

ing to the law of Christ, would not our number be greatly diminished? True, if all who might be accused as Paul accused Demas, and justly too, who keep up the appearance of religion and yet follow and love the ways of the world; if such were brought to the law and to the testimony, we might indeed see our number greatly diminished. But as was said to Gideon, it may doubtless often be said to Churches, "The people that are with thee are too many for me." Numbers are a very uncertain indication of strength; and if in our numbers there are those who offend against God, and bring upon us his displeasure, we are surely weakened by their presence, and will be strengthened by exchanging their presence for that of the Lord, who withdraws whilst iniquity is harboured in our midst. Difficulties, and difficulties of a serious nature, exist in many Churches in connection with the Association. Sparks from the bottomless pit have been blown into a flame, and their withering and deadening influences have been and are still being felt in the denomination.

Scarcely a Church is to be found where some member does not harbour iniquity in his heart against his brother, and yet his name stands on the Church book, and he is returned year after year to the Association as a member in good standing. It may be that some of the Messengers and Delegates who bear the letters and bring the statistics of their several Churches think that other Churches are in better standing than their own, yet we fear that we are not all thus ignorant, and that while we send a letter giving an account of the state of the Church, we are not as honest as we should be in the sight of God. One great reason why so many remain unreconciled to their brethren, is the total neglect of the law of Christ. We are told "If thou hast sinned against thy brother, tell him his fault between him and thee alone." How seldom is this done. But if a difficulty takes place it is related, it may be, to a Church member, told to a neighbour, the ungodly and the impenitent spread the news, and in a short time, we see how great a matter a little fire kindleth, that might at first by attending to the law of Christ have been quenched by a few penitential tears. So long as we lean to our own understanding and disregard or treat with indifference or contempt the law of Zion's King, so long may we expect that the disapprobation of Heaven will rest upon us.—Are there not many who have hardness against their brethren, who yet expect to ascend to glory and to God? Hear the Lord's language respecting such, "except ye from your heart forgive every one his brother, neither will your heavenly Father forgive you; but if ye forgive men their trespasses even so will your heavenly Father forgive you." If there be those in the Church who will not honour the law of Christ, who respect not the law nor the lawgiver, shall we allow such to remain as Church members? I fear by such a course of conduct, we wink at their iniquity, and of necessity become partakers of their sin. Should we not beware, lest we also be led away with the error of the wicked fall from our own steadfastness? Let us rather by pureness, by knowledge, by the Word of God, (that word which is profitable for reproof, for correction and for instruction in righteousness,) endeavour to keep ourselves in the love of God, in the unity of the Spirit, and in the bonds of peace.

The following Reports and Resolutions were adopted by the Association, some after a little debate, but with great unanimity.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following report.

Resolved 1st., That this Association rejoices in the privilege of having their Foreign Missionaries with them on this occasion; and would express their gratitude to Almighty God, that in answer to prayer, their beloved brother, sister, and children were preserved amidst many dangers to return to their native land; and that although they were not permitted to labor long in the dark heathen land, still their labours were not in vain in the Lord.

Resolved 2nd., That to send the gospel to the heathen being a duty which is clearly and powerfully enforced in the word of God, and the desire that all men should hear the glad tidings of salvation, being inseparably connected with the spirit of the gospel; this Association cannot refrain from expressing their

regret, that there has not been more readiness on the part of the churches to sustain by their contributions this good cause; and that so few of the young brethren in the Ministry appear willing to respond to the call of the Board to go and preach the gospel to the perishing heathen.

Resolved 3rd., That this Association recommends to the Convention and Foreign Missionary Board that greater exertions be made to increase the contributions to the funds of the Society; and that suitable enquiry be made to obtain the services of two young men who may be willing and feel it their duty to go to Burmah; and that brother Burpe, as soon as his health will permit, be requested to visit all the churches for this purpose.

Resolved 4th., As it is a principle with the American Union in the event of the illness of any of their Agents to sustain them till they are restored to health, and able to return to missionary labor or to preach the gospel in their native land, it is highly proper that our Board in their treatment of brother Burpe and his family conform to this principle.—Such being the condition on which they sent him forth to the heathen.

SAMUEL ROBINSON, Chairman of Com.

The Committee on the Union Society beg leave to Report

That in view of the demands of the cause of Christian benevolence the Churches are called upon for far greater exertions than they have yet made in this sphere. They lament that so few Churches have contributed to the various objects contemplated in this Union during the year; and deeply lamenting the necessity of incurring the expense of an agency, yet every year's observation of the circumstances of our Churches, and the continued failure of Pastors and Deacons, in our Churches generally, to collect according to their means, we have no alternative but to dispense with the funds and proclaim our failure year by year, or send an Agent to communicate information, to obviate objections and awaken and sustain the interest requisite to command funds. We fully concur with those opposed to an agency that if Pastors or Churches volunteered their services and their offerings it would be a great saving; but we have no reason to infer from the past or present expression on their part, that they will do so, and the few who do, and we are happy to proclaim the fact that there are a few, but very few, who have never subjected the Board to any expense in this matter, will not in time to come require such agency.

We approve greatly the vote of the Eastern Association, recommending the employment of brother Burpe, and an Agent to accompany him, to relieve him of the burden of public addresses, and to superintend the care of collections and subscriptions. We unite with them in recommending this course to the earliest attention of the Union Board.

We are happy to add that the several objects embraced, still command our strongest regard; and we recommend them with unabated confidence to our Churches. In behalf of the Committee.

E. D. VERY, Chairman.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to Report.

That the Sabbath Schools in connection with our churches are in a very prosperous condition and are proving important auxiliaries to the churches where they are established. But while they are pleased to make this announcement they also regret the lukewarmness which is too frequently manifested by some of the churches and especially by parents; we are deeply persuaded that the importance of the work is not fully realized by those churches and parents, or they could not remain so lethargic. We therefore recommend that every pastor, every church, and every parent awake to a sense of their duty and to the claims which this important institution present; that schools be organized where they do not now exist; and that each school be supplied with a good library, and a religious periodical (say the Youth's Penny Gazette) which never fails in giving great interest and vitality to the schools. (Signed on behalf of the Committee.)

H. E. SEELYE, Chairman.

The Committee on the Christian Visitor submit the following report:

In the opinion of your Committee the Christian Visitor is a most valuable paper; and while

we take great pleasure in its present circulation among our churches and congregations, we consider that its worth claims a wider circulation. The Visitor is a sheet of high order abounding with most important matter, touching almost every subject about which we need information. It is ably conducted by our esteemed brother Elder E. D. Very, to whom we feel much indebted for his faithful editorial labors. We do earnestly request all the ministers and others of our denomination to labor in giving it a wider circulation.

D. CRANDAL, Chairman.

The Committee on the French Mission

Beg leave to recommend the establishing of an English School in the French settlement adjacent to the Bend of Petitcodiac, to be taught by a pious young man, who shall have the spiritual welfare of the French at heart; who shall as far as possible impart religious instruction and moral improvement amongst them, and who shall in the mean time endeavor to acquire a knowledge of the language.

And further, if this plan succeeds that similar efforts be made in other localities amongst them.

ISAIAH WALLACE, Chairman.

The Committee on Domestic Missions beg leave to report.

That we consider it our indispensable duty to use every exertion to sustain Missionaries in those parts of our Province that are destitute of the preaching of the gospel and hope that a spirit of liberality may influence the hearts of the brethren to contribute more largely to the Domestic Mission Fund than they have hitherto done, in order that the above object may be effected. In behalf of the Committee.

J. W. SAUNDERS, Chairman.

The following Report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Question of the Lord's Supper as proposed by the Church in Portland.

Resolved, 1st. That the Lord's Supper is the dying command of Christ, and has the highest claim on us as his people, the neglect of which is a great sin.

Res. 2d. That any Church living in the habitual neglect of this ordinance of God should not be recognised as a Gospel Church.

Res. 3d. That we believe that the Apostolic Church observed the Lord's Supper on the first day of the week, and that frequency is implied in the language of God's word:—"As often, and as oft as ye eat this bread and drink this cup."

Res. 4th. That we do not conceive that there is a positive command from Christ to have in all cases the Lord's Supper administered every first day of the week, but we conceive that any Church is justified in this observance when they can orderly and consistently attend to it.

Res. 5th. That we consider no person qualified in an orderly manner to administer the ordinances of the Gospel but such as are scripturally qualified as Pastors or ordained Ministers.

Res. 6th. That any Minister neglecting to administer the Lord's Supper to his people is guilty of a breach of solemn promise and covenant which he took upon himself when he was set apart to the work of the Ministry.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL ROBINSON, Chairman.

The Committee on the Colportage beg leave to submit the following Report:

That it is with much satisfaction that your Committee learn that the Eastern New Brunswick Baptist Association are prosecuting this noble enterprise with such efficiency, and inasmuch as their Committee, whose representatives are present with us invite this Association to co-operate with them in this labor of love. We recommend the subject to the favorable consideration of this body, and further that a special effort be now made to increase the Colporteur funds so as to meet present demands. In behalf of the Committee.

J. P. A. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

Resolution in regard to Acadia College.

Resolved, That this Association deeply convinced of the value and importance of Collegiate Education in reference to the cultivation of the human mind, and especially in regard to the improvement of our rising Pastors and Missionaries, most heartily concur in the arrangements made by the Convention of the Baptist Churches of Nova Scotia, New Brun-

wick and Prince Edward Island, to adopt Acadia College as the property of the Convention; and strongly commend its claims to the sympathy, prayers and support of our churches.

Death of Rev. Adoniram Judson, D. D.

Resolve adopted by the W. N. Baptist Association at Manguerville.

Resolved, That we hear with deep sorrow of the loss to his afflicted widow and family of Dr. Adoniram Judson, whose long, laborious, and successful Missionary course has commanded the admiration of all good men, and endeared him to the Baptist Churches of America.

We would express our deep sympathy with the Churches in India which have been gathered by his exertions; with the Missionaries with whom he has been associated, and who have been accustomed to the fruits of his long experience and extensive information; and also with the Board of the American Union in the death of a man whose life and labours have been so effectual an argument in soliciting funds with which to prosecute their Missions.

We hope that the Ministers and Churches of this Association will find a fresh incentive to Missionary exertion from this afflictive dispensation; and will be led to beseech the Great Head of the Church to thrust other laborers into the vineyard, gifted with like endowments, to gather the redeemed into his fold.

Monies received at the Western New Brunswick Baptist Association, by ROBT. STEVENS, Treasurer.

Table with columns for Minute Money (£10 6 4), Public collections for Domestic Missions (7 10 14), and a list of churches including 1st St. Patrick (£1 8 6), 2nd St. Patrick (3 0 0), St. Andrews (5 0 0), 1st St. George (15 10 0), St. James (2 19 10), 2nd St. George (9 0 0), Canning (8 4 1), Fredericton (2 18 0), Manguerville (3 10 5), and Newcastle (Grand Lake) (3 5 0). Total: 55 15 10 1/2.

Table for FOREIGN MISSIONS: Chipman (£0 7 3), A Friend (0 5 3), Fredericton (1 9 0), Public Collection, Manguerville (6 3 9). Total: 9 5 4.

Table for FRENCH MISSIONS: David Dow (£0 5 0), Bro. Patterson (Dumfries) (0 2 6), Miss Eliza Nevens (0 5 0), Rev. G. F. Miles (0 5 0). Total: 0 17 6.

Table for COLPORTAGE: Rev. C. Spurgeon (1 0 0), Public collection (0 10 10). Total: 1 10 10 1/2.

Table for FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY: 2nd St. George (0 15 0). Besides which the following sums were reported in their letters for this year: BRUSSEL STREET, ST. JOHN. For Union Society (£8 8 4), Foreign Missions (49 19 5), Am. and For. Bible Society (6 5 0), Domestic Missions (20 0 0). Total: 75 12 9.

Table for GERMAIN STREET, ST. JOHN: For Union Society (£8 10 0), Foreign Missions (10 0 0), Am. and For. Bible Society (6 5 0), Domestic Missions (2 19 7). Total: 27 14 7.

Table for PORTLAND: For Union Society (£40 0 0), Foreign Missions (10 0 0), Am. and For. Bible Society (7 5 0), Domestic Missions (12 0 0). Total: 69 5 0.

Total, £258 13 5

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT FREDERICTON.—On Tuesday evening at a quarter past eight o'clock a fire broke out in one of the outhouses belonging to the premises occupied by Mr. P. McAloon, on Regent Street, which in a very few minutes communicated with other buildings in the immediate vicinity, and finally destroyed the dwelling house on King Street, owned by Mr. W. Morgan, and occupied by Captain James, two small dwelling houses owned by Mr. H. S. Beck, a barn attached to the premises occupied by Mr. McIntosh, and several other buildings of minor importance. A horse and some pigs were destroyed in the flames. The exertions of Colonel Lockyer, the officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of the 97th Regiment to stay the progress of the fire, were beyond all praise, and fully sustain the high opinion which the inhabitants had already formed of their character, discipline, and good feeling.—The Royal Artillery were as usual at their post, and as usual, did their duty. The fire companies from the first, and the civilians generally, worked with their accustomed spirit, when danger to the city generally appeared. His Excellency the Lieut. Governor was on the ground, and at work with those saving property.—Head Quarters