

News of the Churches.

WOODSTOCK.—On Monday evening, 16th Feb., a reception was given in the Woodstock church to those members who have united with the church during Mr. Currier's pastorate. The receiving party consisted of the pastor, the deacons and their wives, and the presentations were made by a committee appointed from the members of the Christian Endeavor Society. A short but excellent programme, consisting of a male quartette, a chorus, a mixed quartette, and a reading by Miss Maud Slipp, was much enjoyed by all present. The coffee was hot, the cake was good, and the hand-shaking genial. At the last meeting of the Christian Endeavour nineteen new members signed the pledge and united with the Society. Mr. Currier is assisting Rev. David Long in special meetings in St. John.

Com.

FREDERICTON.—The special meetings have been blessed. Two converts were baptized Sunday night.

ST. JOHN, NORTH.—We have begun special meetings. Rev. F. A. Currier is assisting us. A good interest is manifest, and there is promise of a good work. A number of young people are making a start in the Christian life. I have never seen the church so much interested in the work as now. It is what I have been praying for. Bro. Currier goes home for Sunday, but will be with us next week.

Feb. 27th. DAVID LONG.

SUSSEX, N. B.—We had a grand missionary meeting last Sunday evening. Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Hill addressed the meeting, and all were greatly pleased with the addresses. Miss Gaunce is to speak for us March 12th, on India as an Empire. She will appear in native costume. Our work is moving on nicely. We will receive nine new members next Sunday. I was sorry not to be at the funeral of Dr. Hartley. I intended to be there, but had no definite information about the time. I supposed it would be Wednesday, and would have gone that day, but learned from the Tuesday evening papers that it had already taken place.

Feb. 26th. B. H. NOBLES.

MINISTERS.—Rev. R. W. Ferguson writes from St. John, West: "I am continuing special meetings with fair prospects."

Rev. Jos. Noble, writing on the 26th ult., said: "I find myself gaining strength. I have been out two days driving, and it helps me very much to be in the air and get a sun-bath. Though weak, I am stronger than I was."

Rev. W. H. Perry regretted very much that he did not know of the time of Dr. Hartley's funeral, so that he could have been present.

Of all combats, the sorest is to conquer ourselves.—Thomas A. Kempis. Smiles are smiles only when the heart pulls the wire.—Theo. Winthrop.

OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

—Rev. Mr. Belliss, Church of England rector at Gibson, is to move to Westfield, Kings Co.

—Of the \$182,000 required for the removal of the debt on the St. James' Methodist church, Montreal, \$162,000 have been raised. The other twenty thousand need to be raised before May 1st to save the church. It is likely to be done.

General Religious News.

—Dr. Torry, whose labors are so much blessed in Australia, is now in London conducting evangelistic meetings. There is promise of a good work.

—Steps are being taken in Great Britain for the union of the Methodist New Connexion, the United Methodist Free Churches, and the Bible Christians. It is expected that the Conferences of this year will take action.

—Corsica, the intolerant, has felt the influence of the Protestant movement in France. The Protestant church at Aulene has made application to the Minister of Interior to be recognized as the parish church, and to be given the allowance formerly given to the Catholic priest. The petition is on the ground that the village has adopted the reform faith. Evangelical worship is conducted in a number of villages, and the movement is spreading.

—Zionism does not appeal to the Reformed Jews, who do not believe in a personal Messiah and a return to the Holy Land; or to the prosperous Jews, who are well settled in their business and relations. But it does appeal to the poor Jews of Russia and Roumania and other countries in which they are persecuted and driven. These look to Palestine with hope. Over fifty thousand acres of land have been acquired by them, 20 villages have been established, and quite successful cultivation of the land in corn, grapes, fruit and vegetables has been attained. Important changes may come from the movement.

The Needs of Churches and Foreign Missions.

These figures do not begin to indicate why do our churches contribute so little for foreign missions?

It cannot be on account of our poverty. I suppose there is scarcely a person in all our membership who could not save something from the expense of his food and drink, not only without injury, but with positive benefit to health and comfort. Tea, coffee, candy, sugar, spices and many rich foods, to say nothing of tobacco and intoxicants, are expensive luxuries to us in every way; but none of our people are too poor to buy some or all of these.

It cannot be because we are a penurious people. We are not. We are a generous people. Our denomination was founded by great sacrifices, and we have contributed liberally for benevolent enterprises, whenever we have understood the need.

Why, then, does our foreign mission enterprise languish?

First—It may be that we forget the positive command, "Go ye into all the world."

Second—We forget that this command applies to all the Master's followers, laymen as well as ministers.

Third—We are not aware how much has been accomplished in heathen lands in the last few years.

Fourth—We are not informed how economically our foreign mission money is handled, and how large a percent is actually expended in teaching and helping the needy.

Fifth—We have not been told how much good a little money will do.

Fifteen dollars per year will take a homeless heathen boy, provide a Christian home, clothe him, keep him in a Christian village, in a Christian school, and teach him to work.

One hundred dollars per year will pay the salary of a native preacher.

Sixth—We forget that "many a little makes a mickle."

A cent per day from all our membership would work wonders in India and Africa. Even a cent per week would increase our present receipts. All of us could pay this small sum without the least inconvenience, while most of us could pay much more and feel the better for it.

Seventh—Individuals might support a boy or a native preacher.

Some of our stronger churches might support a missionary, and smaller ones a native preacher or a boy.

District meetings could do the same. If we should divide up the responsibility, we might, perhaps, do the work more readily.

Eighth—Possibly some of our ministers do not present the subject to us and take collections as they ought.

Ninth—Sometimes we, as individuals, cripple ourselves and our growth by neglecting to take the denominational paper.

How can we make such a mistake as long as we are members of the denomination and have any interest in Christian work? How can we be interested in denominational enterprises, plans and triumphs, if we do not take the denominational paper and learn about them? —B. C. Jordan, in Free Baptist.

THE OLD PREACHER.

There is no appeal that comes to my heart with more power than that made by the Board of Ministerial Relief. If it is true that "ingratitude is treason to humanity," is it not treason of the worst form to be ungrateful to the old preacher when worn out in the labor to which he has given the best years of his life?

These men of God walked among men as heroes. They were men of strong convictions and of pure lives. Theirs was a "visible rhetoric." They believed and therefore spake. They preached with a power that moved the world. The position of the disciples of Christ today is the result of the work done by these true-hearted color-bearers that were always found at the front when the battle waged the hottest.

These men went out not knowing where they were going. But as they went, they preached. It is not for us, who are reveling in the harvests grown from the seed which they scattered in tears, to find fault because they did not lay up treasures upon earth. With many it was an impossibility. They made sacrifices for Christ's sake. Now the question is, Will the churches allow these loyal, faithful men to live in poverty, or will they make it possible for them

to pass peacefully down to life's setting sun with sweet consciousness that they are at least appreciated for what they have done?

Carlyle says: "One of the godlike things this world is the veneration done to human worth by the hearts of men." If we can put one touch of a rosy sunset into the life of these pioneers of the truth we love so well, surely we, too, shall have our reward. This matter ought to be presented to every church and Sunday-school in the country at once, and, if possible, raise a sufficient amount to bring good cheer into the homes of all these saints of God. If it be cold and dreary without, let the sunshine of love into their hearts and homes. Love not of words, but of deeds. Charles Kingsley says: "Make a rule and pray God to help you to keep it, never, if possible, to lie down at night without being able to say I have made one human being a little happier, a little wiser, or at least a little better, this day."—W. H. Willison, in Chris. Standard.

ALCOHOLISM IN EUROPE.—It is stated that in Europe during the past thirty years alcohol has directly destroyed 7,500,000 human lives. This is more than the loss of life resulting from the whole of the wars of the nineteenth century. In America during the same period it has been proportionately destructive. In Denmark every seventh man who dies between the ages of thirty-five and fifty-five dies of alcoholism. The annual number of deaths from alcohol in the countries of Europe he gives as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Country and Number of Deaths. Includes Great Britain (40,000), Belgium and Holland (20,000), Russia (100,000), France (40,000), Germany (40,000), Scandinavia and Switzerland (20,000), and Total (260,000).

Deaths.

FREDERICKS.—At Lower Woodstock, N. B., on February 21, Jane, wife of Charles Fredericks, in the 36th year of her age. A. W. CURRIE.

BAILEY.—At Harcourt, Kent County, on Feb. 20th, Benjamin S. Bailey, after a lingering illness of nearly two years, aged 79 years and nine months. Deceased leaves to mourn, a widow, three sons, one daughter, one sister and one brother. Funeral services at the home of his nephew, Harry S. Bailey, and in the Free Baptist Church, Blissville, conducted by the writer. W. O. K.

JORDAN.—At Lower Queensbury, York County, on the 21st of February, George Jordan, aged 81 years. He had been in poor health several years, and had suffered much, from all which he now has rest. He was a member of the Free Baptist church in Lower Queensbury, and was a man of integrity. His aged wife, survives him, and also three sons and three daughters. The funeral was on the 24th ult, Dr. McLeod, officiating.

HARTY.—At the home of her brother-in-law, John Taylor, Esq., Harvey Station, York County, on December 21, 1902, Almira Hart, of Fredericton Junction, Sunbury County, aged 59 years, leaving three sisters and a large circle of friends to mourn their loss. She had been in poor health for many years, and was stricken with paralysis while on a visit to her sister in Harvey. Her sufferings were very great. She had all the care that could be given her by her sisters, assisted by many kind friends in Harvey, whose kindness will long be remembered by those who are left to mourn. Not long before her departure, she called her sister to her bedside, and told her that she felt "joy, peace and happiness" in her soul; "peace that passeth understanding;" "peace that flowed like a river," she said she had felt the same before, and wished her sister not to mourn for her on her coronation day, she was only going a little before. Our sister was a member of the Free Baptist church at Fredericton Junction. She had professed religion in youth, and was a devoted follower of the Saviour. She was interred at Fredericton Junction cemetery beside her father and mother. Rev. A. J. McLean, Presbyterian, attended her during her illness, and conducted the services at the house, also at the grave. He preached from the text "She hath done what she could." He was assisted in the services by Rev. J. B. Daggett. Com.