

The Christian Visitor.

"HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS"—2d Timothy, i. 13.

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Rev. J. E. HOPPER, A.M.,
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THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR.

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Home Mission Correspondence.

DEAR EDITOR: While in Charlotte County I spent several days in Pennfield, assisting my esteemed brother, Rev. James Trimble, in holding a few extra services, with results quite cheering as he has probably informed your readers. The little church there is considerably revived.

Charlotte County is better supplied with Baptist pastors than I had supposed. Brother Trimble is looking after Pennfield and Mascareen, Brother Stewart, St. George and Upper Falls, Brother Crawley, St. Andrews, Bocabee and Bayside, Bro. Eaton, St. Stephen, and Bro. Vickery, Back Bay, the Ledge, Baillie and Rolling Dam.

The last mentioned brother is occupying a field far larger than he can advantageously cultivate, and he would gladly relinquish a portion of it, could it be otherwise supplied. Rolling Dam would make an excellent centre for a Missionary Pastor, with Greenock, Dumbarton, Whittier Ridge and Tower Hill, as out stations, and it is important that these fields should be occupied at an early date, by an energetic young man. A subsidy of \$100 would be required for the first year and rich harvests of souls might be gathered in.

Charlotte Co., as a result of the labors of Revs. S. Robinson, A. D. Thompson, James Walker and others of precious memory, and also other faithful men who are yet in the field, is largely Baptist in sentiment, but if we fail in our duty others will step in and take the heritage left us by the fathers. Already we have suffered loss from inactivity. Grand Manan once had a Baptist Church but from neglect of aggressive effort on our part, on that island, others have taken the ground. Our Free Christian Baptist brethren commenced effort on Grand Manan later than the Baptists, but as the result of faithful effort they have three good men settled on that island, with many churches and a growing membership.

The following fact given to me by an eye witness also shows the strong leaning of public sentiment toward our principles as well as the culpability in failing to supply the destitute portions of our country with the Word of Life, and especially when these portions incline to our views: "Last summer nine persons were immersed in the Digdeguash river near Rolling Dam by the Rev. Mr. Percival, a Wesleyan minister, upon a profession of their faith, and others previously and some subsequently were baptized in the same river by Methodist Ministers."

Immediately after attending the Western Association at Rockland, I came to Wakefield and assisted Brother Young in extra meetings for two or three days, and in the organization of a new Baptist church on Sabbath the 29th of June, at 3 p. m., with 25 consistent members, 7 of whom had been baptized on the forenoon of that day. You will receive from Bro. Hannah, the Clerk of Council, an account

of this organization, and so I need only say that this church enters upon its career under favorable auspices, and that our good brother Young is, in my judgment, doing a noble work and deserves the sympathies and prayers of our brethren. He gives himself entirely to evangelistic work.

It did not seem to be in my power to visit the Tobique field as I had hoped to do, but from all the facts I could gather it is exceedingly important that we have a faithful man stationed at Andover as soon as possible, to extend his labors to the Grand Falls and to care for the little churches up the Tobique River. Brothers Henderson and Young design to hold special services in that field soon, and I am anticipating gracious results from their efforts. But we should have a good man on the ground to follow up their labors.

I am now visiting the scene of my ordination and early ministry, on the Western shore of the Grand Lake, and will give you "Jottings by the way," in due time. In the meanwhile I would say to your praying readers, don't forget the admonition of Jesus, "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest," for truly the harvest is great and the laborers are few. Encourage pious and promising young men to enter upon the preparatory studies for the ministry. We need at least 12 men to day in this Province to supply vacant fields. The demand exceeds the supply but God hears prayer.

Faithfully Yours,
ISA. WALLACE,
Newcastle, Grand Lake, July 3.

Home Missions.

The Board to take charge of Home Missions held its first regular meeting in the vestry of the First Church, Yarmouth, on Monday, 23rd inst. The officers were elected as follows: A. C. Robbins, Chairman; Rev. G. E. Day, M. D., Vice Chairman; A. Cohoon, Corresponding Secretary; W. A. C. Randall, Recording Secretary; J. C. Anderson, Treasurer.

After some consultation on the continuation of grants to mission fields, and the granting of aid to new fields it was decided to postpone this business until the next meeting which will be held in the place above named, July 21st, 1879. Meanwhile the Corresponding Secretary is to visit the P. E. Island and Eastern N. B. Associations.

Churches or Fields requiring Aid or a continuation of the aid formerly given are requested to write to the Corresponding Secretary before the date above named for the next meeting, giving the amount they can raise on the Field and the general condition and prospect of the cause.

In behalf of the Board
A. COHOON,
Cor. Sec'y.
Hebron, June 27, 1879.

On Wednesday, during the Association at Rockland, a meeting of the Woman's Missionary Aid Society was held in the old church, and, although the day was hot and parties had to come from a distance, a goodly number had assembled at the appointed hour.

The society there had gone down, no meetings had been held there for a year, but it was apparent that this had been from neglect and not for want of interest in Foreign Missions.

The meeting was opened by singing the hymn beginning:

"I need thee every hour,"
and after the reading of the 72nd Psalm, prayer was offered by Mrs. Todd, of Moncton, and was followed by a number of others whose names I do not know, but the Father knew them and their names are written in his book of Life. He had taught them to pray, and we felt that their strong cries to God would be heard and answered to the awakening of a new interest in this work.

Extracts of letters from Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. Churchhill, and Miss Hammond were read, followed by remarks bearing on the needs of the Foreign Mission fields, and also the necessity of more heartfelt conse-

cration to the work at home, that the hands of our sisters should not be tied, and that we should endeavor to carry out more fully than ever the command of the Master, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

A number of the members of the old Society were present and after consulting for a short time, decided to go on with their old officers. This was a step in the right direction, and they were greatly cheered by eight new members joining them at once, who will doubtless be a blessed accession.

A collection was taken amounting to two dollars and eighty three cents.

The old Doxology was sung from full hearts, and so closed one of the best Society meetings it has ever been my privilege to attend.

M. E. MARCH,
Sec. of the C. B., N. B.
P. S. Received from Mrs. C. Henderson of Richmond, two dollars for the W. A. S.
M. E. M.

Quarterly Meetings.

The York and Sunbury Quarterly Meeting met with the Baptist Church at Macnaquack, June 14th. Business meeting at 9 o'clock on Saturday morning.

Brother P. Knight was elected President for the ensuing Quarter, and J. H. Coy, Secretary-Treasurer.

It was unanimously resolved that our next meeting be held with the Church at Lakeville, Sunbury Co., the first Friday September, at 7 o'clock. That the Rev. P. Knight preach the Quarterly sermon and Rev. J. H. Coy be his Alternate.

Our Missionary's report was called for, read, and adopted, and the amount due, \$49, voted to be paid, report also to be published.

Our Conference meeting in the afternoon was a refreshing season, also our Missionary Meeting in the evening, but it is to be regretted that the first of our Quarterly Meetings are so thinly attended, and that so few delegates are sent from the churches.

In the absence of Brother Reese, the alternat, Bev. D. P. Harris preached on Sabbath morning from Matt. v. 16. The preacher spoke in a warm hearted manner, first to classes, ministers, heads of families and so forth, to whom the text could be applied, and secondly showed how we are to let our light shine, showing that it must be done both by precept and example.

Rev. G. Howard preached to a large and attentive congregation at three o'clock, from Matthew xvi. 18.

At 7.30 there was preaching by Rev. B. N. Hughes, and warm addresses followed by Rev. Mr. Syces, (Congregationalist) and others.

The collections during the meetings amounted to \$10.52.

So ended one of the most pleasant of our Quarterly gatherings.

J. H. COY,
Sec. Treas.
Prince William, June 27.

The Carleton and Victoria Quarterly Meeting was held, pursuant to notice given, with the church at Middle Simonds, commencing Friday, June 7th, at 7 o'clock p. m.

Rev. S. Burt, County Missionary, submitted his report of labor performed during the quarter, which was accepted and the amount due ordered to be paid.

Brother H. J. Shaw was appointed County Missionary for the next quarter for half the time.

It was, on motion, resolved that a Sabbath School Convention be organized in connection with the Quarterly Meeting, and that a portion of the time be devoted to Sabbath School work.

The Quarterly Meeting was duly organized with the following officers:

Rev. Geo. Seely, President; Rev. Jas. Cahill, Vice President; Brother A. H. Hayward, Secretary; Rev. C. Henderson, Treasurer.

On motion the President and Vice President were appointed a Committee to prepare Bye-Laws for the Quarterly meeting and submit them to its next session.

The Quarterly Meeting was then adjourned, to meet with the Church at Union Corner, Richmond, on the second Friday in September, at 7 o'clock, p. m., and it was arranged that Brother A. H. Hayward preach the Quarterly Meeting sermon, on Friday evening, to be followed on Sabbath morning by a doctrinal sermon by Rev. G. Seely.

A. H. HAYWARD,
Secretary.

Denominational Statistics.

No. 2.

In my first article the printer has misinterpreted the meaning of one sentence, besides making a few changes of less importance. I expressed an opinion that the plan already in operation is in a general way, as good as could be contrived, but a "not," has been inserted, making me say the reverse. The imperfections pointed out, relate, not to the main features of the plan, but to the manner in which it is worked out in detail.

Referring again to our last Year Book, we find that it contains a well arranged list of ordained ministers, with their residences, etc., but the number is not given and we are left to count the names for ourselves. Nowhere in the book is there any information as to the number of meeting houses, and the value of church property,—perhaps because many churches fail to report these items to the Association.

The contributions to our Foreign Mission Fund are fully reported, and exhibited in a manner which does credit to the Secretary. But of the sums contributed for Acadia College we cannot say as much, for the report nowhere shows how much was received from individual persons or churches, or even the aggregate amount raised within the limits of each Association.

Among the interesting facts that are reported to the Associations, but not summarized for the whole body, are the following: Number of deaths, number excluded, number restored, number dismissed, number received by letter, number of members residing at a distance from their churches, number of houses of worship, value of church property, statistics of Sunday Schools, etc. The sums of money raised by each church for various local and denominational objects might be exhibited in tabular form in the Year Book, if they were properly reported to the Associations. Sometimes no such tables are published by the Committee on the printing of the Association Minutes. For instance, the Minutes of the Western New Brunswick Association for several years past have contained no statistical tables except in relation to membership, although many of the churches have reported as usual. This may be partly explained by the fact that in one or more of these years, no blank forms for letters were issued to the churches.

Now let us consider some of the improvements that might be made in the details of our plan of collecting denominational statistics.

1. In order to secure uniformity, and render it possible to make satisfactory summaries and averages, we should have the same blank forms for reports in use in all the Associations.

2. Special efforts should be made to obtain full reports from all the churches.

3. Some one officer or Committee should be charged with the duty of collecting the statistical returns from all the Associations and making them up in proper form for publication in the Year Book.

4. For this and other purposes, the Secretary of the Convention might be made a permanent officer, like the Secretaries of the College and Missionary Boards or else he might be elected for a term of about five years. He should receive some remuneration for his services. Probably the best way would be to entrust him with the publication of the Year Book, and allow him to sell it at a fixed price, say 20cts per copy, the Convention paying him for a sufficient number of copies, (a) for use at the next meeting, (b) for permanent preservation by the Convention itself

and by each Association, and (c) for the usual exchange with other bodies.

5. The Minutes of the Associations might be reduced in size and the expense of their publication diminished by one half, by the omission of the statistics that are to appear in the Year Book.

Another article will finish what I have to say upon this subject.

NUMERATOR.
June 28, 1879.

News from the Churches.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

SPRINGFIELD. We learn that C. K. Harrington, A.B., has arranged to supply the church here, and trust that great and mutual blessings may result.

CHIPMAN. The Council for ordination at this place is called for the 17th inst., not the 11th.

MCDONALD'S POINT, Q. C. "An Old Baptist" informs us that an erroneous impression has been created with reference to Brother Shaw, pastor of this church, to the effect that he is also pastor of a Free Christian Baptist Church at the Narrows, where he resides. This mistake has arisen from Brother Shaw having preached a few times at the last named place. As our correspondent says: "Brother Shaw is an earnest, efficient pastor, in excellent standing with our denomination." All right, it will not hurt Brother Shaw to preach to our F. C. B. brethren, and it may be very helpful to them.

PENNFIELD. The Lord is reviving his work here. Sinners have been converted and backsliders reclaimed. Three believers have been baptized. Many are seeking the Lord sorrowing. We request an interest in the prayers of praying friends. We were delighted as a church to have a visit from Brother I. Wallace. We would rejoice if he could repeat it soon.

J. TRIMBLE.

ROCKLAND, CARLETON Co. The Baptist Meeting House in this place was dedicated with appropriate services on Sabbath, 22nd of June. Rev. J. G. Harvey preached the dedication sermon to a crowded house at 10 1/2 o'clock Sabbath morning; text Haggai i. 8, which was listened to with rapt attention. At 2 1/2 p. m. Rev. J. S. Young preached a very stirring and telling discourse from Solomon's Songs viii. 5. At 7 1/2 p. m., Rev. T. Todd preached from Matt. xvi. 18, an able and instructive discourse. Thus ended the days proceedings which were marked throughout by the power of the Spirit of God. Rev. B. Jewett, and Rev. H. J. Shaw and Bro. F. S. Todd and A. H. Hayward took part in the services through the day. The building 43x30, 17 1/2 feet post; finished throughout with free seats for all.

GERMAIN STREET. Five persons joined this church last Sunday; one was baptized on the 25th of May, three on the 6th inst and one received by letter on the 4th inst. We neglected to mention that four additions were made to the membership on the first Sunday in May. The congregations last Sabbath were very large and attentive, both morning and evening. In the morning the pastor preached on "Consecration to God," 1 Chron. xxix. 5, last clause and Mal. iii. 8-10. In the evening on "Peace with God through faith in the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ."

P. E. ISLAND.

SUMMERSIDE. On Sunday 23rd ult. Rev. E. N. Archibald, of Bedeque Baptist Church preached and administered the ordinance of Baptism. The Summerside Church is at Present without pastoral service. May the Great Giver of all blessings direct some earnest working servant of God to them.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOKS.—English and American Sunday School Books can now be supplied at the VISITOR Book Room at rates as low as elsewhere.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PAPERS can be furnished through the VISITOR Book Room as cheaply as they can be procured from the United States.—See advertisement.