

form of any kind. Temperance reform is a football, and social reform is battledore and shuttlecock. All patriotic and genuine Britons of the country should stand up and say to their leaders, "We will follow you when you are right, follow you in public policy, but we stand clear and free when it comes to a question like the temperance question." I tell you, until we get something like that condition in this country we will not get what we desire with regard to temperance reform.

THE FAMILY READING.

In an excellent article on family reading, the *Messenger and Visitor* urges upon parents the duty of furnishing wholesome reading for their children. It says: "In these days when good literature can be so easily obtained, and at so little expense, there is small excuse for any parent who fails to supply his family with wholesome reading matter. This is a matter, too, which demands thought and attention. The family reading cannot be safely left to chance. It is true that the boys and girls will probably obtain reading matter from some source, but unless their selection of books and periodicals is guided by more experienced heads than their own the chances are that very much of their reading will not be of a helpful character. It is to be feared that too many parents who are anxious for their children's welfare and who make many personal sacrifices that they may give them a good start in life so far as material interests are concerned, pay very little attention to the matter of what their children are reading, and take small pains to supply them with wholesome literature. A good many parents may of course be conscious of their inability to direct wisely the reading of their children and to make the best selections of books and papers for their use. There is however always the pastor and other friends who will be glad to give them the benefit of their knowledge and experience."

Of the importance of the denominational paper it says: "If it is worth while to be a Christian at all it is surely worth while to take a Christian newspaper. Can a man or woman be in possession of a living Christian faith and not care to know what is being done in the world for the advancement of the kingdom of God? Can one be a Presbyterian, a Methodist or a Baptist without wanting to know what his own denomination is doing or undertaking to do, and without sharing as fully as possible in the life of the whole body? And surely he cannot do this apart from the denominational paper. Can anyone really believe in and love his denomination without wanting his children to become intelligently related to its work as well as its principles, and how is this to be unless he takes the denominational paper? We should suppose that every Presbyterian in these Maritime Provinces worthy of the name would take the *Presbyterian Witness*; we should suppose that every Methodist would take the *Wesleyan*; we should suppose that every Free Baptist would take the *INTELLIGENCER*. Knowing well the excellence of these papers, it seems to us that it would be almost a crime for any man connected with one of these bodies to undertake to bring up his

family without the aid which his denominational paper furnishes, and at an almost nominal cost. We are quite as strongly persuaded that no Baptist in these provinces can afford to make his own pilgrimage through life or to bring up his family without the help which the weekly visits of the *Messenger and Visitor* can give."

As to the plea of many that they cannot afford to take their church paper, our contemporary says: "A Christian man must be poor indeed if he cannot afford three cents a week for the sake of the influence which a Christian newspaper brings to his heart and home. It is indeed a question whether he is not so poor as to be on the very verge of bankruptcy. It would indeed be a blessing to some of these poverty-stricken brethren if they could be persuaded to turn the question round and ask, whether for the sake of saving three cents a week, they can afford to lose what they and their families are losing by being deprived of the paper."

THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

The following is the list of topics for the coming Week of Prayer, as suggested by the Evangelical Alliance:

Sunday, January 3, 1904.—Sermons. The Kingdom of God:—and the conditions of its Triumphant Advance. Thy Kingdom Come.—Matt. 6:10.

Monday, January 4.—The Warrant, the Privilege, the Power, of Prayer:—and the Present Need of World-wide Intercession.

Tuesday, January 5.—The Church of Christ:—the One Body of Believers, called of God to win the world to Christ.

Wednesday, January 6.—All Nations and Peoples:—the One Human Family, loved of God.

Thursday, January 7.—Missions, Home and Foreign:—Departments of the one Evangelizing Effort, under the one great commission.

Friday, January 8.—The Family:—a Divinely Prepared Foundation of Society's Existence and Well-Being. The School:—called of God as a Prime Agency of Moral and Intellectual Training.

Saturday, January 9.—The Enthronement of Christ on Earth:—the only Hope of Humanity's Highest Welfare.

Sunday, January 10.—Sermons. The Holy Spirit, God's Free Gift. If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him. — Luke 11:13.

OF OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

—Rev. H. Montgomery, of Springhill, who has been in charge of the Church of England Mission at Doaktown for the past 15 years, was presented with a complimentary address and a generous sum of money on his retirement from the mission, which is now in charge of a resident minister.

—Bishop Kingdon confirmed fifty-two persons at Trinity Church, St. John, last week.

—Rev. L. G. Macneill, of St. Andrews Church (Presbyterian), St. John, has resigned, owing to failing health. The church has regretfully accepted his resignation, and voted him \$800 per year for five years.

A BLESSING.—A Massachusetts subscriber says: "The *INTELLIGENCER* is a blessing in our home. May God continue to prosper it in its mission."

News of the Churches.

ST. JOHN, NORTH.—The congregation of Victoria Street Free Baptist church can congratulate themselves on the fact that there is not connected with the church one person who is in need of charitable assistance. There are charitable institutions in the church, but so little work is required to be done that it is all accomplished by the pastor, in whose charge a small fund is placed, and thus the benevolent society has nothing to do.

A short time ago, Rev. Mr. Long was asked to hand in the names of those needy persons in his congregation who would be pleased to receive a good dinner at Christmas, and much to his satisfaction Mr. Long was unable to think of any names. At the same time, he says there are several who would feel grateful if a basket were sent to them, and who would gladly accept it, but there are none so poorly off as to feel like openly receiving aid.

In spite of this, the work of giving assistance is by no means neglected by the Victoria street congregation. In the past it has been the custom at the Christmas season to provide some treat for the children, but this year a different plan will be adopted. At present, the suggestion is that the children be asked to provide for others less fortunately situated. It is proposed to hold an entertainment at which the children shall hand in whatever they can spare, cash preferred. This will be used in the best way possible.

While Victoria street church is fortunate in not having any very poor members or adherents, the work of charity is not confined to this congregation alone, but out of their own share the members are assisting persons of other denominations, and whenever it is seen that a few dollars can be made good use of, no difference of creed prevent the giving.—*St. John Star*.

MONCTON, N. B.—I baptized a young woman at the close of the morning service on the 13th inst., and in the evening she was received into the church. There are others who have expressed a desire to accept Christ as their Saviour, and I hope they will be willing to do God's will. The special meetings were very helpful to us all. Rev. A. D. Paul was with us two weeks; he preached the word with power; the Lord bless him.

All the services of the church are well attended; our contributions on Sundays are larger than they have been since I became pastor of the church; preaching service every Sunday morning is one reason for this. We expect to have the electric lights in the church the first Sunday in the new year.

Compliments of the season to all the brethren in the ministry, the good editor of the *INTELLIGENCER* included.

G. SWIM.

Dec. 18th, 1903.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—On Dec. 2nd a number of our friends from Coverdale and Salisbury visited us at the parsonage. A very pleasant evening was spent. We found ourselves richer in cash and groceries as a result of their visit. Some who could not be present remembered us in a practical way. Also, on the evening of the 9th we had the pleasure of having some of our friends from Wheaton Settlement visit the parsonage. They added to our supply. For these and all other acts of kindness we have received from the friends during the

time we have tried to minister to them in spiritual things, may the Lord abundantly bless them all.

W. H. PERRY.

Salisbury, N. B.

HOME MISSION REPORT.—Rev. A. D. Paul's first report, for the months of October and November, is at hand. October, after Conference, and part of November were spent with the churches of the Dover pastorate. Special meetings were held at Dover, by which, he believes, the church was much helped. No conversions are reported; a reason given is that there are very few unconverted in the church. Taylor Village and Victoria Road were visited. The pastorate is in need of a pastor; Bro. Paul reports that but little can be done by an occasional visit, there must be regular pastoral work. It is to be hoped some brother may be found to go there soon.

After closing at Dover, Bro. Paul was sent to Moncton, where he assisted Bro. Swim for two weeks. The cause was much helped, several were converted. On the Sabbaths, while at Moncton, he was sent either to Penobsquis or Norton pastorates. Here, again, are pastorates anxious for pastors. Surely we should pray the Lord of the harvest to give us laborers. These interests are threatened by other denominations, and unless cared for may drift away from us.

During the time as reported in Dover field, eighteen services were held and fifty calls made. The total receipts were: Taylor Village, \$1.64; Dover Church, \$23.75; Dover C. E. Society, \$13.85; Long Point, \$2.10; Midland, \$3.89; Norton, \$6.00; total, \$51.23.

Bro. Paul is now in the Second District visiting uncared for churches, a report of which will be sent later.

J. B. DAGGETT,
Cor. Sec. H. M. Ex.

MINISTERS.—Rev. J. B. Daggett has been quite ill lately, but is now much improved, we are glad to hear. He has been doing too much work.

Licentiate W. O. Kierstead spent two Sundays this month at McAdam. He has returned to Lewiston, where he will resume his studies early in January.

Rev. John Henderson is, we regret to hear, in poor health.

Rev. Abram Perry was able to be out the 16th inst., the first time since his injury.

Rev. G. W. Foster was in Fredericton Friday. He is well and hopeful.

MISSED IT.—One who had stopped the *INTELLIGENCER*, but now takes it again, writes: "I did not know I would miss it so much. I am sorry I did not keep on taking it."

We hope no present subscriber will make the mistake of thinking to do without it.

Deaths.

FENWICK.—At Kierstead Mountain, K'Co., Nov. 26th, Bro. Ezekiel Fenwick, aged 70 years. Bro. Fenwick was baptized by Rev. J. Shaw about thirty years ago and united with the Free Baptist church at Kierstead Mountain, of which he remained a steady, faithful member till his death. For a long time he was an invalid, having been stricken with paralysis several years ago, but was ever patient and resigned. He leaves a lonely widow, two sons and one daughter.
A. W. CURRIE.