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"THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH CHRIST."—Peter

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NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

It is now definitely decided that the Australian Commonwealth shall be proclaimed into being on January 1, 1901.

Robertson has been in the British army for forty-nine years, and started in the service in 1851 when he was twenty years old.

The Cape Colony Treason Bill provides a penalty of five years' imprisonment for taking up arms against the Queen.

An Englishman at comparative cost, cut away this spring the Nile and endanger the water supply of Egypt. The result of this spring away of the Nile is that the Egyptian fields have yielded \$20,000,000 worth more than they otherwise would have yielded.

Recent figures show that from year to year the number of deaths from consumption is decreasing, in the new England States, and even more markedly in Great Britain. The nature, the causes, the prevention and cure, are better known. The contagious nature of the disease and the means of communicating it from one to another, are now well understood.

The population of the United States is present 72,000,000. Of these nearly 17 millions are under instruction, i. e., nearly one fourth of the whole people. Nine tenths of these are at public schools. The public expenditure on education has advanced to \$194,000,000 a year, about \$2.67 per head of the population. The attendance on Sunday schools is nearly 11,000,000. In the higher institutions of learning there is invested the great total of \$12,000,000, giving an annual income of \$26,000,000.

A missionary among the Ngoni of Central Africa says that the carrying of heavy water pots on the heads of the women, the necessary smoothness of their motions and the careful pose of head and body, give to them "that grace of carriage which would be the envy of ladies in civilized countries." The same writer says in his recent book that there are frequent brawls in Ngoni families, but "if any man should strike a wife or any woman he is branded indelibly as a bad man and may as well go and hang himself."

Surprise has been expressed that the bicycle has been used so little in the South African war. It has been expected that it would play a very prominent part, but it has hardly been used on our side. The Boers certainly have used it much more, especially for despatch-riders. The reason is the unsuitability of the bicycle for the veldt and the rough ground on which most of the fighting has been done. The Boers, who are much better acquainted with the country than our people, have been able to use it on the roads.

The King of Denmark, who has just celebrated his eighty-second birthday, is the oldest sovereign in Europe, unless the Grand Duke of Luxembourg be taken into account. King Christian is rather more than a year older than her majesty Queen Victoria, who was 81 on the 24th of May. The Duke of Luxembourg was born on July 24, 1817. The queen, however, has been nearly sixty-three years on the throne, whereas the King of Denmark did not ascend the throne till 1863 the year in which his eldest daughter married the Prince of Wales. The King of the Belgians was 65 years old on April 9.

Believing that railway carriages are greatly responsible for the spread of consumption, the German Health Department has resolved on making a reform, which is equally needed in this country. The ceilings of the railway carriages are to be varnished, and all corners likely to harbour dust are to be abolished. The tapestry is to be of plain material and devoid of embroidery, the favourite haunt of dust and microbes. The cushions will be movable, so that they can easily be changed from carriage to carriage, which will enable the floor to be properly kept clean. Sleeping carriages will be disinfected after each journey.

Free Baptist Young People's League.

SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION.

The Seventh Annual Session of the Free Baptist Young People's Provincial League met at Sussex Aug. 7 at 7.45 p. m. Over fifty members arrived at 7 p. m., and were met by the officers and members of the C. E. Society of the F. B. church of Sussex, N. B. and conducted to the church, where homes were quickly provided for them. There were eighty visiting delegates in all.

At 7.45 p. m. a short praise service was conducted by the Pres. M. L. Gregg. At 8 p. m. the introduction and service of welcome was opened by singing Onward Christian Soldiers. Prayer was offered by Rev. A. D. Paul. Rev. B. H. Nobles, of Sussex, on behalf of the church and C. E. Society, extended a hearty welcome to all delegates and visitors, and said he trusted the visiting delegates had come not only to receive a blessing but to bring a blessing. Pres. M. L. Gregg, on behalf of the League, thanked the F. B. pastor and people of Sussex for their hearty welcome, expressed not only in the kind words of the pastor, but also in their actions. The President then called upon the following minister, Rev. A. R. Paul, of South Berwick, Me., J. Allen Rideout, of Moncton, H. H. Ferguson, of Millstream, and Rev. J. F. McDonald (Baptist) Principal of Acadia Seminary. Mr. Paul on behalf of the United Societies of Free Baptist Christian Endeavorers of the United States assured the League of their sympathy and christian fellowship. Rev. J. F. McDonald brought greetings, not only from the B. Y. P. U. of the Maritime Provinces, but as a second officer of B. Y. P. U. Convention of U. S. and Canada, extended the cheerful wishes of that organization for our success. Rev. F. Clarke Hartley gave the introduction of each. After announcements the service closed by singing "Stand up for Jesus." Benediction by Rev. A. R. Paul.

WEDNESDAY.—8.30 a. m. quiet hour. Singing. "Take time to be Holy." Prayer by Rev. A. D. Paul. Rev. F. Clarke Hartley conducted the service. Theme: Preparation for Receiving—Keeping. (I Kings III: 16) He said we must open our hearts—make ditches in our hearts to receive the Water of Life, that through us might flow Living Water to those outside. This hour was of the best of the session, for the Holy Spirit was there, and prepared us for the day's work.

9.30 a. m. First business session, Pres. M. L. Gregg in the chair, appointed the following committees: Nominating Committee; Statistical Committee; Committee on Resolutions; Committee on Correspondence. Reports were received from societies as follows: Written reports from St. John West, Woodstock, Gibson, Fredericton, Marysville, Sussex, Fredericton Junction, Millstream, St. John, Middle Southampton, Dover, Bear Island, Taylor Village, Cummings Cove, Lamberts Cove, Wilsons' Beach; and verbal reports from Grand Harbour and White Head. Three societies were not heard from, viz., Lincoln, Corn Hill and Newtown.

The visiting delegates—Rev. A. R. Paul, of Maine, and Miss Fenner, of Rhode Island, were invited to seats in the League, and were listened to with much interest. Rev. Mr. Paul spoke of the work of the C. E. Societies in Maine, and of the pleasure they had in receiving Rev. F. C. Hartley at their annual Convention, at Lewiston. Miss Fenner said although a delegate from "Uncle Sam's Vest Pocket," yet it was a pleasure for her to represent the strongest Free Baptist state in the Union and to carry back greetings and good wishes from the Free Baptist of N. B. After a few minutes intermission Mr. J. Allen Rideout, of Moncton, gave an address on "The Crown of Life."

He said: John the Revelator, in his message to the church at Ephesus, would say "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life," but the phrase "crown of life," which here applies to the crown we shall wear in glory land, we will apply to the crown of this present life. We oft-times speak of a castle growing a

hill, and it is in this respect that we wish to ask, "What is it that crowns life? What should we put on that will make our lives grand and noble?" Man when he was created was made a monarch. His dominion was to be "over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle and over the earth and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." But the man fell. The crown that he wore in Eden has been cast at his feet; his sceptre has been broken, and he is driven forth from the garden, and now looks for happiness. He strives to find an Eden where he may do as he pleases. No doubt in his dreams at night he fancies himself back listening again to the voice of his Maker; but morning brings him to the consciousness that a cherubim with a flaming sword guards every pathway to the tree of life, that the ground has been cursed for his sake and now brings forth thorns and thistles. This monarch uncrowned and unseated, goes forth from Eden a wanderer. What drove him forth? It was naught but his sin. What was it that sent Cain forth with the mark of God upon him crying in punishment is greater than I can bear? What enveloped the old world in a flood, and brought fire from heaven upon the cities of the plain? What caused Israel to wander for forty years in the wilderness and at last utterly destroyed their nation? Sin. It was the sin of the world that put the crown of thorns on the brow of the Saviour. Sin is a curse. It is action prompted by the arch fiend from beneath. It is deceitful—a narcotic—which urges a man deeper into its folds. It bids a man enjoy life, but leads him to destruction. Forever shun it. It may give you the wine of popularity to drink, but at the last it biteth like a serpent. It may put garlands on your brow, but at last will plait you a crown of thorns—and the transgressor must wear it. Not alone in the pages of holy writ do we see those who wear this crown. What does Israel for forty years in the wilderness but wear a crown of thorns. The poor fellow who has transgressed the laws of his country and now rests behind prison bars, is also wearing his crown of thorns.

Now that man has lost his crown, what is it that recrowns him? It is simply accepting Christ as his Saviour. With Him formed in you the hope of glory—is fulfilled the words of the prophets: "In that day shall the Lord of hosts be for a crown of glory and for a diadem of beauty unto the residue of his people." Crowns are set with jewels and kings vie with each other to get the finest and most costly. Leo once owned a pearl worth eighty thousand crowns. Philip of Spain paid fifteen thousand ducats for a single gem. The white topaz of Portugal had untold value, and the King of Persia paid sixteen hundred thousand livres for a diamond. England, Spain and Germany boast of their jewels and on coronation day are proud of the crown that is placed on the head of the enthroned potentate. Even the christian crown has jewels, which add lustre to it. Let us glance at the jewels. The first one is love. It is God's first and Christ's one and new commandment, and of which Paul wrote so eloquently saying that it was the chief thing, that it never failed, that while prophecies may fail and tongues may cease this will last. It is an attribute of the deity and when we have it in our hearts we have God, for God is Love. Another jewel is faith which is most important for without it, it is impossible to please God. And it is necessary to have it well founded on His word, which will stand forever. Another jewel to be kept bright is truth. It is the duty of all to train up the young to ever keep her unsullied, for falsehood is one of the seven things God hates, and into the land of light there enters none who love or make a lie. Kindness should always gleam in this crown, remembering that inasmuch as we did acts of love to the least of one of his followers we did it unto Him. Add to these purity, sincerity, temperance and zeal, and then let fidelity be our watchword ever, for those who put their hand to the plow and look back are not fit for the kingdom of heaven. One of the chief causes of unfaithfulness is lack of prayer. When a man has no time to kneel and ask the blessing of heaven to rest upon him, he is in danger of falling for he knows not the strength of the opposing enemy, and when the powers of Satan strive to draw him away and comes in like a flood he invokes no spirit of the Lord to lift up a standard against it and so is worsted. A man must not lean on his own arm, but on that from above, for it is a well-known saying of scripture that "pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall." All should wear this crown of life, for we belong to a royal family. It makes us all ready to live grand and noble lives, and when the hour of departure comes to go in triumph and feel that we have nothing to do but mount into the chariot and in the words of a good saint of God, "Go sweeping through the gates, washed in the blood of the Lamb."

AFTERNOON.—Devotional Service at 2 p. m., led by Mr. H. H. Ferguson. Then followed excellent papers on Committee work: Lookout Committee, by Miss Anetta Floyd; Missionary Committee, by Miss

Gertie Seely; Prayer Meeting Committee, by Fletcher H. Knowlin. An interesting discussion followed on questions pertaining to work in societies, from which many valuable hints were received. The Report of the Treasurer, Mr. T. A. Lindsay, was presented. It showed a balance on hand of \$667.78. On motion of Rev. F. C. Hartley it was voted that the League close out the Orphanage Fund and that the amount left (\$188.47) be added to Missionary account. The Cor. Sec'y Rev. F. C. Hartley, gave a general report of work done during the year, and also reported for the Educational and Constitution Committee. The Press Committee was reported by Miss G. Hartley. Amendments were made in Sec. 3 and 4 (b) of the Constitution. The report of the summarizing committee, by Rev. S. J. Case, showed that out of 20 societies there were 16 written and 1 verbal report. Three new societies were organized. The active membership is now 517, associate 177, making a total of 694, an increase of 82 over last year. During the year 49 members were converted and joined the churches. [At this point, on the suggestion of Rev. Mr. Swim, the League sang "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Amount of money raised for Missions was \$148.10, for education \$95.13, for the local churches \$344.06, and for other purposes \$150.86, making a total of \$738.15, an increase of \$248.70 over the amount reported last year. The Nominating Committee presented the following list of officers for the ensuing year:

- President—Mr. Allen Rideout.
- Vice Pres., 1st Dist.—Rev. L. A. Fenwick.
- Vice Pres., 2nd Dist.—Rev. L. M. Gregg.
- Vice Pres., 3rd Dist.—Rev. L. M. Gregg.
- Vice Pres., 4th Dist.—Luther Smith.
- Vice Pres., 5th Dist.—I. E. Van Wart.
- Vice Pres., 6th Dist.—Rev. B. H. Nobles.
- Vice Pres., 7th Dist.—Rev. A. J. Prosser.
- Cor. Sec'y—Rev. F. C. Hartley.
- Treas.—T. A. Lindsay.
- Rec. Sec'y—Miss Gertrude Seely.
- Ass. Rec. Sec'y—Miss Jane Robinson.
- Auditor—Miss Lottie VanDine.

The officers were elected as nominated. Adjourned. The praise service at 7.45 p. m., was led by bro. Gregg, after which the following resolution of the executive was read by Rev. F. C. Hartley,—

Whereas, The members of the F. B. Y. P. League of N. B. have for several years been praying God to direct us in Mission work, and

Whereas, There has come to us the intimation of one of our own members, Miss A. G. Hartley, that she has devoted her life to foreign mission work, Therefore resolved, that we recommend the League adopt her as our missionary-elect, with a recommendation that she spend some time in preparatory study.

This resolution was laid on the table until the next session. The remainder of the evening was devoted to a missionary meeting, with able addresses from Rev. A. R. Paul and Rev. C. T. Phillips. Mr. Paul's subject was "The Principle and the Spirit of Missions and their resultant." He said that the principle of missions was not understood, or, if so, was not operative. Who could estimate the reflex action of mission on the church. A good plan was to study missionary biographies, as effective for increasing interest. He pointed out the great necessity of the spirit of missions, as then their would be no lack of means etc. Let the spirit of missions possess us rather than we possess the spirit, and the result would be the evangelization of the world in this generation.

Mr. Phillips said everyone has a mission, and they are making it easier or more difficult for some one to come to Christ. He spoke in a very effective manner of the young lives dedicated to the work of missions. An offering for missions was taken.

THURSDAY.—8.30 a. m. Quiet hour service, led by Rev. F. C. Hartley. Short prayers by J. A. Rideout, Rev. A. R. Paul and others. Scripture lesson by the leader, Acts. 1:8. Theme, Retaining—Transmitting. A large number were present, and many took part by testimony and prayer, and truly the Holy Spirit was with us.

At 9.30 the League was called to order. Singing and Prayer. On motion the resolution in regard to Miss

Hartley offering herself as our missionary was taken up. Prayer was offered by Prof. Case, who, with several others addressed the League. Prof. Case said: Since the Convention at Woodstock we have been praying God to give us a missionary for the foreign field that we might have definite work there; and now God has spoken to one of our own members, one of our active workers, and when we think of the sacrifice that she and her own family are making, shall we not endeavor to make a little sacrifice that we may be able to prepare her for the work and send her to the field as our missionary. The League felt deeply impressed when Rev. Dr. Hartley arose and freely consecrated his daughter to God's work wherever He might call her. A motion, by bro. M. L. Gregg, that we accept Miss Hartley as our missionary and prepare her for said work was adopted. After prayer by Rev. Mr. Swim, Prof. Case addressed the League on "Our Obligations to those entering the ministry." He said: I remember well, as you who were there must, how at Woodstock we got down on our knees and prayed for God to give us a worker to send to the foreign field, and now our prayer has been fully answered. It has come so suddenly that we can scarcely grasp the full meaning of it as yet. Now it is our business to see that the way is made clear for her preparation for the work. Our young men are trying to get an education to fit them for the work in the ministry. In ten years our denomination will have changed, the older ministers are passing away and the young men, now preparing for the work, must take their places. What are we going to do for them? Some talk, and good christians too, against going to College, but if a young man does not train and educate himself he cannot expect to be able to stand before his people and have the same power and demand the same respect as a man whose mind is well developed. The question is, What are we as a League going to do next year for these young men. They need our help. We ought not to ask nor allow our young men to assume such cares and do so much work in the churches as they are now doing, that they may make their way through college. What have we done in the past year? We have simply made a beginning. All the money we have given for educational purposes is \$95.30, and it has been raised by eight societies, viz., St. John West, Woodstock, Fredericton, Gibson, Marysville, St. John, Waterloo St., Lower Millstream, Cummings Cove. For missionary work we have raised \$100.00 less than we have for local church work. We have the missionary work, and every society must bear its part. Prof. Case then appealed to the delegates to return to their societies and ask them how much they are willing to do. He said make this practical and business and do not throw off this responsibility. Immediately following upon Prof. Case the blackboard was brought in and Rev. F. C. Hartley checked off the pledges. About twelve of the societies pledging, St. J. H. West leading with a pledge of \$80.00 and \$5.00 from Junior Society. Other Junior Societies, and S. Schools followed with nearly forty individual pledges, making a total of \$583.00. At 10.20 Miss Annie Lewis, of Gibson read a very interesting paper on Junior work. Business session at 10.45. The Pres. appointed Miss Seely, Miss VanDine and Miss Johnson as Press Committee for the following year. Thanks was voted to pastor, society and friends of Sussex. \$25.00 was voted to be used by Corresponding Sec'y, Committee on Correspondence, President and Corresponding Secretary.

An invitation was received from the St. John, Waterloo St. church to have the League meet with them next year. Accepted. Rev. L. A. Fenwick was appointed a committee of one to see that the Constitutions are printed. It was voted that "the week commencing on the Monday preceding Easter Sunday be set apart by the League as a week of self-denial and voluntary contributions." Voted that the Executive arrange for the date of next session. Voted that the League have a picture taken at 2 p. m. Adjourned.

AFTERNOON.—The afternoon was devoted to recreation the members of the League taking advantage of it to see Sussex and the beautiful country surrounding it.

EVENING.—Perhaps the most helpful meeting of the session was the consecration service, Thursday evening. Rev. B. H. Nobles led a short and spirited song service, after which the new President, Mr. A. H. Rideout, took his place, and some routine business was transacted. The report was read of the pledges received in the morning service, and found to be \$583.00. Rev. F. C. Hartley, T. A. Lindsay, Prof. S. J. Case were appointed an education Committee. The resolutions of thanks to the Sussex society, church, and people, for their great kindness and hospitable entertainment were read; also a vote of thanks to the faithful and efficient Treasurer, T. A. Lindsay, for his four years of service. The consecration service was then opened by singing "I am coming to the Cross," after which Rev. L. A. Fenwick read Rom. XII, and Rev. A. J. Prosser offered prayer. Pres. Rideout in a few well chosen words urged the necessity of the personal consecration of workers, and the meeting was thrown open for testimony and prayer. Almost every delegate and many who were not society representatives, took part in this meeting, which was an encouraging one. The key-note of the session—"Saved to serve," seemed to almost throb in the air, and while we sat in that solemn hush or lifted our voices in the songs of praise, a great wave of longing went up from the young lives there that our service might be a truly great one, that our lives might be of value to the Master. After a brief "Good-bye" from pastor Nobles our meeting came to an end, and as no mere form, but, facing the new year now immediately before us, as a personal prayer did we sing our closing hymn, "Abide with me."

MISSIONS AMONG LEPROS.—The Moravians' home for lepers near Jerusalem has been in operation for a generation. Their mission to lepers in South Africa has a history of over eighty years. This distinctive work had already become so large in 1874 that a general society was then organized which now has fifty-six centers in India, Burmah, Ceylon, China and Japan. It is about to extend operations to Korea and Sumatra. It not only cares for the victims of leprosy who waches over their children, and seeks to ensure to them sanitary methods of living which may prevent the outbreak of the disease. It carries on its work in connection with twenty two different denominational societies, some of which are American. Last year this charity had 1,320 lepers in its various homes, and 18 untainted children of lepers under its care. It is estimated that there are in India alone half a million lepers, and as many more in China. Christianity is the only religion that has ever sought out these sufferers, and brought near to them sympathetic help and the comforts of nursing care. Naturally most of these afflicted people find Christ a Savior of the soul in these retreats provided by those who for the love of Christ have given themselves to such self-denying ministrations.

AGAINST CREMATION.—A new argument against cremation has recently been advanced by Prof. D. Clemens Winkler, a famous chemist of Freiberg in Saxony, namely, the consumption of coal needed in that process. Of the 1,550 million men, he argues, who die annually. To cremate these bodies would necessitate the consumption 15 million tons of coal. Limiting cremation to the large cities, and taking 100 cities which have over 100,000 inhabitants, we would have 1,640,000 bodies to cremate and this process would require 785,560 tons of coal. Considering the scarcity of coal, which sometimes amounts to a coal famine—Prof. Winkler discourages cremation as a method for disposing of our dead.

PLAGIARISM.—Pulpit plagiarists and copyists and parrots have never been in favor with either God or man: "I am against the prophets, saith the Lord, that steal my words every one from his neighbor."—Phil. Standard.

A FISH STORY.—The largest specimen of the "speckled beauty" that has ever been seen in this country, probably in the whole Dominion, was brought to North Sydney by steamer Bruce from Newfoundland a few days ago. The trout was captured in one of the luxuriant pools of the celebrated Codroy river. It weighed 24 pounds, girth 21 inches and measured 3 feet 8 inches from head to tail. The trout is being stuffed by North Sydney's taxidermist. It took three and one half hours to kill it with salmon gear.