

Such a plan might not be received by many who would suppose that the Association were endeavouring to impose a heavy burden upon our Churches, but I feel convinced that it is only for the sensible mind to weigh well the feasibility of such a system and immediately an assent must be given to its utility. I might pursue this subject much further, but I do not wish to inflict on your readers an article too verbose. Our Annual Meeting is now at hand, and if any thing remains to be done for the Union, it must be done quickly. To my brethren in the ministry, whose Churches may be deficient in coming up to the work, I would kindly suggest a plan which I have ever adopted, in order to spare my feelings the mortification of meeting with the members of the Association without any funds from my Church. Make your appeal to them the next Lord's day, when next around the table of the Lord, or even to the congregation; solicit their aid for these objects by individual subscription, and I can assure you that your success may exceed your most sanguine expectations, you may obtain pounds where you did not expect to receive any Union money; and bringing with you the free-will offering of your people, may be able to go up to the great convocation with a joyful spirit, and in glad heart. I am now done; if my candid remarks will do any good, or direct the attention of others more able to call up attention to the subject I am satisfied, and hoping to see and hear my brethren, and the people of God at an early period assembled together,

I remain, your's,
WILLIAM HALL.
Saint George, August 27, 1850.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

MR. EDITOR.—I observe by the Visitor that the Annual Meeting of the Baptist Convention will shortly be held at Portland. I have never attended these meetings, but presume they, like our Associations, are interesting and highly useful to the denomination. As far as I can learn, the chief object of collecting the leading members of the denomination from the several Provinces, is to devise ways and means to carry on the various benevolent operations with which our body is connected. Different matters of a business nature will be brought before the Convention, and I trust all will be harmoniously and beneficially disposed of. There are some thoughts in reference to the "Foreign Missionary" accounts that it may be useful to convey to others. I am not a member of the Missionary Board nor of the Convention, still I have always contributed my mite when called upon for missionary purposes, therefore hope it will not be considered out of place for me to give my advice to so highly respectable a body as that of the Convention. I feel deeply interested in missionary operations, and therefore any suggestions I may offer will be with a desire of promoting its movements.

I observe by the last Minutes that there appear three Treasurers to the Foreign Missionary Board, this I conceive to be unusual in societies of the kind, and at least inconvenient if not unnecessary; one treasurer I should think would simplify the accounts, and show at a glance the state of the funds, if sub-treasurers were considered necessary in different localities, they should act under the general Treasurer, and their accounts should be but private memorandums, with the general one. No money should be allowed to remain in any hands but that of the Treasurer appointed by the Convention. The funds so placed should be invested in safe securities, bearing interest, reserving a limited amount to be placed in the savings bank, to be drawn for on emergency. The accounts should be so simple that every one could understand them, the nature of the investment mentioned, and the securities examined and specified by auditors. I observe by the minutes of last Convention that there were funds in two Treasurer's hands of about £525, and in another Treasurer's hands £120, there are five pounds interest credited on £100 deposited in the Bank, the mode of this investment must commend itself as both safe and profitable. The other sums appear to have laid in the Treasurer's Iron Chest without interest, "like the talent in the napkin"—this I presume was for want of being instructed to invest it by the managing committee, and consequently loss has accrued to the society. I presume for the last five years there has not been a less average sum in the treasurer's hands than £250 to £300, taking the smaller it would produce £15 per annum, amounting to £75; an item no wise insignificant, and should be thought of in future; together with publishing the Treasurers' accounts, the ac-

counts of the missionary or missionaries should be annually produced, examined, and published. Brother Burpe has been absent five or six years, but I think no item of his account has ever made its appearance before the public. It would be very satisfactory to know the amount of salary he receives, his outfits, expences, &c., as persons are apt to form very erroneous opinions on the subject; I also perceive that the money remitted to India is through an American agent, I see no necessity for this; but conceive there is a loss in so doing, as American remittances, must be or usually are made through English agencies in London or by English bills. It would be more natural for the Missionary Board at Boston to buy a bank bill at St. John or Halifax and enclose to their Missionary, than for us to ask them to remit our money by sending English bills.—This matter is not of serious moment, but a saving of time and of money would be effected by a direct remittance; any merchant can understand this. Our missionary operations have hitherto been small, but it is to be hoped they will enlarge and be much extended, and whilst I would attach no blame to the past, make these suggestions for the better regulation of the future. Men are very cautious in contributing to benevolent operations at the present day, and investigate every minutia of account in reference to the management of the funds, and these funds are augmented or lessened in proportion as the contributors are satisfied of their safe deposit and prudent disbursement.

A FARMER.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

Pugwash, August 17th, 1850.

MY DEAR BROTHER VERY,—Although comparatively a stranger I feel that you and some of your numerous readers would be pleased to hear of the result of our Quarterly Meeting recently held in this place. Brother Francis and myself arrived here from your city on Friday the 18th, after a very pleasant ride in the Yankee buggy, and were happy to find quite a number of the ministering brethren present from different places, viz., brethren Park, from Albany; Roe, from Horton; Baker, from Chester; Hull, and Parker. We commenced at o'clock on Saturday with a social meeting for prayer and exhortation, as preparatory to the other services; at 7 o'clock, preaching by brother Baker, followed by several warm and animated exhortations. On Sabbath morning prayer meeting at 9 o'clock; preaching at 11 o'clock by brother Francis; at 3 o'clock by brother Parker; at 7 o'clock by brother Roe; thus we continued our meeting with 3 full services each day through the week till Saturday, when a Conference was held, and 9 young persons came before the church and related their experience; they were received and baptised the following day in presence of many witnesses, some that had never witnessed it before in this way; there being many from the different ships in port, who paid the most marked attention. We then repaired to the chapel, where brother Francis, preached to a densely crowded house, with many around the doors and windows who could not get in; administered the Lord's supper; preaching again at 3 and at 6 o'clock from the hay-scales in the street, by brother Francis, when the word was with power; preaching again in the chapel at 8 o'clock, after which it was deemed expedient to continue the meetings for the next week, the ministers very kindly consenting to remain. With the addition of brother Chase to our ranks we held a very interesting missionary meeting on Tuesday evening, when quite a number of Resolutions were passed and some very warm and animated addresses were given by ministers and others present. The meeting continued to be held the entire week, with conference on Saturday, when 2 more were received and baptised the next day; preaching twice this day by brother Francis in the open air; preaching by brother Ross at 3 o'clock, with an address in the Gaelick language, farewell sermon by brother Francis at 7 o'clock, a very solemn season. Brother Francis left on Monday and takes with him the prayers and best wishes of the community generally; and we have reason to believe his labors were not in vain; and we feel under great obligation to all our brethren for the work and labour of love and only regret our own hearts were not more or better prepared to receive the word of eternal life communicated by them, may the Lord reward them abundantly. Our meetings have been very interesting.—Since our dear brother left 13 have been baptised, and others are waiting an opportunity to

follow. My soul has been refreshed by reading in your valuable paper the account of the revival at Springfield; it was what I expected to hear, judging from the character of the meetings at the Association, and from my own feelings during my short stay there. After Association I felt that the place was truly solemn and that God was there to bless the people; these feelings were strongly fastened on my mind; on my arrival in the place before the meetings commenced, whilst stopping at the House of my esteemed friend and brother Yandall, who I had the happiness of seeing follow his blessed Lord in the precious ordinance of baptism, which rejoiced our hearts greatly, and I have felt the same heavenly flame since leaving there, in my soul, in reference to that dear people. O may the Lord ride on prosperously and get to himself a glorious name in the salvation of many in that place. The Baptists in New Brunswick have a bright prospect before them, blessed be the Lord they must go up and possess the land which lies before them; but you must forgive me for trespassing on your time and patience, whilst I remain your's truly,

WM. HOBBS.

[FOR THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.]

FRENCH MISSION.

Wallace River, Cumberland Co, N. S.,
August 27th, 1850.

DEAR BRETHREN.—As the time of your Annual Convention is at hand, it occurs to me as proper, to address you a few lines, by way of report, on the French Mission.

As but a few hours will elapse, before the mail which must convey this letter leaves, I am compelled to the utmost brevity.

1. Whilst on a visit last summer, to the Eastern part of New Brunswick, I there met with brethren to whom it seemed good, on their learning my acquaintance with the French language, that I should pay a visit to the Acadians of that region, and ascertain if there were any prospects of access to, and usefulness among that people. To the solicitations of these dear brethren, I yielded, not reluctantly, but with ready mind.

2. As I went forth, conscious of the ruggedness of the way, and the darkness which I had to penetrate, trusting in the Lord God of Elijah, the rough places were made plain, the crooked straight, and the darkness appeared light before me.

This by way of fulfilment, and what by way of promise? "The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."

That people are in a darkness more than Egyptian, in a captivity more than Babylonian, and many among them are sighing for light and liberty, and to them must the word of this salvation be sent.

The toil and privation which whilst among them, I had often to undergo, was truly severe; having to travel a *pied*, as they say, and having to carry some necessary moveables on my back, yet it was to me for the most part, the most pleasurable toil I ever passed through. I visited a range of about 80 miles in length; some of the families in this range I called upon regularly, others occasionally; was received kindly by all, and by some was listened to with an interest and attention wholly unexpected, and which was to me as transporting as it was unexpected. If ever, since I breathed the breath of a new life, "the life of God," I longed to go free, and make known the salvation of God, it was then and there.

By "going free," I mean, such a ready familiarity with their mode of conveying thought, with their degenerate dialect, as would enable me to have the fullest access to them, and such a possession of means in mode of conveyance, and such a supply of needful, as books and tracts, as were immediately demanded. The one assiduously and successfully, I labored to acquire, the other I had mostly to forego.

3. Previous to cessation of labour in the Autumn, I strove earnestly to obtain a situation for the Winter, in which I might advance the object so dear to my heart, the enlightenment of this people.

I found localities in which I might have labored in imparting instruction, but the remuneration would not have been the title of a subsistence.

Winter is now approaching, and as prudence dictates, I, a homeless wanderer, seek a home; which "by the good hand of my God upon me," I ultimately find, when unsought. My arrangements however, are made with re-

ference to a resumption of mission labours, on the approach of Summer.

This is made known at the proper time and to the proper quarter. If therefore any wrong impression may have been made with reference to my resting from the sphere of labour, this may remove it.

4. The books forwarded for circulation were all quickly distributed. Promises were received but no payments.

5. Let me here remark, what might seem, yet is not superfluous, that whoever may be called as pioneers, to devote themselves to this field of labour, will require (if not native Frenchman) some special preparation. They must not only understand the French, but they must devote some time to the acquirement of a knowledge of the peculiarities of speech among those with whom they are particularly destined to labour.

Two or three months in Canada, passed with the brethren in the Grand Ligne Mission, would place them on high vantage ground, and would, I think, ultimately facilitate their object more than an entire year passed immediately among the Acadians. They would then have an opportunity of hearing addresses in that language; could also exercise themselves in praying and exhorting in the same, and last, but not least, would learn the best mode of access to that strangely secluded people.

6. The French population of New Brunswick cannot, I think, be less than 35,000.

In what way we may most readily and fully gain access to them, may be a matter of some uncertainty. But this we know, from experience, that they are accessible; and yet more, from the sure declarations of unfailling truth, which say, my word shall not return unto me void.

With but a partial acquaintance with their broken language, and labouring under every disadvantage, by the blessing of heaven I succeeded in opening the minds and hearts of some to receive the truth, which I pray and believe will ultimately take root downward and bear fruit upward to the glory of God, and their salvation. For some few years past, I have been anxiously waiting to see an effort made to rescue this people from their intellectual darkness and spiritual thralldom; and happy am I in knowing that New Brunswick is resolved to go forward in response to this loud and important call of duty. If, dear brethren, I can in any way aid in forwarding an object so dear to mine, and to every Christian heart, it will be my highest happiness so to do.

The time has elapsed, I must close.

I remain dear brethren, your's in Christ

OBEDE CHUTE.
To the Western Baptist Association,
New Brunswick.

MISSIONARIES LOVE THEIR WORK.—At the last meeting of the American Board the returned missionaries as usual held a little meeting by themselves. During the exercises, all who repented of having engaged in this enterprise were requested to rise. And although some of those present had lost their health in the service and nearly every one had been severely afflicted, not an individual moved from his seat. It was then suggested that those who gloried in the work, considering it the greatest privilege on earth thus to labor for Christ, should express their feelings; when all rose with happy faces and tears of joy starting to their eyes, thus declaring to each other and to the world how good it is to be a missionary.

BROWN UNIVERSITY.—At the adjourned meeting of the corporation of Brown University, held Aug. 1, 1850, the finance committee reported that \$108,000 had been subscribed to the fund for enlarging the course of studies in Brown University. The corporation resolved to proceed, relying on the liberality of their fellow-citizens. The following officers were accordingly elected:

Rev. Asahel Kendrick, D.D., of Madison University, Professor of Greek; William A. Norton, of Delaware College, Professor of Natural Philosophy and Civil Engineering; John A. Porter, of the Lawrence Scientific School, Professor of Chemistry applied to the Arts.—*Providence Journal*.

BAPTISMS IN VIRGINIA.—The Baptist denomination in Virginia comprises 567 churches, 281 ministers, and 83,278 members. The number baptized during the year, was 4,952. In addition to this body of Regular Baptists, there are about 5,000 Anti-mission Baptists.