

4. Labor councils or unions arrange for meetings for the discussion of the question from the labor-point, and for the emphasizing of the workingman's special interest in the weekly rest day.

There is no better time in the year for calling special attention to the matter than just before the summer season, with its special temptations to Sabbath desecration.

**ABOUT FUNERALS.**

The *Christian Register* thinks "nothing gives a young minister more anxious thought than the funerals which demand his service. There is nothing about which people are more sensitive than the conduct of services in memory of their dead. We believe much relief would come to both ministers and people if there were more frankness of talk between them concerning this delicate and important service. Outside of the churches which have rituals, to which they strictly adhere, there are customs and traditions which have almost a force of an established ritual. At his peril the minister changes a custom; and yet we believe that, in the majority of cases, the present method of conducting funerals is regarded by the friends and mourner's as something to be endured. The minister may not like to disregard the customs of the neighborhood; but, if he could get access to the minds of the people, and show those to whom he ministered that it was through sympathy and interest and a sense of duty that he would modify some of their dreary customs, we believe the response would be hearty and the relief great. Let any minister ask people, after funerals conducted by other ministers (not by himself), how much they heard or cared for the eulogy, how much they listened to the scripture reading, and he may be surprised to find how great will be the number of those who will say that they could not listen, and remembered little that happened. Scripture readings are generally three times too long; eulogies are seldom satisfactory, if they are true. They who are greatly interested in a funeral service, and are able to enjoy it, are those who are not crushed by sorrow, or beside themselves with grief. Music, prayer and such words of scripture and exhortation as appeal to all human creatures carrying the burden of sorrow in the presence of death are most grateful and least burdensome to those whose grief is real and deep.

The United States Baptist Year Book for 1903 is so nearly completed that it is possible to get some idea of the progress made during the past year. The number of associations has increased by 108, making the present number 1,799; the churches number 44,830, an increase of 377; ordained ministers, 30,809, an increase of 248; baptisms for the year, 233,099, an increase of 25,083 over those of the previous year; the total membership, 4,330,462, an increase of 61,309.

**News of the Churches.**

ST. JOHN, NORTH.—Sunday, March 15, was a good day with us. Fifteen were baptized at the close of the morning service. At the evening service twenty-eight united with the church and received the hand of fellowship. The special services are being continued and are being well attended. Bro. Currier, who has been with us three weeks, left for Wodstock Saturday, 14th. Thirteen were baptized on Sunday, 22nd. I agree with Bro. Francis that better work for God can be accomplished in special services by having the assistance of a brother pastor of the same conference. D. LONG.

ST. JOHN.—The sum of \$129.10 was raised in aid of the church improvement fund at a congregational social and reunion in Waterloo street Free Baptist church, Thursday evening. A very pleasant few hours were spent in conversation, listening to an attractive programme, with refreshments in the meantime, and addresses were made by Deacons William Peters, Thos. Graham and Morrell. An appeal for funds was made with the above result.—*The Globe*.

SUSSEX, N. B.—The hand of fellowship was given to ten persons, instead of nine, some two or three Sundays ago. The ordinance of baptism was administered last Sunday evening. We expect to receive a number on Sunday evening next. Miss Gaunce gave an interesting lecture on the 12th, to a good audience; subject: India as an Empire. It was much enjoyed. Our work was never more prosperous, nor our people more devoted and hopeful than now. We are all glad to read the good news from the brethren, and rejoice together. B. H. NOBLES.

March 19th.

HARTLAND, N. B.—I again report through the INTELLIGENCER. I have just closed special meetings at Hartland. We had a good time; and we believe the blessing of God attended the work. We did not see all we desired converted, but the spiritual life of the brethren and sisters was greatly quickened, that is, of those who took an interest in the meetings and faithfully and constantly attended them. Not only were the meetings a blessing to Hartland Free Baptists, but to a number of our brethren and sisters and friends on the other side of the river. They were also helpful to the people of other churches in Hartland who came to the meetings, and took part with us in the work of the Lord. We were glad to see them with us and their earnest words were cheering and helpful. Three were baptized, and three united with the church. We believe that if we could have continued more might have been accomplished. We praise the Lord for what has been done, and we hope and pray the brethren and sisters will live so close to God and be so faithful that they will have power with Him and with men, and in their Master's name go sowing

and reaping. We do not believe that any church should move and live by fits and starts; the life of the church should be constant, and her work not spasmodic. I have enjoyed very much meeting the people at Hartland, and I have found them very kind. I wish to hereby acknowledge a donation from the members and friends of the Hartland church of \$31.50—cash \$19.75 and goods to the amount of \$11.75. We wish to thank them for their kindness, and we believe they did it out of a sincere appreciation of our services, and of their love and esteem. May God abundantly bless them all.

GEO. W. FOSTER.  
Coldstream, C. Co., March 20th.

MINISTERS.—Rev. T. S. Vanwart says: "I am enjoying my association with the churches at Pembroke and Brighton very well."

Licentiate Bonnell is at Brown's Flats and Westfield—"not engaged," he writes, "but doing what I can as supply."

**OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS.**

—Evangelist Robbins is conducting special meetings in the Coburg Street Christian church, St. John.

—Rev. Wm. Dyas has been called to the pastorate of Brussels St. Baptist church, St. John. His answer has not yet been received.

—Evangelist Gale is to begin special meetings in Grafton St. Methodist church, Halifax, next Sunday.

—The late S. G. Black, Halifax, left five hundred dollars to Mount Allison College, and to the Methodist Missionary Society of Canada four hundred dollars.

—By the death of Mrs. Brown, widow of E. K. Brown, \$50,000 goes to three Anglican churches in Halifax—one-half to Trinity, and one-quarter each to St. Mark's and St. John's.

—The Church of Scotland has still five congregations in Nova Scotia which did not enter the Union. The congregation of Westville has decided to unite with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, but five churches still stand alone. Church union is one of the great questions of the present time, and better work could be done for Christ were two or three of the leading denominations to unite their forces.

—Rev. Dr. Chapman (Methodist) was presented with \$100.00 by his Amherst friends a few days ago.

**A DEFINITE AIM.**

All preaching should have a definite aim. With mingled conscientiousness and caution a minister should strike at known sins, even if some of his congregation in consequence feel offended. Sam Jones remarks, rather more forcibly than elegantly. "If you throw a stone at a lot of dogs the one that yelps is the one that got hit." Whenever preaching is going on, if it is genuine Gospel preaching, somebody will "get it," and probably also somebody will thereupon yelp.—*N. Y. Observer*.

**General Religious News.**

—The whole Christian world will sympathize with Mr. Ira D. Sankey in the affliction that has come upon him in the threatened loss of his eyesight. A statement by Dr. Richard Kalish, the attending oculist, has been published.

—As substantial evidence of the fact many Jews are adopting Christianity, a German pastor states from 1800 to 1899 74,500 baptized into the Greek church, 72,000 into the Protestant churches of Europe and America, and 53,000 into the Roman Catholic church; in all 224,000. Taking the year 1898, the same writer found that 1,450 Jews were admitted by baptism into Protestant churches, 1,250 into the Catholic church, and 1,100 into the Great Orthodox church. merous as in Great Britain, where in Nowhere have conversions been so numerous as in the nineteenth century 30,000 Jews have been admitted into the Christian church. In Germany, at the present time, there are 125 Jews preaching the gospel.

—According to the estimates of *Federation*, the organ of the federation of churches, \$10,199,550 was spent in New York last year in purchase of sites, church building, and payment of debts; of which \$1,951,000 was spent by Roman Catholics, \$6,083,500 by Protestants, and \$1,415,000 by Jews—the rest by Russians, the Society for Ethical Culture, and the Christian Scientists; furthermore, at least \$10,000 was spent in current expenses and regular benevolences. The *New York Evening Post* has an estimate that at least \$26,000,000 was spent in the United States at large for the maintenance and improvement of churches and church extension.

**Marriages.**

DAVENPORT-FOSTER.—At Coldstream, Car. Co., on the 19th inst., by Rev. G. W. Foster, Mr. Abel Davenport, of Hornesville, Car. Co., and Miss Eva Foster, of Coldstream, Car. Co. Marriage took place at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. Andrew D. Foster.

**Deaths.**

BAKER.—At Hamilton Mountain, Queens Co. March 12, of paralysis, Margaret A. Baker, aged 63 years. Two sisters, three brothers mourn her death. Funeral by the writer. J. J. B.

SEELYE.—At Wilson's Beach, March 14, Mrs. Grace Seelye, of consumption, in the 23rd year of her age. The funeral, conducted by the writer, on the 16th inst., was one of the largest held for years on a week day in this village. A. J. PROSSER.

WALLACE.—At Patterson Settlement, Sunbury Co., March 12, 1903, Mrs. Eliza Wallace, age 98 years. She was the daughter of Ebenezer Dibble. Her husband was drowned at sea some years ago. Her six grandchildren were pallbearers. Funeral service conducted by the writer. T. O. DEWITT.

PAGGETT.—At Hartland, Car. Co., on the 3rd inst., Mr. Robert Paggett, aged 74 years, leaving one brother and one sister, with other relatives and friends to mourn their loss. Funeral services conducted by the writer at his late residence and the Free Baptist church, Hartland, on the 5th inst. G. W. FOSTER.

MALLORY.—Josiah Mallory died at Kilburn, Victoria Co., aged 84 years. He suffered for eleven years, but he bore his affliction with great resignation to the will of his divine Master. He professed religion in 1843, and was baptized by Rev. W. E. Penington and united with the Free Baptist church on the Third Tier, Car. Co. Afterward he moved to Kilburn, and was a member of the Primitive Baptist church. He leaves a sorrowing wife and eight children, four sons and four daughters, who will miss a kind and indulgent father. He also leaves five brothers and three sisters to mourn their loss, which, however, is his gain. The services were conducted by Rev. A. Giberson, assisted by Rev. David Brooks and Dey. Mr. Deming (Baptist). All the children were present, except T. C. Mallory, of Ontario, and Maud P. Scofield, City Island, N. Y. I forward this obituary by request of Mrs. Anna C. Bruester, of Kilburn. T. O. DEWITT.