

me with fraternal kindness and generous consideration; his name is fragrant in our memory. He was formerly a Universalist, but renouncing that platform as unsafe, he united a year or two ago with the Congregational Church. His life not only speaks, but shines with the lustre of christian virtues. The passengers were intelligent and agreeable,—there were Nova Scotians, Newfoundlanders, Americans and English, but all went pleasantly, except when the malady experienced at sea caused disturbance.

On the deep the Captain was at home and did every thing in his power to secure the safety of the ship and the comfort of the passengers. The order and quiet on board were admirable.

But the scene around us was grand. There is a majesty on the sea, which is not observed on the land. The vastness, motion and power of the Ocean impress one with awe, and suggest enquiry as to the cause of all this. Who can gaze on land and sea, the one the complement of the other, and canopied every where by the glowing, living heavens, and contemplate the relations between them, and not be convinced that a supreme and eternal Being exists who created, upholds, cares for, and governs the vast and complicated system of which our small Universe and we ourselves form but a small part? Scepticism and infidelity should be dumb in the presence of universal nature testifying to the power, wisdom and goodness of the Creator, and rebuking the pride and folly of the sceptic. On the 10th—the Sabbath dawned in peace and beauty on the ocean and lit up the heavens with a glory which light only can import; all was favorable to thought and devotion.

The Captain kindly arranged service for me at 7 bells, that is, at 7.30 o'clock, P. M.; and at that time the passengers and crew, over 30 in all, assembled for worship in the Saloon; and there with the Captain on one side, and the Chief Engineer on the other, the devotional exercises proceeded, and I preached my first sermon afloat; which received a very attentive hearing, and was, it is believed, a means of spiritual good to some present. The Captain said, next day, it was the best service he ever enjoyed on board his ship; no doubt his prayers and arrangements helped to make it so. Though detained by fog and the Captain's carefulness in sounding, as he judged we were in the vicinity of Cape Race, celebrated for storms and shipwreck, and where it is believed, two steamers belonging to the same Line were lost two or three years since. The *Certes* felt the way towards land very cautiously, and was governed by the depth and nature of the soundings. About 8 o'clock, A. M., this care was rewarded with a sight of land just inside the Cape. I could not but admire the nautical science, skill and patience exhibited. Soon the fog cleared away, and the bold, rugged coast could be seen distinctly. The day was most beautiful and was thoroughly enjoyed by all on board; and denizens of the deep ere long showed their joy also. Such a school of porpoises came round the steamer and followed us, as I had never before seen; they dived and rose, tossed and tumbled with apparently the greatest pleasure. But, alas, some American sportsman on board showered shot and shell among them, and in a moment some of them were arrested, turned over, forced to give up the chase; the rest soon became alarmed, and, changing their course, sheered off. Between Cape Race and St. John's the distance is sixty miles, and this—Aug. 12th, being the day on which the Annual Regatta was to take place near that city, every effort was made to reach port as soon as possible. In steaming along we had a fine view of the coast, and had glimpses of towns and fishing settlements as we passed up to Cape Spear, the most easterly Cape of Newfoundland, and the point nearest to the British Isles. A light house is established on this Cape. As the steamer turned this promontory a grand view burst upon us, that of Signal Hill and the Narrows. The latter is flanked with high precipitous cliffs, rising on the north side to over 500 feet, and on the south side to about 700. I gazed with intense interest on the wild and grand scene familiar to me in early youth and enshrined in memory. The panorama was grand and striking enough to arrest the attention of those who had travelled in many lands. The Narrows lead into the safe,

land locked, beautiful harbour of St. John's, the Capital of this Island, the oldest colony of Great Britain. Here were a large number of vessels waiting to carry the great staple of the country to the markets of the world, when fish is in demand. The commerce of the Island is mainly carried on from this point. The steamer was soon at the wharf and we hastened on shore to study the scene. Familiar with the ground, having witnessed in my youth boat races at the same place, I took the road to *Quidi Vidi*, a beautiful lake, or rather pond, as such collections of water are called in Newfoundland, for though the racing was said to be over, I was anxious to see whether or not the moral aspect of matters had improved there within the last forty years. There were several races, however, after I came on the ground, I could not help admiring the pluck, strength, and skill displayed by the rowers. A gentleman who had seen similar feats on the Tyne in England declared to me that the Newfoundlanders were fully equal in aquatics to competitors across the water. Judging, however, from the many cases of intemperance which I saw and the appliances on hand for dispensing the deleterious draughts, I could not say there was much improvement in the line of Temperance. It was sad to see what were once noble specimens of humanity strewn on the ground in the inglorious slumber of intemperance; or reeling along the road with unsteady and dangerous step, or wildly warring with their fellows. I concluded that both law and gospel are required to abolish Intemperance in St. John's, Nfld., as well as in St. John, N. B., Halifax, Truro, or elsewhere.

While in St. John's I was hospitably entertained by the family of the Pastor of the Congregational Church, Rev. Thos. Hall, who though absent in Montreal on an exchange of Pulpits for several weeks with the Rev. Mr. Forster, was well represented by the worthy lady who bears his name and rules his house with dignity and honor. It seemed strange and dream-like that after more than forty years absence I should return and occupy rooms with which in my boyhood I was quite familiar. Life is a journey ever onward to its close; and yet paradoxically enough, we are sometimes in its progress brought back to the past, so was it with me at St. John's.

Yours truly,  
GEORGE ARMSTRONG.  
St. John, N. B. Jan. 22, 1880.

In Memoriam.

MRS. MIRRIAM MURRAY,  
wife of Abner Murray, and daughter of John S. and Lucy Ann Law, was a justly esteemed and beloved member of the Baptist Church of Amherst Shore. Being a step grand-daughter of the writer, and a person who delighted in attending public worship, and in the society of the pious, in his tour last summer to Cumberland, he took her several times to religious meetings, as also on visits to Christian friends. Her amiable deportment endeared her especially to him and his consort. We therefore felt very keenly and sympathizingly the stroke of her sudden death which occurred on Lord's day evening, October 26th, 1879. While attending public worship, in usual health, she stood up and aided in singing. After sitting down she appeared to be fainting, was taken out of the house, and immediately expired. Thus suddenly was this kind and affectionate wife and mother called home, at the age of 45 years, leaving a sorrowing husband, in an enfeebled state of health, and 5 children to mourn their bereavement. The assurance, however, that to her it was unspeakable gain, may well console the mourners. Seeing life is so precarious, how needful it is to be in all respects as far as possible, constantly prepared for its close!—*Com. by Rev. C. Tupper.*

ELIZABETH WEBBER,

the beloved wife of Mr. Anthony Webber of Ingram River, fell "asleep in Jesus" on the 22nd ult., in the 70th year of her age. Sister Webber was baptized in 1843 by the late Rev. T. H. Porter, Senr., and united with the Baptist Church in Sackville. Subsequently she with her family moved to Ingram River, but for reasons best known to herself, she never transferred her membership to the Church at Margaret's

Bay. Nevertheless, she was deeply interested in the prosperity of religion. Ministers and missionaries who from time to time have visited the shores of Margaret's Bay have met a cordial welcome to her house and enjoyed the comforts of a temporary home, made happy by her untiring devotion to their wants and necessities. She was a faithful wife, a kind and loving mother and a never-failing friend. Her hospitality and genuine kindness to the poor and all around her gained for her the respect and affection of all who knew her. She died trusting in Jesus. She said there were no clouds between her and her Saviour, all was bright and clear. Among her last utterances was the following beautiful stanza, indicating her perfect confidence in the Redeemer:

"Safe in the arms of Jesus,  
Safe on his gentle breast;  
There by his love o'er shadow'd,  
Sweetly my soul shall rest."  
"She rests from her labours and her works follow her."  
I. J. SKINNER.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Westport Notes.

Dear Editor,—The Lord is still carrying on his gracious work in this place. Our most sanguine expectations are being realized. Backsliders are coming home in large numbers to their Father's house, and many stout hearted sinners are bowing to the sceptre of divine mercy. The meetings are the most deeply interesting we have ever attended. The whole Island is stirred from one end to the other. Multitudes are asking amid their tears "What shall I do to be saved?" At every meeting there have been heard some fresh voices either in confession or supplication. The work is deep and we believe its results will be lasting as eternity. Religion is the all absorbing theme in the store, on the street, in the school, and from house to house.

Last Sabbath was a high day with us, we were permitted to gather a portion of the harvest. As the result of earnest united effort on the part of the church and the ministers, 40 persons—mostly heads of families, among whom were several newly married couples—were baptized by our esteemed brother, Rev. I. Wallace in the presence of a very large and attentive audience.

In the afternoon a special service was held in connexion with the Sabbath School. A precious season was enjoyed, and as a result, several of the scholars have become concerned for their soul's eternal welfare.

In the evening the large meeting house was filled to overflowing with a deeply attentive congregation. After an impressive sermon by bro. Wallace, the right hand of fellowship was given by the Pastor to 44 persons, 4 of whom were received on a relation of their christian experience. After a short social service, at the close of which a large number of anxious ones rose for prayer. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper was celebrated, to which about 200 persons sat down. It was indeed a feast of fat things to us. The sight of our eyes gladdened our hearts as we looked into the happy faces of many who had not been at the Lord's table for several years, now sitting at the feet of Jesus, rejoicing in his restoring mercy.

And still the work goes on. Two meetings a day are attended by a large concourse of people, and after the public services, many of the friends meet in private houses for the purposes of prayer and praise, and to converse with the anxious. The church at Westport has enjoyed several gracious revivals of religion, but it is generally believed that such a remarkable work of grace as the present is unparalleled in the whole of its history. The meetings continue; brother Wallace, by special and urgent request of the church and pastor remains with us this week.

The prospects are that through God's abounding grace to sinners, a large number will put on Christ in baptism next Sabbath. To God be all the praise, the work is his, the glory be his also.

Many of the friends from Freeport are meeting with us and enjoying the refreshing showers of grace. May the work spread through all the land in the prayer of

Yours in the glorious work for Christ,  
A. E. INGRAM.

Eastern Counties Ministerial and Lay Conference.

On Friday night, January 16th, 1880, at seven o'clock, a large congregation gathered in the Guysborough Baptist Church, to participate in the social meeting of the Conference. It is needless to describe in detail what took place on that occasion, as all such gatherings have a common character. There was—as there always is—something inspiring, in the testifying of good men and women, to the love of God and the preciousness of Jesus; the testimony varying according to the age and experience of the speaker.

Some bore upon their shields, the honorable marks of many bitter and weary conflicts with the evil one; others, who were younger in the ranks of Christ's soldiery, carried with them fewer, yet some scars from the battle field.

But the Lord's hosts gathered not for rest, they gathered for work. By prayer and praise we prepared to go forth to war.

That Friday night will not speedily fade from our memories, for we can place on record, that the Kingdom of God came with power. Solemn and interesting addresses were delivered by the Revs. J. Whitman (Congregationalist), H. Eagles and A. W. Bars.

Saturday looked a very inauspicious day for our three sessions, the weather being damp and chilly, with occasional snow squalls. However all turned out for the best.

After the business preliminaries of the morning had been disposed of, a keenly appreciative audience, listened to a forcible and timely paper read by the Rev. A. W. Bars, on the "Lord's Portion." This essay produced a lively discussion, everyone who could making some remarks on the importance of all Christians contributing systematically to the support of the gospel. The subject was further discussed during the afternoon session, when Bro. Bars was requested to send his paper to the *Christian Messenger* for insertion.

Notwithstanding the unpleasant state of the weather, a large audience listened to the Conference sermon; which was a very impressive discourse preached by the Rev. A. W. Bars.

Taking for his theme "A walk about Zion," the preacher selected as his text the 12th and 13th verses of the 48th Psalm. The subject was divided thus: 1. A walk proposed. 2. Observations made. 3. Duties enjoined. The sermon abounded with good thoughts and striking facts, and held the attention of the listeners from the beginning to the end. Revs. J. Whitman (Congregationalist), and H. Eagles assisted in the service.

On the Lord's Day, we had the privilege of listening to three good Calvinistic sermons, one delivered by Rev. A. W. Bars, the other two by Rev. H. Eagles. A. H. DEAKINS.

FREDERICTON, N. B.—We hear, with great pleasure, that Rev. A. J. Stevens is much beloved by the church at Fredericton, and that Pastor and people are now enjoying a refreshing season from the presence of the Lord. Some ten or twelve young people signified their purpose at a recent meeting to follow their Saviour. We hope to hear further good news from Fredericton.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—The following items from the *Visitor* will interest our readers:—

Grand Lake Q. C.—Some three or four months ago, Bro. James H. Higgins came here and commenced laboring in connection with the first and second Grand Lake Churches, as their pastor. Very soon reviving influences were manifest in the First Church at Cumberland Point, and meetings were continued every evening. After some 12 or 15 young people had acknowledged the Saviour, and had manifested a desire to follow Him in his ordinances, Elder G. W. Springer came to assist in the good work, and the revival has spread over the length and breadth of these two Churches. Old Christians have been revived, backsliders reclaimed, and sinners converted. In all 66 have been added to the Churches by baptism,—that is 36 to the First and 30 to the Second Grand Lake churches.

Sackville.—Rev. G. E. Good says: Sunday was a good day for us. I had the pleasure of baptizing 3 happy believers. God is working among us. I have begun meetings at Salem. Nearly a dozen arose for prayers last Sabbath evening.

2nd Moncton Church.—Rev. E. H. Howe, writes, on Sabbath, 18th inst., he baptized two candidates. This is the third time since Dec. 14th, '79, that Bro. H. has administered the ordinance, and during that period eight have been added to the Church.

Johnson Q. C.—Sabbath the 18th, one young man put on Christ in baptism. Yesterday in the presence of a solemn multitude five more young men were led down into nature's font, and there publicly professed Christ. Many were deeply anxious.

Portland.—The special services under the direction of Rev. I. E. Bill were continued last week. Rev. A. J. Wilcox baptized 3 persons for the Church, and in the evening Rev. Mr. Bill gave them the right hand of fellowship.

Donation Visits.

Mr. Editor,—Our pastor Rev. E. Whitman, received his annual Donation visit on Thursday evening, 22nd inst. The beautiful moonlight night favoured a large attendance. The spacious parsonage was filled to repletion. Not only were the members of our own congregation present, but members of the other congregations of the village—a happy harmonious company. The tide of conversation flowed on unceasingly. J. E. Newcomb, Esq., and other members of our choir afforded additional interest by choice selections of instrumental and vocal music. At length W. A. Porter was called to the chair, who in a happy address presented Mr. Whitman with the united offerings of his friends. The receipts of the evening were very large, amounting in the aggregate to \$190, of which over \$165 was in cash. Mr. Whitman responded in an admirable speech, acknowledging the kindness of all his friends and expressing his gratification at the representative character of the assemblage. Rev. Mr. Morton (Methodist) followed, referring to the warm friendship subsisting between himself and Mr. Whitman and the delightful harmony that characterized the members of the different religious bodies. J. B. North, Esq., Capt. E. Davison and others also spoke and thus a pleasant evening was spent until the hour for retiring arrived. The donation was over and above the salary, which is regularly paid in full.

Mr. Whitman evidently lives not only in the affections of his own people, but also in the esteem of the community generally.

ONE PRESENT.  
Hantsport, Jan 26, 1880.

Dear Editor,—Permit me to acknowledge the kindness of our friends at Chester and the Basin, who have, during this month favoured us with the accustomed annual donation visits. On the evening of the 20th inst., a large number of friends gathered at the house of Bro. George Harris at the Basin, and after spending the evening pleasantly in conversation, with music, vocal and instrumental, intermingled, separated, leaving us in possession of the sum of \$33.60 in cash and useful articles.

Again on the 27th inst., a similar gathering took place in the basement of the Meeting House in town. Music was prepared for the occasion and addresses by several gentlemen present filled up the passing hours of the evening, and the contributions, including several loads of wood hauled during the day, and other useful articles amounted to \$25.22. We have likewise been enjoying for the last two or three months the milk and butter from a nice little cow, the gift of Deacon David Hume. May God with His rich blessing reward all the donors a hundred fold.

Allow me further to say that owing to circumstances over which I had no control, I have felt it my duty to resign the Pastorate of this church, and my engagements with them will terminate on or before the last of April next. Praying, and asking the prayers of my Brethren for divine direction to some station of usefulness and that the church here may be supplied with a faithful Pastor.

I am yours very truly,  
I. J. SKINNER.  
P. S. My address is Chester, N. S., until further notice. I. J. S.

Dear Bro. Selden,—The unchangeable kindness, (unless it be by increase) of the church and congregation of North River, P. E. I., was manifested towards the pastor and family in their annual visit to the parsonage on the 15th inst. As usual they presented gifts, some of which will long remain as memorials of their thoughtfulness and large-heartedness. They laid on our parlor floor a Scotch carpet worth twenty-seven dollars, also lace curtains for the windows. A short time previous the young ladies gave my sister an ulster worth ten dollars. Other tokens of regard have been given in hay, oats, potatoes, &c., which make us feel that we are in the midst of friends who work for Him who said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one