

needs of the future, needs estimated in the light of the transcendently important interests of Christ's Kingdom in this country and in all lands, should determine this question. Since so much for the Kingdom of Christ depends on the decision of this question, let us all give it the most prayerful consideration, and be ready to follow where God leads. If in prayer and careful thought we all seek to know what is God's will—and God's will is what will most advance His cause—we will surely be led aright. "Thy will be done."

CONCERNING CONSCIOUSNESS.

We should not allow ourselves to be misled by the materialistic theory that when the Christian believer dies his soul or spirit remains in his body, to sleep there until the day of resurrection.

The Bible, properly interpreted, teaches the assuring and shining truth that the real personality of the believer passes from this world into the heavenly home at the time of his death. It is one continuous life, an uninterrupted consciousness, beginning with the believer's reception of Christ's life and moving on unhindered into the eternal years. One's physical death is only a mere incident in the onward progress of his spiritual and holy life. The word "departure" is used in the Bible to signify the Christian's change from his physical relations to the purely spiritual ones which he enters upon as he leaves this world. The great Bible expositor, Dr. Maclaren of England, in a sermon, says: "Gazing in thought for a moment on that Lord risen from the grave, with the old love in his heart and the old greeting upon his lips, we see here, of course, as everybody knows, the demonstration of the persistence of a human life through death, like some stream of fresh water holding on its course through a salt and stagnant sea, or plunging under ground for a short space to come up again flashing into the sunshine." These words are fully in accord with true Bible doctrine. Our Lord said: "I am the resurrection and the life." These words appear to mean that not only did Christ have the power to raise people from the dead, but, with the resurrection, there would be life in the raised ones. It is certain that death has no such dominion over believers who have experienced physical death as to keep their spirits in the body, and hence in an unconscious condition. What becomes of the theory that spirits sleep in dead bodies, in such instances as those where the bodies dissolve, leaving nothing but bones? Does one's soul still cling to his bare bones? And when the body has been consumed by chemical fires, including the bones, where is the spirit? Why not say that the spirit is also burned out of existence? Nonsense!

The golden truth is, the believers real life proceeds onward, all the while conscious of the presence and power of the Lord of his love.—C. H. Whetherbee.

—There are 100,000 Chinese in the United States. Of this great number only 1,600 are Christians. We have, therefore, a large missionary field before us at home.

THE KIND NEEDED.

A presiding elder in the west asks if we can find him three or four preachers who have some education and a "lot of common sense." We apprehend that he wants men who have good judgment when it comes to dealing with the people, and who are tactful in the management of the church's affairs. Education is obtained in the schools, but "common sense" is not. It is born with or in the individual. A highly educated person may fail in the ministry and in other callings as well, because he lacks this common sense. A man endowed with it may succeed without the college training; for one who is thoughtful and prudent, and resourceful must and will grow. What a tower of strength a preacher may be if he has both these elements of success—culture and common sense.

News of the Churches.

WOODSTOCK, N. B.—The service of the Free Baptist church on Sunday morning (August 28th) was in celebration of the seventieth year of its organization. The platform was brilliant with floral decorations, and the congregation was large. After the regular opening part of the service the Rev. Joseph Noble, now in his 90th year, one of the charter members of the church, delivered an address that was listened to with the greatest attention and interest by the large congregation. Mr. Noble's voice was strong, and could be readily heard in the farthest corners of the auditorium. His voice broke only once or twice when he referred with deep emotion to old friends long dead, or to his own inability in the last few months to serve the cause of God and his church as he had done in the years that are gone.

He pointed to the marble tablet on the wall bearing the names of the men who founded the church in 1834 and of the twelve people he, only, survived. The names on the tablet are Rev. Samuel Hartt, Simeon Baker, Samuel Raymond, Amos C. Tolford, David Marston, John P. Lougie, Hugh Baker, Joseph Noble, Stephen Parsons, Mrs. Stephen Parsons, E. M. Truesdale, and Elisha Baker.

There was a strong element of sadness in the address, for Mr. Noble was apparently taking a last leave of a people to whom he had devoted a long and active life.

Then followed an address, historical, by the pastor, Rev. F. A. Currier, M. A. It will be printed later.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Joseph Bleakney. The music used in the service was all that of seventy years ago. The hymns were sung to the airs Northfield, Exhortation and Coronation, an anthem to the air Denmark, and a male quartette composed of Dr. Baker, Lister Hull, Clyde Watson and Archie Burden sang "In the Sweet By and By." Mrs. (Dr.) Pugsley was organist.

A list of the pastors of this church since its organization will be of interest: Rev. G. A. Hartley, Rev. Wm. Downey, Rev. J. T. Parsons, Rev. Joseph Noble, Rev. John Perry, Rev. F. Babcock, Rev. T. S. Vanwart, Rev. G. W. Macdonald, Rev. C. T. Phillips, Rev. J. Wesley Clark, Rev. F. Allison Currier, M. A.—*The Dispatch*.

MONCTON, N. B.—Another move in the direction of a union of the two largest branches of the Baptist church was consummated at a meeting of the officers

of the First Baptist Church last evening (Aug. 29th). After the services a meeting of the officers of the church took place and a resolution was unanimously carried asking the congregation of the Free Baptist Church of this city to take part in a union service to be held next Sunday evening in the First Baptist Church. This meeting will be conducted by Rev. D. Hutchinson, pastor of the First Baptist Church, assisted by Rev. G. Swim, pastor of the local Free Baptist Church. At the close of this service a communion service will be held, to which all Free Baptists are invited.—*Moncton Transcript*.

MINISTERS.—Revs. A. J. Prosser and A. A. Rideout were in Fredericton last week, attending the Grand Council of Royal Templars, of which they are officers.

Rev. E. S. Parker and wife, who have been having a vacation in St. John and along the shore, went home a few days ago.

Rev. C. T. Phillips has accepted a call to Hartland.

OTHER DENOMINATIONS.

—Rev. Dr. Wilson, an evangelist of the Episcopal Church, has been conducting special services in Trinity Church, Halifax, and much good has resulted.

—St. Ann's Church, Episcopal, in Fredericton, is contemplating the engagement of an assistant for the rector, Rev. Dr. Roberts. Dr. Roberts has been in charge of the church for thirty years. To give him an assistant will be a very graceful act.

—The Nova Scotia Synod of the Church of England succeeded last Wednesday in electing a bishop. Rev. C. L. Worrell, of Kingston, Ont., is the choice. He is classed high church.

—Rev. C. McKinnon, of Sydney, has been called to a Presbyterian church in Winnipeg.

GENERAL RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—The Bishop of Llandaff, of the Established Church in Wales, is now in his eighty-fourth year. He recently visited ten different places in as many days and confirmed 1,100 persons.

—In Great Britain Baptists last year showed a membership of 388,587, being a gain of nearly 11,000 during the year. The Congregationalists exhibit a membership of 567,635, showing a gain of 25,211 over last year.

—Statistics presented by *Zion's Herald* (Methodist), Boston, show that the Methodists are now losing ground in New England. The decrease in membership since 1900 has been 3,268. On the other hand, Congregationalists have gained 3,639 members, or 1.6 per cent, and the Baptists 1.8 per cent. The gain in either case is not equal to that of population.

—The issues from the Bible Society continue to show record figures. During the month of June the output of Scriptures from the warehouse in Queen Victoria Street alone exceeded all previous totals. Forty-eight tons of Scriptures were despatched, in 440 and 70 shipments, to all parts of the world.

This represented 116,370 books in 114 different languages.

—In the Protestant church in the Via Venti Settembre, within the walls of Rome, an interesting event took place on a recent Sunday, being nothing less than the reception into the church of seventeen former Roman Catholics, three of them priests. The *Paroles francaises et romaines* says that the Pope is deeply grieved by the progress of Protestantism in his city, and lately celebrated a mass in the hope that God would arrest the movement.

THE MAGAZINES.

The September *Canadian Magazine* has an illustrated article on Paraguay. The number contains a symposium and an article on Reciprocity by seven United States writers and publicists. There is an article on the wonderful Peterborough Lift Lock with photographs, one on the first Automobile Races in Canada. There are two stories for children, and two other tales. The departmental features are interesting.

In the *Methodist Magazine* for September are several illustrated articles. One describes Naples and its environment, including the ascent of Vesuvius; one is on the Cossacks of Russia; and one on Booker T. Washington and his gospel of labor. "Our civilization and our Universities" is by Carman. There are the usual notes on matters of general and religious interest. Toronto: William Briggs. \$2.00 a year; \$1.00 for six months.

Marriages.

WHITE-EARLE.—At the Free Baptist parsonage, Belyea's Cove, on August 24th, by Rev. S. J. Perry, Brazil White, of Wickham, and Bessie Earle, of Kars, K. Co.

KIERSTEAD-SEELY.—At the Free Baptist church, St. John (West), August 27th, by Rev. R. W. Ferguson, assisted by Rev. W. O. Kierstead, Rev. W. C. Kierstead, Ph. D., of Rockford, Ill., U. S. A., to Gertrude L., daughter of Capt. Geo. Seely, Charlotte Street, St. John (West).

FLEMMING-NICHOLSON.—On the 24th ult., at the residence of the bride's parents, by Rev. John Perry, Mr. Ernest Judson Flemming, of Weston, C. Co., and Miss Joice Annie Nicholson, only daughter of Albert and Lizzie Nicholson, of Connell, Carleton Co.

Deaths.

LEMONT.—In Fredericton, on the 1st inst., Mrs. Wm. Lemont. A most estimable Christian woman.

SMITH.—Daniel Smith, of Shannon, aged 73 years, died on July 30th of cancer. One brother and three sisters survive. He was a member of the Free Baptist church. Over fifty years ago he professed religion and was baptized by the late Rev. Merrit Keith. He was a good man, and possessed a strong hope. Services by his pastor.—S. J. PERRY.

STERITT.—At Hamilton Mountain, Q. Co., on the 19th ult., Mr. Thomas Steritt, in the 82nd year of his age, leaving a sorrowing widow, seven sons, three daughters, and a large circle of friends and relatives to mourn their loss. Our brother professed religion over fifty years ago and joined the Baptist church. He lived a consistent Christian life, being well spoken of by those who knew him, and was respected in the community in which he lived. His funeral was largely attended. The Lord sustain the sorrowing family. Sermon by the writer.—JOHN A. ROBERTSON.