

News of the Churches.

CLARK'S HARBOR, N. S.—Two weeks ago the notes in connection with our church debt of \$800.00 were burned. There is yet a small debt of \$100.00, contracted last year, but it is hoped that at the close of this year it will be removed. We are to meet next Wednesday night to consider the advisability of putting in a furnace. At least in financial experience, the church is doing well, but without doubt might do considerably better. A. H. McLEOD.

NORTON STATION, N. B.—On Sunday afternoon, July 31st, four young ladies followed the Lord in the ordinance of baptism, Rev. David Patterson performing the ceremony. In the evening they were received into church membership. The work of the pastorate is moving along very well. The Sunday and mid-week services are well attended. At Norton, on the 3rd inst., a Young People's Society was organized with a membership of twenty-two. A new organ has recently been purchased by the choir of the Norton church.

I have resigned my care of the churches, to take effect August 31st. G. FRED. BOLSTER.

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.—Two of our churches were struck by lightning on Sunday, 7th inst. The church at Tracey Station, where Conference is to be held in a few weeks, was one of them. The pastor, Rev. J. B. Daggett, who was away at the time, writes the building got a bad shaking, but what repairs are necessary will be made in time for Conference.

The other church struck was that at Steeves Mountain, W. Co., of which Rev. W. H. Perry is pastor. Licentiate J. G. Perry was supplying that day. The people were assembled, but the service had not begun. The lightning struck the front of the building, shattering the window, tearing off the clapboards and splintering beams and doorposts. Miss Bertha Lutz, who was standing in the doorway at the time, was hurled several feet and picked up unconscious. Her brother and several others, who were near, were also stunned by the shock.

MINISTERS.—Rev. Gideon Swim writes that the work in Moncton is moving on very well. His health is somewhat improved.

In a report of the Nena St. Baptist Church, Winnipeg, in the *Northwest Baptist*, we find this reference to one of our ministers:

For several weeks past we have had the Rev. D. Long, of New Brunswick, filling the pulpit and faithfully proclaiming the Gospel Message of God's love as revealed to us in Christ Jesus. May many such men be led to cast in their lot with us in this western country.

Rev. H. H. Ferguson, Marysville, has returned from a two weeks' vacation.

Referring to the approaching retirement of Rev. C. T. Phillips from the Waterloo St. Church, St. John, the *Messenger and Visitor* of that city says:

Mr. Phillips has, for more than thirty years been a prominent minister of the Free Baptist body. He held extended pastorates at Sussex and Woodstock

and has, while ministering to the church in this city, found time to contribute to the great work of the press. His removal from St. John will be a loss to the city, but a gain to the church elsewhere that may enjoy his ministry. Mr. Phillips was a student at Acadia in the days when Dr. Crawley (whose memory he reveres) gave his strength of mind and heart to the students of the college.

Of Rev. W. C. Kierstead's sermon, from II Cor. 3: 18, in St. John on a recent Sunday, the *Telegraph* says:

Mr. Kierstead's delivery was eloquent and convincing. He expatiated on the excellence of the text, and dwelt upon the fact of having the Lord's moral and spiritual likeness reflected, when gazing, in the right spirit, upon His Glory. One lesson to be drawn from the first phase of the text was that Christ leads us into the very heart of God; and another lesson lay in the fact that the revelation of God in Jesus Christ was mirrored in the gospel. The speaker urged upon his hearers the importance of more application in Bible study. To habitually think high thoughts was to live on a high plane. To see the glory of God's face one must be of Christ.

Mentioning Rev. A. J. Prosser's acceptance of the call of the Waterloo St. church, St. John, the *Sun* says:

Mr. Prosser is one of the best speakers in the denomination. He studied at Bates College, and has held important pastorates in Nova Scotia and at Campobello and Hartland. He went from Campobello to the latter place. He is also an enthusiastic temperance worker, and is secretary of the Grand Lodge, Templars of Temperance.

Licentiate Cochrane returned last week from three weeks' vacation at Petitcodiac and Cornhill. Mrs. Cochrane accompanied him.

Rev. S. J. Case and wife are spending vacation in the province.

Rev. A. M. McNinch and Mrs. McNinch are at Victoria, C. Co., visiting his old home.

See page 13 for notice of pastors wanted.

Rev. David Long and family arrived home Thursday evening. Their friends gave them a hearty greeting.

Rev. D. Patterson was in Fredericton Friday. Some of the churches needing a pastor would do well to look after Bro. Patterson.

Rev. F. C. Hartley has resigned the charge of the Fredericton church.

Licentiate J. G. Perry was presented with a dressing case by members of the Victoria Street congregation last week.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

—Rev. Robt. Johnson, of Ireland, has accepted the call of St. Andrews Presbyterian church, Halifax.

—The total receipts of the several mission funds of the Presbyterian church in Canada to the end of July were \$421,153, an increase of \$8,191 over the same period of last year. The chief increase is in foreign mission funds.

—It is intimated that Rev. Dr. Cody, of Toronto, who was elected bishop of Nova Scotia, but declined, may reconsider his decision. A meeting of the Synod to again take up the election of a bishop is to be held in Halifax on the 31st inst.

—The total membership of the Methodist church in Canada is now 299,873, a net gain of 3,436 in the last year.

—Rev. B. H. Thomas, of Dorchester, has been called to the Salisbury, W. Co., Baptist church.

A hint, about families in the church services may not be amiss. If the family be the unit, as we have hinted, then the family should all sit together in the same pew in the sanctuary. There is need for a word here. We have noticed a tendency, which is perhaps growing, on the part of parents and children to sit apart in the house of God. Parents sit in the family pew, and the children gather together in other pews, often in the rear part of the building. This is not best. It is beautiful and proper to see the family all together in one place.

CHRISTIAN PATRIOTISM.

Moses had a great deal to say about the greatness and goodness of the land into which God was bringing His people, and every time we read it we think of our own most highly favored and prosperous land. If ever a people had reason for satisfaction and pride in their country, we, of this land, have it in high degree and abundant measure. In beautiful situation, rich productiveness, varied climate, healthfulness, commanding position and all that could be desired in a country, we are most wonderfully blessed. The Hebrew prophets had a great deal to say on the subject of patriotism, and the people were urged to remember that God was the source of all national prosperity and greatness. In the warp and woof of their religious exhortations was found the abiding sentiment of acknowledgment of God's goodness in giving them a favored land and in making them a great people.

It is right to appreciate our national blessings and to cultivate national pride and ambition. It is only when we leave God out of the account that this is dangerous and foolish. No one has any right to leave God out of his thoughts and plans in his business or social life. It is only the fool who so lives that God is shut out from all his thoughts and plans. We have no more right to be a theist in our national life than in our business duties and our domestic relations. We need to cultivate the sense of God's presence in the home, the shop, the field and the forum. We need to have Christian families and to be a Christian nation.

Nebuchadnezzar left God out of his life. He built Babylon the magnificent and took all the credit to himself. He was self-sufficient and self-satisfied. Any man who acts in this way pursues a suicidal and insane course. Nebuchadnezzar, after a painful and mortifying experience, came out of his insanity and acknowledged that God ruled in the armies of heaven and among the inhabitants of earth and that no one could stay His hand or say unto Him, What doest thou? This is a great lesson for any man or nation to learn. We must learn it and abide by it in this land. If we do, we can pass safely through any amount of prosperity and not be injured. But if we become self-conceited and self-satisfied and materialistic and atheistic, we shall be speedily hurled from place and power as a people, even as was the great monarch of old-time Babylon.

Christian people are to be the salt of this nation and preserve it from decay. It is not a mere matter of majority. Professed Christian people, in the sense of church communicants, are in the minority in this country. If it were a pitched battle of ballots, professed Christian people would be outvoted. But it is not a matter of numbers simply. It is a question of influence, of vitality, of principles, and of moral power. Christian people laid the foundation of this nation; they have guided its legislation, its court decisions, the development of its institutions and the expansion of its life and influence.

There is not a question up for settlement today that affects the interests of our nation that the Christian people can not have settled in accordance with righteousness if they move for it earnestly and unitedly. Christian citizens are the vital force in our nation today. Christian influences are the regnant power today, after all we say and fear. We need to realize this fact. We need to have fresh determination to hold our nation for God, for righteousness and for the best interests of our people.

Let us put tremendous emphasis on Christian citizenship. We must be a Christian land and people. We must not relapse under the degenerating influences of atheistic materialism and self-centered greed. If the Christian people of this land keep good faith and true courage, they can, and they must, hold this nation for all that is good for all the centuries to come. This is the duty of the future and of today.—*Journal and Messenger*.

A SUGGESTIVE INCIDENT.

A correspondent sends the *Christian Evangelist* the following clipping from a Kansas city paper. It depicts an occurrence that deserves recognition, so we make no further apology for quoting it in full.

The other day in the city of Des Moines an old gentleman, member of the Presbyterian Church, after a few days illness, died. His next door neighbor on one side was a Hebrew, on the other side a member of the Methodist Church, and the neighbor a second door away, a Catholic. During his illness the neighbors took turn about in caring for the old man, whose wife was a semi-invalid. There was no help in the household save that rendered alternately by the Jew, the Catholic, and the Methodist. They took splendid care of the aged Presbyterian and his wife. While the old man was dying there was no minister present and the wife asked if some one could not offer a prayer. The Catholic repeated reverently the Lord's prayer and the others reverently joined. Together the Methodist and the Jew and the Catholic prepared for the funeral. A Presbyterian clergyman read the service. There was but one relative—a daughter living in Chicago—and the funeral cortage consisted of the daughter and the families of the Catholic, the Jew and the Methodist. That's all—only this: Twenty years ago such a thing would have been impossible. Surely the world grows better and more charitable and kinder.

Comment is needless, other than the thought that as the world grows more charitable and kinder, there will be more fellowship, more Christian union. Undoubtedly an atmosphere of peace and kindness, the meeting around a common hearth, has everything to do with the bringing forth of the Christian graces in their completest and most attractive guise.

SAN JOSE SCALE.—This, the most destructive enemy of fruit trees such as the apple, pear, plum, peach, etc., came in imported trees and shrubs from China, which were infested with this pest, not then known, and from San Jose it has spread very widely through the United States, and invaded Ontario. Of late the natural enemy of the San Jose pest has been discovered and brought from China, and successfully domesticated in California and the Southern States. The "enemy" is "The Asiatic Ladybird," an active and voracious eater which devours the San Jose scale with a keenness of appetite very gratifying to horticulturalists in the south and in California. The U. S. government is taking great pains to propagate this ladybird.