

We purpose making arrangements to employ a missionary to labour in the destitute settlements around us, or in such places as we may consider expedient, and for which purpose \$28 were given. The friends showed a disposition to give of their substance to this important object.

It was resolved that our next meeting be held with the first Baptist Church, Sackville, commencing on Monday, 21st April, at 5 p. m.

D. McKEER

Lower Macdon, Feb. 5, 1856.

#### THE FAMILY CASKET

Is issued on the first of every month, at the office of the Christian Visitor.

Copies can be obtained in any number through the Travelling and Local Agents of the Visitor, or by addressing application to the Editor, Saint John, N. B.

One copy monthly, for one year, to one address, 7s. 6d.  
Twenty-five copies monthly, for one year, to one address, 15s. 0d.  
Fifty copies monthly, for one year, to one address, 25s. 0d.  
Any number of copies above fifty, to one address, at the same rate.

Pastors and Colporteurs, who may wish the Casket for distribution, can have it done up in packets in any number which they may require, at the above rates.

Any subscriber to the Christian Visitor who pays in advance, will get a copy of the Casket for one year, free of charge.

#### THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., APRIL 2, 1856.

#### TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Terms of the Visitor, 7s. 6d., per annum in advance, (the payment being delayed over three months.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No Communication will be inserted without the author's name and address in confidence. Unless the opinions expressed by correspondents be editorially endorsed, we shall not consider ourselves responsible for them.

Correspondents are respectfully reminded that short communications, as a general thing, are more acceptable to readers of *Young Men* than long ones, and that a legible style of writing will save the printer time, which is always valuable, and secure a correct impression.

All Ministers of the gospel, who will send us the address, for six new subscribers, will get the "Visitor" for one year free of charge.

#### ORDINATION SERVICE.

The ordination of Brother William Edwards to the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Hammond river, noticed in another column, was a season of more than ordinary interest. At an early hour the house was crowded to overflowing with a congregation manifesting intense interest in the proceedings of the day. The preliminary services which were conducted with much unanimity and good feeling called up the question of early ordinations, and several of the ministering brethren expressed themselves very strongly against intruding into the ministry before their minds were well matured and before they had given unmistakable evidence of their fitness in all respects for the work. The truth is if men would succeed in the great work of the Christian ministry, they must be prepared to do something more than make a noise. A perfect novice may do this; but a minister of the Lord Jesus must show himself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed; rightly dividing the word of truth, and giving to every man his portion of meat in due season. Men cannot do this unless they are well instructed in the word and ways of God. One of the qualifications of a Bishop or Elder, as given by the apostle Paul, is an aptness to teach. Not to preach long sermons, or loud sermons, but instructive sermons; not how can those teach who are not themselves taught? The command of God is plain, "Lay hands suddenly on no man."

As brother Edwards had not been engaged in preaching more than a year, we were not surprised that a Council holding the views expressed above should examine his case thoroughly before admitting his ordination. They did so and to their minds seemed clear that although it had not been long since our young brother entered the harvest field, yet as he had been for a number of years a professor of religion, had given very satisfactory evidence of discipleship; and as his call to preach the word was very marked and distinct, and as God had already given him seals to his ministry, and as these favorable circumstances were combined with a very clear view of the doctrines of the Bible, and with ability to communicate to the edification of those to whom he ministered, it was deemed advisable to ordain him. There was another question which engaged the attention of the Council that we may note. It referred to the provision made for the permanent support of the candidate. It was very justly observed that churches would sometimes call a man to ordination without making any suitable provision to meet his temporal necessities, consequently after a few months trial he was probably given to understand that he must seek some other field of labour. The Council expressed themselves most decidedly against this mode of procedure, and gave it their united opinion, that whenever a church called a man to the pastorate, that permanent provision should be made for his support, and that the church should hold itself secretly bound to provide for the temporal wants of their pastor, until God in his providence should call him to some other field of labour. We were happy to find that the church at Hammond river had taken this matter into due consideration, and had raised the sum required for the maintenance of the pastor.

The preliminary services having been satisfactorily arranged, it was decided to have a recess, and to meet again at 3 o'clock, p. m. By the time appointed the house was again crowded, and Rev. D. Nutter of Portland, preached from Romans i. 14, 15. "I am a debtor both to the Greek and the Barbarian, both to the wise and to the unwise as much as to me is I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also." The sermon was a timely exposition of the nature and obligations of the ministerial vocation as stated in his text, and it was forcibly applied to the case in hand. The minister of Christ preaches the gospel, he must preach it to all of every nation and of every class, that come in his way; he must preach it to the utmost extent of his ability, and he must always be ready to preach it. These points were all in turn touched upon, illustrated, and enforced in a style scriptural, appropriate, and impressive, and the people listened as for an oracle.

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Rev. J. Herrett will see the substance of his communication in the letter of the Rev. Jas. Wallace, published on our first page.

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The charge by Rev. S. Robinson had reference to the obligations of the church to its pastor. He must be obeyed. "Obey them that have the rule over you." Heb. 13, 17. The Christian pastor must be honored. "The Elders that rule over you are accounted worthy of double honor," 1 Tim. v. 17. He must be esteemed. "Esteem them highly in love for their work's sake," 1 Thes. v. 13. He must be supported. "Even so hath God ordained that they who preach the gospel, should live of the Gospel," 1 Cor. ix. 14. These several points were explained and applied in a manner admirably adapted to do good. Those who disregard the scriptural authority of the Christian minister, who trifle with his reputation, fail to honor and esteem him in his calling, or who withhold from him a reasonable support were represented as disregarding the authority of Christ, and as violating the plain and positive directions of God's word.

The charge to the candidate was founded upon Act xx. 28. "Take heed, therefore, unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the Church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." "You, my dear brother," said the speaker, "must take heed to your personal piety, and see that it is pure, elevated and practical. You must take heed to your spirit, and see that you have within the mind of your Master. You must take heed to the cultivation of your mental faculties, and labour to have your mind enriched with the knowledge of God's truth. Study diligently and prayerfully your Bible; let it be your text book, your standard, and at the same time, avail yourself of all the helps that will serve to throw light upon the sacred page. And, by this means, prove yourself to be a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. Remember that you must give yourself unreservedly to your work, that your roasting may appear to all. You are called upon to be the pastor by taking heed also to the flock. It is not enough that you preach good and useful sermons, you must be the pastor as well as the minister. If any of your people are in affliction, be the first to sympathize with them; let them know that you have a care for them. If any wander from the fold, go into the wilderness and bring back the lost sheep. Then you must feed the Church of God over which you are chosen to preside. The Great Shepherd has provided an inexhaustible store house from which you may derive such varied supplies as are adapted to the circumstances and wants of all. These thoughts were amplified so as to give the candidate a bird's eye view of the weighty obligations devolving upon him as a minister of the New Testament.

The other brethren who aided in the ordination service performed well their part, and contributed much to the interest of the occasion. The attention of the congregation was kept up till the last, and the impression was evidently exceedingly favourable.

We will only add, in conclusion, that our Bro. Edwards has entered upon an important field of usefulness and sincerely do we hope that the divine blessing will attend his footsteps, and make his pathway plain and prosperous. Brethren one and all, give him your prayers.

**Prohibition in Nova Scotia.**  
A telegraphic dispatch to the News Room, says that the Bill to prevent the importation, sale and manufacture of intoxicating liquors has been defeated in the House of Assembly by a majority of eight.

We are further informed that the second reading of the Bill, there was a majority of eight in favour of Prohibition. And the change that occurred in the minds of hon. members which in the issue turned the scale against the Bill by a majority of eight was produced by the decided action of the Government on the side of ruin. Can it be true that the liberal Government of Nova Scotia should, in the face of petitions signed by more than 36,000 names, praying for a Prohibition Law, coerce its friends to falsify themselves, for the purpose of sustaining the liquor traffic, with all its devastating results? If they have done this, the free born sons of Nova Scotia will hold them responsible for it in a coming day.

A copy of the Report of the Hon. Mr. Stives, Chief Commissioner of Public Works in this Province, for the year 1855, has been laid on our table. It is a very elaborate document, and has evidently been prepared with much care. Mr. Stives enters very minutely into the state of the roads, bridges, improvement of harbors, erection of light houses, improvement of navigation of rivers, &c. &c., and shows himself so conversant with the subjects on which he writes, as to prove to our satisfaction that he is fully competent to discharge the functions of his office. Judging from the specimen before us, we think the Province cannot but be satisfied with the judicious selection made by the government, in placing Mr. Stives at the head of such an important department as that of the Board of Works.