

## TERMS AND NOTICES.

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## Religious Intelligencer.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., OCTOBER 28, 1864.

## HUMILIATION, FASTING, AND PRAYER.

The following Resolution was passed by our General  
 Conference, and is published in our Minutes:—

Whereas, We feel the need of God's blessing upon  
 all our efforts to do good, and believing that He will  
 answer prayer:—  
 Therefore Resolved, That the second Tuesday in  
 November next be kept by our churches as a day of  
 humiliation, fasting, and prayer, for the outpouring  
 of the Holy Spirit upon our churches and ministers,  
 especially upon our Home and Foreign Missions,  
 and that during the year many sinners may be con-  
 verted to God.

A week from Tuesday next will be the day appointed  
 for the solemn duty enjoined in this resolution. Surely  
 one day each year should be observed by our churches  
 for the purposes of humiliation, fasting, and prayer. No  
 individual Christian who seeks for spiritual growth and  
 increase in true spiritual knowledge, but will find seasons  
 of special humiliation before God necessary. Mere abstinence  
 from food, without being accompanied by self-examination,  
 confession of sin, repentance before God, ceasing from that  
 which is evil, and doing that which is right, will not be of  
 any use. But an increase in holiness and usefulness should  
 be the aim; and we are assured that "if we through the  
 deeds of the body we shall live." Fasting as a means of  
 grace may occasionally be profitably employed for the  
 soul's health; never as having merit, but as a cross to the  
 flesh.

By the appointment of Conference our churches—including  
 all ministers, deacons, and private members, male and female—are  
 solemnly called upon to set apart Tuesday, the 28th of November next, for  
 purposes of humiliation, fasting, and prayer; and the  
 objects upon which the divine blessing is especially  
 sought are specified. Do not our churches need gracious  
 influences in a large measure? Do not our brethren who  
 profess to be called to the work of the ministry need a  
 fresh anointing with holy oil? Do not our brethren who  
 are engaged in the Home Mission work, whether employed  
 by the Society, or as voluntary evangelists, need large measures  
 of grace? Does not our Brother Phillips, who by that time  
 will probably be on his voyage for his distant field of  
 labour, need our prayers to go with him? Do not we  
 need to "pray for him and help him?" Shall we not  
 respond—can we not give at least one day of self-  
 denial and prayer to the vigorous proposal. He who  
 does so will find a large measure of blessing coming  
 back into his own soul.

Brothers, if we give to these objects, it will help  
 our praying for them vastly. A financial interest in  
 things greatly increases our sympathy for them, and  
 in proportion as we support religious objects according  
 to our ability will be our spiritual appreciation of  
 their value, and our desire for their success.

We urge upon our brethren a devoted and sincere  
 response to the appointment. Let it be announced  
 as soon as possible in each church that on that day  
 there will be a religious service, and in the closet, at  
 the family altar, and in the church, let prayer, with  
 humiliation and fasting, be made to God for the  
 objects proposed. Ask God also, that more laborers  
 may be sent forth into the harvest.

## LETTER FROM REV. A. TAYLOR.

DEAR BROTHER McLEOD.—The first District Meeting  
 held at last session with the Church at Perth, on  
 the 1st, 2d, and 3d inst. On Saturday, at 10 o'clock,  
 a number assembled for social conference, and certainly  
 a good season was enjoyed, as all present could  
 testify.

At 2 o'clock, P. M., the meeting was called to order  
 by the Clerk, and organized by the choice of Rev. A.  
 Taylor, Chairman. The following ministers were pre-  
 sent:—Rev. S. Hart, A. Taylor, E. S. S. Curry. A number  
 of delegates from the churches were also present, and  
 the reports, which were mostly verbal, were received.  
 From the reports it was evident that the churches in  
 this District were in a low condition, but appear  
 hopeful as to the future. There has been a great lack  
 of systematic labor among them, and they have not  
 yet learned how to put forth efforts for their own  
 upbuilding. There was a great desire expressed in  
 the reports for pastoral regularity, for this want  
 appeared to be greatly felt. There were very few  
 Sabbath schools reported in active operation in these  
 churches, and where they might exist, they have no  
 one to superintend. It is to be hoped this will be  
 remedied before long, and that intelligent young  
 men will be found in our churches who will feel  
 an interest in this matter.

The church in Andover reported a Sabbath  
 school in a flourishing condition. It appears to have  
 gone well the past summer, and deserves great praise,  
 no doubt will do much towards awakening an  
 interest in the other churches of the District in the  
 same laudable work.

After the reports, a number of brethren spoke in  
 reference to the prospects of the District, and we  
 could not but think that good will result from the  
 addresses. The day closed by a sermon from Rev.  
 E. S. Curry.

On Sabbath morning, a prayer meeting was en-  
 joyed at 9 o'clock, and at 11 o'clock a very large  
 audience was in attendance to hear the word of life.  
 Rev. S. Hart was the preacher of the morning—an  
 appropriate discourse from Psalm 112, 13. We felt  
 confident that there was good done by that discourse,  
 and think it will bear fruit another day. Rev. G.  
 Higley, a Baptist minister labouring in Andover, met  
 with us, and gave an address after Bro. Hart, with  
 much fervor and appropriateness. Other of the  
 ministers present also spoke. At 8 o'clock, P. M.,  
 Rev. E. S. Curry preached again, from Exodus ix.  
 chap. and part of the 27th verse. This sermon was  
 appropriate, as it dealt with the various kinds of  
 consciences of sinners there are among men. In the  
 evening Rev. E. S. Curry led the meeting, and a  
 very good season was enjoyed, as very many took  
 part in the services.

On Monday a good deal of business was done, as is  
 usual in such meetings, and all with the utmost har-  
 mony and kindness. Brethren Geo. Wright and J.  
 S. Gallup were chosen delegates to attend General  
 Conference, and Chas. Wright and Wm. McDougall  
 sub-delegates.

Our Home and Foreign Mission appropriations  
 were taken up and discussed, and resolutions passed  
 in reference to them similar to those passed in the  
 21 District meeting held in Wakefield. In the evening  
 Rev. S. Hart preached from Job xvii. 9. We have  
 no doubt but this discourse done good, for it is  
 not often that we listen to so able an exposition of  
 the character of the righteous, and their certainty of  
 preservation, as on this occasion; many took a part  
 in the services, and we trust a number were con-  
 verted to the Kingdom of God. On the whole, we think  
 this meeting will be a great benefit to the  
 churches in this part of the country. We almost for-

got to mention that three new churches were re-  
 ceived at this session, viz: church in the Fitchburg  
 neighbourhood, church in the Gallop neighbour-  
 hood, church in California settlement. The 1st num-  
 bering seven members, the 2d twenty-five, and the 3d  
 twenty-five. Bro. John Henderson was licensed to  
 improve his gift as the Lord may direct till the next  
 General Conference. Perhaps I may as well say  
 here, that since the District Meeting, I have baptized  
 five in the California settlement, and expect to bat-  
 tize others there as soon as I can get to see them  
 again. I have baptized three and added four to the  
 church in the Gallop neighbourhood, and the pros-  
 pect looks, at present, very favorable for more ad-  
 ditions shortly. I hope that some of our ministering  
 brethren may see it their duty to come and lend us a  
 helping hand in this part of God's moral vineyard  
 soon. Your Brother in the Gospel of Christ,

A. TAYLOR.  
 Andover, Victoria, Co. Oct. 12th 1864.

## SEVENTH DISTRICT MEETING.

The annual meeting of the F. C. Bapts churches  
 comprising the Seventh District, was held with the  
 church in St. John on Saturday and Monday last.  
 The attendance was very good, and the interest taken  
 by the brethren to increase the efficiency of the Dis-  
 trict quite encouraging. The Conference meeting  
 Saturday morning was an especially good season.  
 Many warmhearted and encouraging exhortations were  
 delivered. The meeting was organized in the afternoon  
 by appointing Elder Hartley chairman. In this  
 meeting the reports from the churches were received.  
 All were reported excepting the small church at  
 Calais. Those on the Island of Grand Manan espe-  
 cially were reported in a very flourishing state. This  
 District continues to increase each year. There were  
 three new churches received on Monday; one on  
 White Head Island under the care of Bro. Brown, and  
 two on Grand Manan under the pastorate of Elder  
 Barnes. Since its organization there has been a Mis-  
 sionary Society in connection with this district.  
 After some discussion as to the propriety of discon-  
 tinuing it and uniting with the Home Missionary  
 Society, it was decided to do so, with the understand-  
 ing that the money now on hand and what shall be  
 raised this year shall be expended within the District.  
 The business was all done harmoniously and with  
 dispatch. The ministers present were Elders Gun-  
 ter, Perry, French, Barnes, Downey, Kinghorn, and  
 Hartley; and Licentiates Rude, Marsh, and Hatfield.  
 There was preaching on the Sabbath by Brethren  
 Barnes, French and Downey in St. John; by Marsh  
 and Barnes in Carleton; and Downey at Indiantown.  
 Brethren George W. McDonald, of Grand Manan, and  
 Ois J. Smith, of Carleton, were appointed delegates  
 to attend the General Conference. The next annual  
 meeting is to be held with the church at Wilson's  
 Beach, Campbellville.

GRAND MANAN.—Brother William Brown, Licentiate  
 writes us from White Head Island, Grand Manan,  
 as follows:—

"DEAR BROTHER—As you have heard already  
 how the Lord has prospered us, we can still say the  
 state of our church is very encouraging. Our meet-  
 ings are full of interest, and we enjoy many refresh-  
 ing seasons from the presence of the Lord. Our Sab-  
 bath school is well attended by young and old, and  
 a good interest is manifested by all. Our Superin-  
 tendent, Henry C. Longfellow, is a faithful and much  
 beloved brother in the Church of Christ, and has  
 done much for the Sabbath School on this Island.  
 Our Meeting House will be finished all but seating,  
 by the first of December, and when I think how  
 the Lord has prospered us, I cannot but exclaim: 'What  
 hath God wrought?' I should express my gratitude  
 to the friends on this Island for their many liberali-  
 ties to me since I have been labouring with them.  
 Donations were received a few days since, amounting  
 to fourteen dollars, from Brother John Brown, a  
 worthy and pious young man in the Church. These  
 acts of Christian care show the good feeling of my  
 people towards my labour, and encourage me in my  
 work. The Lord help me to double my diligence,  
 and consecrate myself more to His service."  
 "Yours truly, "Wm. Brown."

## LETTER FROM THE REV. J. L. PHILLIPS.

Pascoag, R. I., Oct. 15th, 1864.

To the Editor of the Religious Intelligencer.

Our anniversary meetings have been held at Pro-  
 vidence this week, at the Roger Williams church.  
 It may interest your readers to hear about them, so I  
 catch up my pen to send you a short letter. On  
 Tuesday, P. M., the 11th inst., an Educational con-  
 vention was convened for the purpose of discussing  
 ways and means for making our Theological Summa-  
 ry more efficient. I confidently hope that this agitation  
 may be long result in the removal of the school from  
 its present obviously unfavorable location, and in its  
 firm establishment in some fit place, with increased  
 facilities for doing the great work which such a school  
 ought to be accomplishing for our Zion. On Tuesday  
 evening came the anniversary sermon by Rev. J. S.  
 Burgess, of Bangor, Maine. The text was Deut. i.  
 11, and the subject "Denominational Growth." The  
 preacher pointed out some hindrances to such a  
 growth, and then dwelt upon the means for its pro-  
 motion upon us as a people. This eminently practical  
 discourse, containing many passages of peculiar  
 force and elegance of expression, and holding up  
 Christ as the leader and sanctifier of His people,  
 cannot fail to do good.

Wednesday, the 12th inst., was a day filled full  
 of interesting services. At 9 o'clock a social prayer  
 meeting was held. At 10 o'clock the anniversary of  
 the Female Systematic Benevolence Society. The  
 ladies are determined to work on until all our churches  
 have adopted some system of Christian finance.  
 They are introducing the "Weekly-offering system,"  
 which is working admirably in many places. Brief  
 addresses were made by several clergymen. These  
 women, mostly pastors' wives, are doing a great work  
 and a good one for the churches. In a few years this  
 system of frequent and regular contributions for the  
 gospel will be found in all our churches. And not  
 only will our membership be greatly quickened and  
 blessed, but the sums raised now for missions, both  
 at home and abroad, and other benevolent enterprises,  
 will be increased tenfold. I cannot help expressing  
 the hope that your churches throughout the  
 Province may take hold of this matter in earnest,  
 and reap the fruits accruing from it.

At 11 A. M. was the anniversary of our Temper-  
 ance Union. The principal address was made by the  
 Rev. J. A. Lowell, of Lewiston, Maine. He urged  
 the importance of vigilance to the temperance cause  
 now. He denounced the use of domestic wines as  
 paving the way to habits of excessive indulgence,  
 and even outright inebriation. He called upon Chris-  
 tians to work and pray more for this important en-  
 terprise.

Brief addresses, containing many striking incidents  
 illustrative of the main topic, were made by several  
 brethren present. Never was the agitation of this  
 momentous question more needed than now; both  
 in our army and out of it, even through all our cities  
 and larger towns there prevails a great deal of intem-  
 perance. Can you spare our good friend, your ex-  
 cellent Secretary to her Majesty, Mr. Tilley, to come  
 and stir us up to duty? His numerous friends in  
 the State would be very happy indeed to listen  
 again to his eloquent appeals in behalf of this impor-  
 tant cause.

At 2 P. M. the Anti-Slavery Society held its an-  
 nual meeting. Rev. O. B. Cheney, D. D., Presi-

dent of Bates College, occupied the chair. Stirring  
 and eloquent speeches were made by Rev. R. Wood-  
 worth, of R. I. Rev. C. S. Perkins, of Maine, and  
 Rev. James W. Henniott, of Fredericksburg, Vir-  
 ginia. The last speaker, as might be expected, was  
 listened to with intense interest. He had been a  
 pro-slavery man and a slaveholder. He was now a  
 refugee from his native South. He expressed sound  
 and reasonable opinions, touching the speedy over-  
 throw of the slave oligarchy and the establishment  
 of the authority of the government. He made inter-  
 esting statements about the negroes, whom he had  
 known from infancy, and for whose amelioration he  
 wished to do all in his power. Mr. H. is a vehement  
 and eloquent speaker, and is accomplishing much for  
 the country and the church. His addresses are pa-  
 triotic, and frequently evoke applause from his ad-  
 miring hearers. Let me say here, Mr. Editor, that  
 it is to be hoped, our anti-slavery society will hold  
 very few—if any more anniversaries. Last May, in  
 New York, I heard Wm. Lloyd Garrison say, "I am  
 an abolitionist, I go for the abolition of the rebel-  
 lion; I go for the abolition of slavery, which caused  
 the rebellion; and then I go for the abolition of the  
 anti-slavery society." So long, sir, you'll hear no  
 more of our anti-slavery society.

Wednesday evening was devoted to the anniversary  
 of our Foreign Mission Society. Rev. C. O. Libby,  
 the Cor. Sec., read the annual report. The prospects  
 of the society are better to-day than ever before. Our  
 churches at home are more interested in missions,  
 and our brethren abroad are enjoying great success.  
 Rev. James Collier, of Harrisburg, Pa., once a Mis-  
 sionary in China, first addressed the meeting. This  
 brother, it is hoped by many, will some day plant a  
 mission for us among the teeming millions of the  
 Chinese empire. May the Lord hasten the day! Rev.  
 Jeremiah Phillips, for 20 years missionary in  
 India, was the next speaker. He spoke of his love  
 for his work, and of the encouragement he had lately  
 received from the western churches. He longs to be  
 in the foreign field again. At the close of my be-  
 loved father's remarks, your correspondent occupied the  
 large and interesting audience with a few statements,  
 suggested chiefly by the circumstances of the occasion.

A generous contribution was lifted, and let me  
 here tell your readers that we are proposing to carry  
 out a large Press, when our party sails for India.  
 This is greatly needed, and already nearly the entire  
 sum has been collected. This Missionary meeting  
 must have produced a good impression upon the  
 public.

Thursday morning, after the early prayer meeting,  
 was devoted to the anniversaries of the Historical  
 Societies, and of our Sabbath School Union. A  
 paper was read before the former by Rev. J. D.  
 Stewart, of N. H. Rev. J. B. Davis, of Mass., Dr.  
 Perry, of New York, and others addressed the Sab-  
 bath School friends. I think our people are taking  
 a deeper interest in the Sabbath School enterprise.  
 The Lord has added many of the little ones from the  
 School to our churches. May many more come!

Thursday P. M., came the anniversary of our Edu-  
 cation Society. The President, Rev. D. M. Graham,  
 D. D., of Maine, occupied the chair. The principal  
 speech was made by Prof. L. W. Stanton, A. M., of  
 Bates College. This was a scholarly production. I  
 hope we may see it in our Quarterly Review. I am  
 very happy to state that all our literary institutions  
 are in a thriving condition.

The exercises of anniversary week closed on Thurs-  
 day evening, with the meeting of the Home Missions  
 Society. Peculiar interest was attached to this ser-  
 vice, from the fact that a missionary to the freedmen  
 of South Carolina was ordained in connection with it.  
 Rev. Samuel Nickerson, and wife, and also several  
 other lady teachers have just left for this interest-  
 ing field of effort among the negroes. Certainly no  
 department of our labors at home is demanding  
 greater zeal and greater effort now than this field  
 which God has opened to us in the South. Our  
 churches are nobly responding to it. I wish, Mr.  
 Editor, that you could have been with us at Pro-  
 vidence this week. Do come to our anniversary next  
 autumn. Our party hope to sail for India in a few  
 days. We are impatient almost to be off, and in our  
 work. Do not forget to pray for us often and earnestly.  
 My mind often reverts to the happy days I spent  
 in your Province.

JAMES L. PHILLIPS.

## THE PRAYER-MEETING UNDER A HAYSTACK.

Last week we transferred to our columns a sum-  
 mary of the proceedings of the late meeting of the  
 American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Mis-  
 sions. It may be interesting to our readers to learn  
 the origin of this great missionary society, whose mis-  
 sions are encompassing the globe, and whose mis-  
 sionaries are among the ablest in the Foreign Field.  
 From an article of Dr. Prime, one of the venerable editors  
 of the N. Y. Observer, we transfer the following:  
 The College referred to, is Williams' College at Wil-  
 liamstown, in the State of N. Y. Not only has this  
 College the honor of originating this great mis-  
 sionary society, but some of the most useful and devoted  
 men in different departments of life received their  
 training there. We want some of our readers to see  
 how God has honored institutions of learning, and the  
 large place they have in the great work of giving  
 the gospel to the world. We also want them to learn  
 from this "prayer-meeting under a haystack" not  
 to despise the "day of small things." Dr. Prime  
 says:

Not far from the College buildings, and in the midst  
 of the sublime mountain scenery that surrounds the  
 town, is a spot made memorable in the history of  
 Christian missions. Here stood a stack of hay, the  
 side of which American missionaries to the heathen  
 were prayed in being. Samuel J. Mills was a member  
 of College and had been active in awakening an  
 interest among the Christian students, in behalf of  
 their brethren. As yet no missionaries had been  
 sent from this country; many had been sent to it. It  
 was a very hot day in the summer of 1806, when a  
 company of students met to pray under a grove; but  
 as a shower seemed to be approaching, they took re-  
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