

MANITOBA AND THE NORTHWEST.

In the matter of aiding the work in the Northwest but little advance has been made. The grant of $300 per year has been continued to the Preston field on which Rev. J. A. Marvin still labors, and $100 have been promised to the Emerson church in making up the salary of their pastor, should they find themselves unable to do so when one shall have been secured.

The appropriations of the year, including the general missionary amount, is $3,849.05, divided as follows:—

To Nova Scotia, $1,867.07.

To New Brunswick, $1,169.48.

To Prince Edward Island, $512.50,

And to Manitoba $300.

The 44 brethren who have labored under the direction of the Board have ministered to 82 churches; performed 1,211 weeks of labor; preached 3,493 sermons; attended 2,346 other meetings; made 9,429 religious visits; distributed 26,160 pages of tracts; baptized 375; received 98 by letter and experience, and organized 3 churches.

GENERAL REMARKS.

While the expenditure has been less than in some former years the number added to the churches, both by baptism and letter, is greater than in any former year. In the building and repairing of meeting houses, and providing parsonages, encouraging progress is being made in several fields. A few of the fields are too large and will have to be divided or supplied with an assistant missionary at an early day. Some are becoming self-supporting. Port Elgin paid in full the expense of the mission last summer and is now taking care of itself. It greatly needs a settled pastor. Dartmouth, for some years a beneficiary of the Board, and at the first week in this year commenced paying its own way and contributing more than heretofore to the Convention fund. Shelburne declined to receive aid after the first quarter, because a large reduction was made in the grant. They are now sustaining their own work. Osborne has declared its intention of being self-sustaining next year.

A grant of $30 for six months was voted to Tower Hill, Charlotte Co., to assist brother Rideout, but no reports have been received and the grant has not been paid.

CONCLUSION.

As five full years have now passed since Home Missions became a part of the work of the Convention, or since N. B. and N. S. united in this work, it may be well to consider one or two questions:—

1. Has the union been unfavorable to New Brunswick as it was feared by some that it would be? We see no room for so thinking. First, because each year the expenditure in New Brunswick has exceeded by considerable the yearly expenditure of the late New Brunswick Home Mission Society, excepting the years of 1871 and 1875, and in one of the years since the union the expenditure has exceeded by upwards of $300, even the best of these two years. Second, because the expenditure in New Brunswick has each year been in excess of the receipts from that province.

2. Has the union been unfavorable to Nova Scotia? We do not think so, for none of the work then in hand has been left to suffer, and at the least the former rate of advance has been sustained.

Discussion arose on the clause referring to the large amount more than that received, being expended in New Brunswick. A motion was made to expunge all reference to one province or the other, but it was found impracticable and was withdrawn. The Report as a whole was then adopted.

On motion of Dr. Rand a request was made to have the Convention Sermon published in the *Christian Messenger* and *Christian Visitor*.

THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNTS OF THE HOME MISSION BOARD

were read as follows:—

Receipts.

From Con. Fund, Nova Scotia	$2,602.82
" " New Brunswick	1,109.66
" " P. E. Island	333.50
" " Manitoba	8.76
Total	$4,054.74
Estate late Mrs. Powers, Ohio, N.S.	300.00
Coupons St. John Building Society	36.00
Rent, French Mission property, Tusket	10.00
Sale Dr. Bill's history of Baptists	2.00
Donation of Mr. Sutherland, of California	20.00
Total	$4,422.74

Expenditure.

Balance due missionaries last year	595.74
Balance due treasurer last year	16.88
Paid missionaries during the year	3,617.28
Corresponding Secretary, postage, stationery, etc	25.70
Treasurer, commission and postage	21.79
Expenses of delegation to French mission field	9.00
One-third cost Year Book	123.89
Insurance on French mission property	7.50
Interest	12.50
Total	$4,430.28
Balance due treasurer	7.54

Financial Position.

Balance due treasurer	7.54
Balance due missionaries	258.33
Total deficit	$265.87

THE CONVENTION SCHEME.

This is one of the most important parts of the arrangements of the Convention, and the one on which all the others depend for sustenance. Rev. Dr. Day, being the Treasurer for NOVA SCOTIA, read the amounts received from the several churches of the Province—which will appear in the Year Book—shewing that the contributions from churches and individuals amounted to $9,472.71; balance from 1883, $194.95.

The contributions were made up as follows:—

Nova Scotia.

Home Missions	$3,212.41
Foreign Missions	2,472.45
Educational Fund	1,524.03
Emergency Fund	260.30
Ministerial Relief	197.15
Ministerial Education	157.13
Women's Mission Aid Society	1,744.19
Total	$9,572.82
Balance on hand	98.84
Additional receipts for Book Room	1,036.47
Victoria Church, B. C	377.25
Acadia College	12,520.00
Grand total to Nova Scotia	$23,508.88

Mr. John March the treasurer for NEW BRUNSWICK read the list of amounts from the churches in that Province of which the following is the summary:

Home Missions	$ 992.30
Foreign Missions	2,052.31
Women's Mission Aid Society	920.20
Educational Institutions	480.01
Ministerial Education	43.39
Ministerial Relief	48.84
Expense and Emergency	74.00
Total	$4,611.13
Balance on hand	307.72