

The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.
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Halifax, Nova Scotia, Wednesday, February 28, 1883.

WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XLVII, No. 9.

News from the Churches.

WATERVILLE, KINGS CO.—Rev. J. E. Bleakney writes, Feb. 20th, 1883: "We have baptized four converts at Grafton, and expect more soon. Pray for us."

GREENVILLE CROSSING, CUMBERLAND CO.—Mr. S. E. Miller writes, Feb. 22nd, 1883: "Our labors at Greenville have not been in vain. Last Sabbath two happy converts were baptized and received into the fellowship of the church. The conference meetings are largely attended. Brethren pray for us."

AMHERST.—The interest in our services continues. Souls are still finding their way into the kingdom. Our friends, ever thoughtful of their ministers' needs, gathered in force at the parsonage on the 16th inst., and left us the handsome sum of \$260. Rev. J. A. McLean of Parrsboro' preached here with great acceptance on the 11th, the pastor exchanging, I baptizing for him at Southampton.

D. A. S.

HANTSPORT, Feb. 24, 1883.—The "news from the churches" of late has been of the most cheering character, and has led us to believe that the time, even the set time, to favor Zion has come. The Lord is blessing us in our work here, and our hearts are encouraged. We have been holding special services for the past fortnight, and have been made to feel the power of the Holy Ghost, numbers have been led to ask, "What must I do to be saved?" while others have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, and are saved. The brethren and sisters are united in praying and working for the peace and prosperity of Zion.

Just here I would thank those friends who on Wednesday last presented me with cash and useful articles to the amount of \$80, as an expression of their esteem and christian love, and pray the blessing that maketh rich may be their reward.

Yours cheerfully,
WALTER J. SWAFFIELD.

LOWER ATLESFORD.—We read with interest your weekly record, and rejoice to note what God is doing for the churches. We long for an outpouring of God's Spirit to revive and strengthen the things which remain.

Congregations are good, prayer meetings are well attended, more especially by the young, some of whom appear to be looking Zionward.

Our pastor is not fully in sympathy with much that is called evangelistic work. He was trained to believe in the perseverance of the Saints, and speaks as if he considered principle more important than emotion. He appears to be thoroughly convinced that when the church moves steadily onward sinners will be daily converted.

Considerable attention has been paid during autumn and winter to the raising of funds for church purposes. The parsonage was burdened by a debt. A sister suggested an Autograph Quilt. Amount realized \$127.55.

An epidemic was introduced by a sister from Boston. It has proved both infectious and contagious. The malady was not very fatal—save to the contents of the baskets. The first Basket Sociable I imagine held in the province was held at North Kingston. Amount realized, \$44, toward the purchase of an organ, next in order was one at Tremont, to reduce debt on parsonage, \$79.38. Harmony followed with \$40.06 to remove debt from vestry. Last at Greenwood, to repair church, \$52.26, in all \$215.70. I think we must be the banner Sociable church. In ad-

dition Tremont has been fitted up with chandeliers, and when lighted up presents a fine appearance. The pastor's wife was presented with a very nice shawl. The outlook at the commencement of the third pastoral year is on the whole hopeful. Some rumors have been heard of our pastor's removal, but we do not think it likely to take place at present.

KINGSTON.

WESTPORT AND FREEPORT.—Dear Editor, I hope you will not be startled on receiving a communication from me, though I have been silent so long, it was not because of any want of interest in the MESSENGER, or of sympathy with you in your work; but rather on account of a natural shrinking from producing anything for the press.

A word from this "Far West," may not be regarded by you as amiss. The thriving towns of Freeport and Westport, located respectively on Long and Briar Islands, are perhaps too little known by our people generally. On the whole, they are important and interesting towns. Each has a population of about one thousand; nearly all of whom are in very comfortable circumstances, financially, and some few are wealthy.

A very large and profitable fishery business is being prosecuted, and many are laying aside money over and above what they require for a living. Should the present high prices in the fish market continue, which no doubt will be the case, the time is not far distant when many of the inhabitants of these Western islands will justly be ranked among the wealthy.

Their school and religious privileges are good. Each town has its "Graded school" of three departments each. Westport has three church-buildings and two settled pastors. The people are divided religiously, between Baptists, "Disciples," and Wesleyans. The Baptists, however, as of course should be the case always and everywhere, are largely in the ascendant.

I am sorry to learn that the Baptist pastor, Rev. E. A. Ingram intends removing from the island very soon; as during the term of his ministry a large addition to the membership of the church has been effected, and sound Bible doctrine has been constantly and successfully proclaimed to the people. Bro. Ingram knows what the doctrines of the Bible are, has experienced their quickening power in his own soul, and proclaims them faithfully and tenderly to his people.

The church at Westport is too important and desirable to be long without a pastor. An able Baptist minister will be needed there immediately on the removal of Bro. Ingram, and any such man will, I believe, be sure of a good support, and, better still, of great usefulness.

Freeport, though blessed with a larger population than Westport, has but one church building and one settled pastor. In this particular, it may seem to be behind Westport, yet, as a Baptist we are not inclined to endorse that idea, inasmuch as the church building is Baptist property, and is sufficient, large and convenient to accommodate all who could ordinarily attend any place of worship. Beside, the people are nearly all either members of the Baptist Church, or are known as those who "lean" toward the Baptist faith.

Freeport church too, is about parting with its present pastor, a man about whom I dare not write. I am too well acquainted with him to say very much in his favor, and remembering the "golden rule," I cannot consent to say anything against him. This I will say however, that I know he is not leaving Freeport because of anything unpleasant in his connection with church and congregation. Their intercourse as pastor and people has been, and still is,

of the most pleasant nature. I can assure any Baptist minister who may desire, and can effect a settlement with this church that he will find in them a kind and generous people—a people who will do all they promise for his support, and who will also contribute liberally for benevolent objects outside of their own home necessities. At least this is speaking within the bounds of my own experience with this dear people. Each year they have paid all the salary—and paid promptly, quarterly, and in cash, and beside, have cheered the pastor and family by considerable donations each year; their contributions to benevolent objects also have been very liberal, compared with those of other churches of equal ability.

An able minister of the New Testament is now wanting for this church, and correspondence with such is invited. The present pastor will not stand in the way of the settlement of such a man not for a single month, but will rather do all he can to aid in the same.

Before closing, Mr. Editor, let me say that many Baptist families on these two islands have no denominational paper. I wish you could devise some plan by which you could secure to all such a weekly visit of the *Christian Messenger*.

J. F. K.

Freeport, Feb. 1883.

WOLFFVILLE NOTES.—Rev. Dr. Hopper lectured before the Acadia Athenaeum last Friday evening subject, "The Anglo Saxon." He eloquently sketched the marvelous growth from a comparatively small beginning of the Anglo Saxon race, language, literature, laws, and political institutions; showed what a high and glorious mission Providence had entrusted to Anglo Saxons among the nations and countries of the world; and on this basis built the prediction of still greater triumphs for the race in the future. Those great religious enterprises which have in view the evangelization of heathen nations, are principally in the hands of Anglo Saxons. It was with mingled feelings of satisfaction and pride that those who listened to Dr. Hopper remembered that they belonged to this wonderful race, and might help to swell the list of its achievements.

QUIS.

BAPTIST NOTES FROM ST. JOHN, N. B.—On Wednesday evening the young ladies of German Street Church had a novel entertainment, to wit, a Japanese Coffee Party, and it was a decided success, which it deserved to be, as it was indeed something new, to St. John at least. As the visitors entered they were shown in to rooms which were decorated after the Japanese style, one of the parlors was set aside for the sale of Japanese fans, sunshades, cabinets, &c., the saleswomen being dressed in the most fashionable Japanese costumes, and very fine they looked. Coffee was served in real Japanese style. A capital literary entertainment was also given, the following is the programme:

Quartette—"As pants the hart," &c., by Miss Prudie Hart and Messrs. Harrington, Steele and Frank Masters.

Reading—"How we saved St. Michael," by H. P. Kerr.

Song—"The Old Street Lamp," by Miss P. Hart, and Address by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Cross.

LEINSTER ST. BAPTIST CHURCH.—A very large number of the friends of this church met on Thursday evening to enjoy a tea meeting got up in aid of the organ fund. The tables were very tastefully arranged and were filled with all the good things necessary for a large assembly, and were under the charge of the following ladies: Misses Brundage, Curry, Sweet, Estey, Trueman, Sulis, McInnes and Gerow. After the good things were disposed of the company adjourned to the church when Miss Rising and Sulis played a piano duet very nicely, Miss Curry and Miss Devine sang a duet, and were loudly encored, Mr. H. P. Kerr, whose readings are always good, read "The song

of the times." Miss Rising followed with a song, Mr. and Mrs. Watson, a duet, piano and violin, a reading by the pastor, Miss Curry a song, Rev. Mr. Cross of German Street Church gave a short but very humorous address. Mr. Haley occupied the chair, and the meeting was closed with the National Anthem.

The Induction of Rev. J. F. Bartlett on Friday evening was a most interesting service. Want of space compels us to hold the report of this over for our next.

SALISBURY, N. B., Feb. 7th, 1883.—Rev. T. M. Munro writes: "I have accepted a unanimous call from the Salisbury Church, and have already entered upon my labours. The church is one of the oldest in the Province. It was planted by the aged Father Crandal, there are six preaching stations in connection with the Church—a large field, and important. There are between two and three hundred members.

This church has experienced a good many reverses and discouraging seasons but we hope by the blessing of God to see brighter days.

FIRST MONCTON CHURCH.—A note from Rev. G. O. Gates, dated Moncton, 26th inst., informs us that the special meetings continue full of interest, being very largely attended by thoughtful audiences. The members of the Church—the Pastor and Evangelist Chubbuck are working together in beautiful harmony. The Pastor baptized 24 on Sunday in the presence of about one thousand people, and at the evening service gave these, with two more, received by letter, the hand of fellowship. The services of Sunday were specially interesting and impressive—Rev. Dr. Hopper, of St. John, and Father David Crandal were present, and participated with us in the work. The meetings will continue D. V., during the present week. We ask for the earnest prayers of you and your readers, that this work may be yet more marked with power in the salvation of many who have come to this town strangers to grace.

P. E. ISLAND NOTES.—Rev. W. B. Bradshaw has gone to Nova Scotia. The Island loses an excellent man and an able preacher.

The Summerside Church has engaged Rev. W. B. Hinson for one-fourth of his time. We hope they have been led by the Spirit in their choice.

The Union Meetings held in Charlottetown were very harmonious, and it is hoped proved a blessing to many. Brother Whitman is said to be a good pastor, an earnest and zealous worker, and a fearless exponent of Baptist principles as delivered by the Apostles. Five were baptized in Charlottetown on the 4th inst., and more are expected to follow. Special services are being held in several of our churches, and the Lord is evidently moving upon the hearts of the people.

In Tryon Bro. Corey is receiving help from Bro. Woodland, "a polished shaft," may the Lord abundantly bless their labors. Some have been enabled to put their trust in the Saviour of sinners, and others are anxious. Bro. Corey has had obstacles to overcome in the church since he went to Tryon, which at one time seemed almost insurmountable, but they have been overcome.

The church at Bedeque is without a pastor in consequence of Bro. Lavers' removal to North River. It is hoped they may at an early date be able to unite with some sister church in the support of a pastor.

In a religious meeting in Liverpool, a poor workman said: "I used to be an 'odd-job Christian,' but now I am working full time." It is the 'odd-job Christians,' in the Sunday-school and out of it, that do so much poor work. No good workman is an 'odd-job workman.'

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Mr. Editor,

Being a constant reader of the *Christian Messenger* and a careful observer of the bill of fare, which you furnish your patrons I was not a little surprised and amused with the evident desire of the British American Book and Tract Society to court the good will of the Baptists of this Province. One cannot help asking himself why this marked fondness so different from anything we have ever before experienced? What is the matter? As the boys in the street say sometimes "What is up?" Why are the Baptists courted by this benevolent organization? Why not the Methodists or the Presbyterians or the Episcopalians? Is it that Baptists are so much more ignorant than these bodies? It is pleasant to be appreciated to feel that others are holding you in high esteem, but when you have been treated with the ordinary courtesies of life only, and have had no special favor shown, then, suddenly to become the object of kindly solicitude and regard in a marked way the question will arise, Why is it? What does it all mean?

I have read with interest the reports of the British American Book and Tract Society, the letters of the Secretary, and of some of the Colporteurs as they have appeared from time to time in your columns, and am rejoiced to learn that a great and good work is being done through this Christian institution. But when I turn to the *Presbyterian Witness* or the *Provincial Wesleyan* or the *Church Guardian* I find no such attention paid to the bodies of Christians which these journals represent. The advertisement of the above society in your paper is very unlike that in any other that I have seen. It contains facts and figures not found in any other paper in these Provinces. I turn to the *Christian Visitor* published in New Brunswick in the interests of the Baptists of that Province, and find much knowledge conveyed to our Baptist brethren there. And I am led to ask are the Baptists of Nova Scotia less intelligent as a class than the Presbyterians or Episcopalians or Methodists or than their brethren of the sister Province? This surely will not be affirmed by any one who knows what he is talking about, and yet the fair inference from what has appeared in your columns of late is, that the Baptists of Nova Scotia need more enlightenment on the work of this society, than that of any of the other Denominations of their brethren in the sister Province.

It is occasion for surprise that this interest in this special regard, tender solicitude for Nova Scotia Baptists should be taken just at a time when they for self-protection and for the purpose of carrying on the work which has been intrusted to them by the great Master, have established a Book Room small and unpretentious 'tis true, but yet it is hoped a centre from which the great mass of our people may be reached by a pure wholesome literature free from all taint of Pedobaptist errors even though they may be administered homeopathically.

I trust the brethren who have with push and enterprise and with faith in God, started this Baptist Book Room, may not be overwhelmed by this sudden gush of affection shown by their brethren of the larger society for the Baptists of Nova Scotia. The drift is seen, there is no mistaking it. For one I would say, Go on in your good work brethren of the Baptist Book Room and know that you have the sympathy and support of every true friend of our Baptist Zion. Truth is mighty and must prevail. Let those who have it only be faithful and the result is sure.

AN OLD-FASHIONED BAPTIST.

A few such princely givers as William Bucknell, Esq., of Philadelphia, would place our unendowed and needy colleges, theological and other seminaries, on high vantage-ground, certainly as compared to that to which they are now restricted. One of Mr. Bucknell's characteristic acts of liberality consists in the recent handing to the Board of Trustees of Lewisburg University his check for \$100,000. The number of men who can do such a thing at that is, of course, not large. But these men live among Baptists as well as others; and we quite agree with a respected contemporary,

that "Mr. Bucknell is a good man to have around where there are Baptist universities and theological seminaries."—*National Baptist*.

In Memoriam.

CAPT. ROBERTON E. PARKER,

was one of Nova Scotia's promising sea captains. He was the son of our beloved brother Rev. W. L. Parker, the pastor of the Hillgrove and 2nd Hillburgh Churches. For some eight or nine years he has been following the sea. Six years ago he left home before the mast, and so steadily and skillfully pursued his calling that he attained the command of one of the large iron ships for which Glasgow is so famous. On the 11th of June last he passed Dover on his second voyage to Valparaiso, and has not been heard of since. On the 17th of January his ship—the *Largo*—was posted at Lloyds as missing, and his loving parents and family after many anxious months of weary waiting for tidings of him, are obliged to give him up as lost to them here. He was in the 28th year of his age when he sailed on his last voyage; and gave great promise of comfort and support to his parents in their declining days. His last letter to them, as he was leaving port breathed the tenderest love for them. Some of his expressions seemed to indicate that he had a premonition that it was his last, his longing for home and to see them once more was intense. His brightest hope was that he would visit them on his return from this voyage. Our young friend had never made a profession of religion. That he might attain to this great joy and do this grand and manly thing had been the burden of his parents' prayers for many years. A circumstance in this connection is worthy of mention, though by many it may not be understood. His parents in their daily prayers for him during his last voyage came to a time when their exercises of mind underwent a marked change. They could not pray for him as they had prayed before, each of his parents experienced this change in their secret devotions, and refrained from mentioning it to each other for some time. They were alike surprised at their uniform experiences. Who shall say that the Heavenly Father has not answered the prayers of these anxious loving ones in a far better way, and to a far greater extent than they ever anticipated. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts, saith the Lord." He also says "What I do thou knowest not now, but shall know hereafter." In heaven will be found the grandest illustrations of answers to prayer. The Lord is wonderfully comforting and sustaining our dear brother and sister Parker in this hour of trial. Through the dark clouds of earthly sorrow and disappointments, the "Sun of Righteousness" shines and brighter prospects appear. He who is the Light of the world lights old ocean to its deepest soundings, and our loved ones may there rest, if He appoints, as peacefully and happily as in the loving association of earthly friends.

J. H. S.

Digby, Feb. 20th, 1883.

CLERICAL.—A Methodist paper, the official organ of the denomination in the United States, has been hauled over the coals by the lay press for puffing up, as a most valuable property well worth the attention of pious investors, a silver mine, which, on closer and fuller inspection, bears a suspiciously "wild cat" appearance. Some of the chief men in the denomination have been trying very hard to get rid of the responsibility for the paper and its, to put it mildly, exaggerated statements, but so far without success, as there is no doubt that the editors are, as one journal very forcibly puts it, "men selected by the church for the express purpose of giving advice," and the advice they gave editorially to the members of the church, was to go in for that good thing, the silver mine. What makes the matter more queer is that the two editors are charged with having been given shares in the mine at half price, immediately after which transaction the objectionable article appeared.