

waylay ye to ax curiosity questions; but jest you serve 'em as I did old Moses, as gracious as ever you please, ye know, only bein' determined not to let 'em get out of ye what they wants to know so bad. D'ye undercomstumble that eh?" said Matthew, thinking himself very witty, and laughing accordingly.

Hughie laughed, too, at Matthew's droll expressions and manner, and seeing this, Matthew exclaimed, "There! that's the first time I ever heard ye laugh, and it's all along of that nobby suit as have riz yer sperrits so! My eye! but don't ye look spandy in 'em! Only don't be proud at what I'm sayin': my foolish old tongue runs on twenty to the dozen, ye know. I only mean how tidy, and respectable, and comfortable you looks."

"Yes, they're beautiful, and, oh, so warm!" exclaimed Hughie, with a radiant face. "And don't they match splendid with the boots, Mr. Pedder? Oh, I wish mother could have lived to see me in them! she would be sure to have cried for being so glad and thankful."

And as Hughie spoke, happy tears sprang into his own eyes, and he turned away to hide them from Matthew.

"Yes, I believe she was one of the genuine sort, from what little I saw of her, and one as could be truly thankful for all she got. Well, I hope you'll be like her, little chap! I don't want no thanks, ye know, for any little thing as I does for ye; only I want to see ye a good boy, and behave yerself decent towards old Mathew: that's the best way of tellin' yer thanks."

"I will do everything I can for you, sir," answered Hughie, "and when I grow up a man and earn money I shall pay you back all the money that you've spent on me."

Matthew smiled and said, "Very well; we shall see."

In the evening, when the shop was shut, Hughie went out for the first time in his new suit, and, as Matthew had promised, they went straight away to Mrs. Barish's that the boy might see his mother again. How different he looked, standing beside her now, from what he had done only a day before! Warmth, and good meals, and the new clothes had told upon him already, and he looked so changed for the better that Mrs. Barish did not recognize him at first when he entered her shop that evening. She was exceedingly gracious to Matthew, seeing him with the boy so well dressed and she offered to accompany the two upstairs to the chamber of death, though she would not enter, but stood just outside waiting for them.

She heard Hughie sobbing, and Matthew's rough attempts to console him. Then she heard the boy say that he would like to cut off a piece of her hair to keep in remembrance of her, as she had kept some of his father's. Mrs. Barish then spoke, volunteering to go down stairs and fetch a pair of scissors, if Matthew would stand on the landing with a candle to light her down. This he did readily, and in a minute or two Mrs. Barish returned with them, when Matthew asked her if she would come and cut off a lock for the boy.

"I'm very sorry, sir, as I cannot oblige you that much," she said, in a polite tone; "but my poor nerves won't stand it, sir, that's the fact. I was always terrible afraid of death, and I can't stand going near dead bodies, so you'll excuse me, sir. Let the little boy do it, sir; he'll manage best himself."

Hughie almost eagerly took the scissors to do so; for he would not have liked to see Mrs. Barish put a hand near his beloved mother, to whom she had been so unkind. With tears running down his face he gently took her soft hair up and severed a long tress from it; and seeing her little old Bible lying on the table, he took it up and placed the hair through and through the leaves like a book-marker. He wiped away his tears and said, "I haven't any paper to put it in; but I can fold it up when we get home." Then suddenly remembering what Matthew had said about the Bible on Saturday night, he said timidly, "I must take this, you know, sir, please: it's the only thing belonging to her that I can keep; and she always liked me to read her a bit out of it every day. You won't mind me taking it home, please, sir?"

"No, no," said Matthew huskily. "But he could say no more. He had once before stood beside a fair dead woman, who also had left a Bible which she had dearly loved and prized. But instead of cherishing that small legacy, as this boy seemed likely to do, he had cast it away out of sight and mind; and his soul had starved nearly to death in consequence."

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

[The following brief article was written by one of the young people, to be read at a monthly meeting of a Ladies' Sewing Society. The pastor kindly sends it for our pages.]

The Privilege and Power of Prayer.

"Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." John xiv. 13.

Christ has unlocked the gate of prayer to his people: without him it must have been closed forever. It was his atoning blood shed on earth that first opened it: it is his intercessory work in heaven which keeps it open still.

And in his words which I have quoted notice how unlimited the promise is: "Whatsoever ye shall ask." It is the pledge of all that a needy sinner requires, and all that an omnipotent Saviour can bestow. He who is the Creator and steward of the mysteries of divine grace says to his servants, "Present thy petition whatsoever it may be," and when we have written it with the pen of faith, he adds his name and endorses it with the promise "That will I do."

In him we can ever confide. Into his ear we may pour all our joys and sorrows. He is the "Wonderful Counsellor," and with an exquisitely tender sympathy enters into the innermost experiences of our souls. However great this or that need may be, his everlasting arms are underneath it all; and how small, he will condescend to notice it.

Think of Him at this moment as he holds in his hands a censer, filled with the incense, sweet to him, of our feeblest aspirations, our burdened sighs, and the petitions which have ascended from sincere hearts. Sometimes the answers tarry. Our supplications may seem to be kept long on the wing, hovering about the mercy-seat. The gracious Saviour sometimes sees it meet, to test the faith and patience of his people. He delights to hear their pleadings. He loves the music of their importunate cry. He is pleased when they are not deterred by difficulties, nor repelled by apparent forgetfulness and neglect. But by and bye he will come, the pent up fountain of mercy be opened, and we will hear the soothing accents, "Be it unto thee according thy word."

NELLIE MAY.

Chelmsford, Mass., May 10th, 1877.

Contributions to Home Missionary Union received by J. H. Robbins, General Agent:

Morristown.....\$ 7 91  
Plains..... 7 00

Total, Aylesford Church.....\$14 91

Greenwood, Collection.....\$2 32  
Tremont, Rev. C. Tupper..... 1 05  
Mrs. Tupper..... 1 00  
J. Neily..... 1 00  
Z. McGregor..... 0 25  
G. L. Stronach..... 0 20  
J. N. Neily..... 0 25  
J. L. McKenne..... 0 50  
Wallace Welton..... 0 25  
A. J. Welton..... 0 25  
C. W. Neily..... 0 50  
J. N. Welton..... 0 50  
Mrs. Neily..... 0 25  
A. T. Baker..... 1 00  
T. T. Bowlby..... 0 50  
Mrs. T. Bowlby..... 0 25  
Mrs. Hudson..... 0 50  
G. Tufts..... 0 50

North Kingston, W. W. Neily.....\$0 50  
J. N. Neily..... 0 25  
Mrs. J. N. Neily..... 0 32  
Gilbert Margeson..... 0 50  
Wm. Rhodes..... 3 00

4 57  
11 07  
Total Lower Aylesford and Upper Wilmot.....\$15 64

Nictaux Collection.....\$2 80  
Torbrook, Benj. Wheelock..... 1 00  
Clark Felch..... 1 00  
Mrs. Joseph Spinney..... 1 00  
Andrew Parker..... 1 00  
J. N. Brown..... 1 25  
Reice Goucher..... 0 50  
Fletcher Wheelock..... 0 50  
Albert Wheelock..... 0 25  
Henry A. Parker..... 0 25  
Mrs. J. N. McGregor..... 0 25  
Mrs. Geo. McGregor..... 0 25  
Sampson Parker..... 0 25  
Jas. Brown..... 0 25  
Isaac Whitman..... 0 25  
Mrs. Rufus Banks..... 0 25  
Mrs. W. Wheelock..... 0 50

Total, Nictaux Church.....\$11 55

LAWRENCETOWN AND VALLEY WEST.  
For Home Missions.

M. Beals.....\$1 00  
A. Dunn..... 1 00  
A. Banks..... 0 35  
Miss L. Palfrey..... 2 50  
Elias Beals..... 1 00  
I. Fitch..... 0 25  
Miss Miller..... 0 50  
Laliah Balcom..... 1 00  
Mrs. C. Phinney..... 1 00  
Elizabeth Stephens..... 0 30  
Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Brown..... 2 00  
Mr. and Mrs. James Wheelock..... 2 00  
Wm. B. McKeown..... 1 00  
Mrs. W. B. McKeown..... 0 50  
Friend..... 0 50  
Jas. Starrat..... 1 00  
Geo. Bishop..... 1 00  
Mrs. Geo. Bishop..... 0 50  
Amelia Freeman..... 0 25  
Elizabeth Grant..... 1 00  
D. Morse..... 1 50  
Mrs. Phinney..... 0 25  
Wallace Whitman..... 0 50  
Wesley Phinney..... 0 50  
M. Brown..... 0 50  
Geo. Prince..... 1 00  
Jane Taylor..... 0 25  
Friend..... 5 00  
Collection.....19 00

\$47 40

For French Missions.

M. Beals.....\$1 00  
Miss Palfrey..... 2 00  
Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Brown..... 2 00  
Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Wheelock..... 2 00  
Geo. Bishop..... 0 50  
Friend..... 5 00  
Collections..... 6 74

19 24  
47 40

Total from Lawrencetown and Valley West Church.....\$66 64

BRIDGETOWN.

Collection.....\$2 82  
Mrs. Wm. Chipman..... 1 00  
Miss Jessie Chipman..... 1 00  
Miss Hamilton..... 1 00

Total.....\$5 82

PARADISE.

Collection.....\$1 70  
Asaph Marshall..... 1 00  
Rev. J. A. Durkee..... 1 00  
G. Starrett..... 1 00  
Mrs. Joseph Morse..... 1 00  
Clarence Col..... 2 00  
Mrs. Wm. Saunders..... 0 25

Total Paradise Church.....\$8 05

NEW ALBANY.

Collection.....\$4 00  
W. Oakes..... 1 00  
Total.....\$5 00

DALHOUSIE, WEST.

Mrs. Fredericka..... 0 35  
Annapolis.....\$16 00  
Granville Ferry..... 8 36  
Stony Beach..... 7 76

Total.....\$16 12

(To be Continued.)

For the Christian Messenger.

Notes from Annapolis County.

HOME MISSIONS.

In compliance with the request of Rev. J. H. Robbins, General Agent of the Home Missionary Union a meeting of ministers and others was held at Paradise, on Wednesday, May 9th, to consider the state of the destitute fields in the county and to devise means of supplying the same.

The meeting was called to order at 11 A. M., by Rev. W. G. Parker. Opened by singing, and prayer by Rev. W. E. Hall. Rev. W. G. Parker was chosen Chairman, and Rev. T. A. Higgins, Secretary.

The chairman was called upon to give information with reference to the condition of affairs in Dalhousie, Albany, Springfield, &c., which he did, showing that there was great need of Baptist ministers in those fields. The fact being that in some places Baptist pulpits are being occupied by ministers of other denominations, simply because we do not make provision for them.

Remarks followed by various brethren confirming the statements of the chairman and urging some immediate action.

Rev. P. R. Foster presented similar information in reference to an important section of country on the Bay Shore extending from Parker's Cove to Hampton. There being some thousands of people believing generally in the doctrines and ordinances as held and practised by us as a denomination, but almost deprived of preaching by Baptist ministers, there is great danger of false doctrine and erroneous teaching corrupting the truth and destroying the people.

The question was then taken up, *What means can be devised for supplying these and other important fields with the bread of life, which is the Word of God?*

Rev. W. E. Hall was called upon to lead off in discussing this question. This he did in his usual energetic and honest style of utterance, showing to the entire satisfaction of all who believed him, (and the probability is that the majority did) that the ministers of the county should supply all the destitution within their own borders, and do just as much as heretofore for the general missionary cause.

Suggestions: Let the young men be employed occasionally in supplying the pulpits where regular services are held, and the men of riper experience, the pastors, go to the destitute. The benefit of such a course would be

1. The ministers would be benefitted and return to their people with more of a missionary spirit and warmer zeal.  
2. The churches would be blessed in making a little sacrifice of their own privileges and thus doing something for the good of their less favoured brethren.  
3. The Saviour would be pleased, and grant his blessing on the efforts, and sinners would be saved.

These views, sustained by references to the abundant labors of our fathers in the ministry, and the great work they did for God. Father Anasley was especially referred to. Brother Asaph Marshall followed with pleasing reminiscences of the faithful endeavours of Mr. Anasley and others of like spirit, in carrying the gospel to "the regions beyond."

Remarks and suggestions were made by Brethren Foster, Parker, Higgins, Durkee and Balcom agreeing generally with the views already given. Some of the suggestions were to the effect that all the destitution will not be provided for till the members of the churches are brought to recognize their obligations to the Master and their duty and ability to conduct meetings and labor for the salvation of the souls of the lost. Many young men, neither ordained nor licensed, nor called to leave the plow or the plane can be the honored instruments in the hands of God, of saving their fellow-men from the power of the Destroyer. Let them study the word of God and the example of many who are thus engaged and call the people together for prayer and exhortation, whenever there is no minister and they will be blessed and become a blessing.

Meeting adjourned from 12.30 till 2.30. AFTERNOON SESSION.  
Meeting opened at 2.30 o'clock. Prayer by Rev. E. O. Read. Minutes of the last meeting read &c. The same subject, "Supply for destitute fields" was taken up. After addresses by A Longley Esq., and others the following plan was proposed by Rev. J. A. Durkee and adopted:

Moved by J. A. Durkee and seconded by Rev. W. E. Hall.

Whereas, The Annapolis Co. Ministerial Conference is desirous of aiding the Home Missionary Union in its missionary work, and is convinced of the importance of caring for the destitute sections of the county.

Therefore Resolved, That the Conference request the six pastors nearest the New Albany and Springfield churches viz: Bros. W. G. Parker, W. E. Hall, E. O. Read, W. A. J. Bleakney, G. N. Balentine and J. A. Durkee to supply those churches and their outlying stations every alternate Sabbath until they secure a pastor, providing the churches of which these brethren are pastors, and the churches so to be provided for, consent to such an arrangement.

Further Resolved, That Bros. J. Clark, T. A. Higgins, J. M. Parker and G. D. Cox be requested to supply similarly Dalhousie West, Perott, and other destitute sections in Western Annapolis.

Further Resolved, That Bros. P. R. Foster, J. E. Bleakney and J. Clark supply in like manner the destitute settlements on the Bay Shore of Annapolis County.

Further Resolved, That the Brethren first named on each of these supply Committees act as Chairmen of the same for the district, and have power to make arrangements with the ministers and places named with regard to times and methods of supplying those districts.

Further Resolved, That the Secretary of this Conference correspond with the churches and communities in which this ministerial aid is to be given requesting them to raise all they can by means of Sabbath collections, subscriptions, &c., and forward the same from time to time as contributed, through their Treasurer or some other competent person to the Home Mission Treasurer at Yarmouth, and asking them to make these contributions as nearly as the circumstances will admit a compensation for the services rendered by the pastors named and the church which surrenders them for the time.

This matter having been thus disposed of it was resolved,

That Rev. E. M. Saunders have the opportunity of speaking to the Conference on the subject of the Endowment of Acadia College.

He gave a short account of what had been done so far towards raising the \$100,000 additional endowment, and suggested the importance of this Conference fixing upon some name or names with which the money to be raised in the County might be associated.

Hon. Dr. Parker and A. Longley, Esq., also spoke, further explaining the matter.

Moved by Rev. T. A. Higgins and seconded and carried,

That this Conference sympathizes heartily with the effort now being made to increase the endowment of Acadia College by the addition of \$100,000 to its funds and hereby pledges itself to co-operate to the extent of its ability toward the accomplishment of that object.

Moved by A. Longley, Esq., seconded by Rev. P. R. Foster and sustained by Bro. A. Marshall and others,

That the sum raised in Annapolis Co be called "THE ANNAPOLIS COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP, ASSOCIATED WITH THE NAMES OF THE LATE REVDs. T. H. CHIPMAN, JAMES MANNING AND THOMAS ANSLEY."

Discussion followed as to the propriety of organizing a permanent Ministerial Conference for the County.

Resolved, That such Conference be now organized, to be composed of the ordained ministers in the County, licentiates and delegates from the churches, and that the officers for the ensuing year be Rev. W. G. Parker, Chairman, and Rev. T. A. Higgins, Secretary, and that Rev. J. A. Durkee and J. Clark be a committee to prepare the Constitution, &c.

Further Resolved, That a paper be prepared and read by Rev. T. A. Higgins on "The importance of more work by the lay members of the churches," and that Rev. J. Clark prepare a paper, the subject of which to be chosen by himself.

Adjourned to meet at Bridgetown on the first Wednesday in September.

Prayer by Rev. E. M. Saunders.

Educational Meeting

in the evening, May 9, at Paradise. Rev. J. A. Durkee appointed Chairman and Rev. T. A. Higgins, Secretary.

A large audience assembled in the evening to listen to Rev. E. M. Saunders and Hon. Dr. Parker on "The early history of the Baptists in this Province, chiefly in connection with the cause of Higher Education."

The former speaker held the entire audience in breathless silence for an hour and twenty minutes while he discoursed upon the Early Fathers and founders of our denomination in these Lower Provinces, showing that it was principle and not choice that made them their espouse and then defend our cause. The anecdotes and incidents, many of them entirely new to the majority of the listeners, were of thrilling interest and made all feel that it was a good and proper thing to be now identified with a cause which had developed such men and already gained such victories.

Dr. Parker followed in an excellent and energetic address of nearly an hour's length, replete with reminiscences, suggestions, facts and statistics fitted to arouse and convince the most incredulous and lead all to see that our efforts in education, as in other matters, have already been crowned with gratifying success, that what the Fathers commenced so well the sons may carry on to completion.

If Acadia College had warm friends in Paradise before, we will guarantee that it has warmer ones now, especially among those who listened to the stirring speeches delivered on this occasion.

For the Christian Messenger.

Notes from St. Mary's Bay, Digby County.

The new Baptist meeting house at North Range Corner was opened for divine worship, on Sabbath morning, May 6th, the dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. W. S. Parker of Freeport, from 1 Tim. iii. 16, to a large and attentive audience.

In the afternoon Rev. C. Randall preached from Ephesians xi. 8. Addresses were also delivered by Rev. W. S. Parker, J. Bancroft and G. H. Goudy, pastor. Special services are being held there this week with good success. The house is a neat and comfortable building of about 30 x 40, and reflects great credit on that section of the church.