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To Pastors and Churches.

The letter of the Conference Committee on Baptist Union has been sent to pastors for their churches. For churches that are without pastors, the letter has been sent to their clerks. If any pastor or church fails to receive the letter, kindly notify the undersigned.

JOS. McLEOD.

For the Com.

Fredericton, N. B.

NEW YEAR RENEWALS!

Renewals for 1905 are in order now.

We are expecting that all present subscribers will remain with us this year.

We are hoping, also, for many new subscribers.

Prompt payments are a great help. Let us hear from you all now.

MIRACULOUS MEDALS, ETC.

The *Casket* (Roman Catholic), defending the superstitions encouraged by its church in the worship of the alleged bones of saints, the wearing of medals that have been blessed, and the like, says:

"God willed that some of his people should be cured of snake-bite by gazing on a piece of brass set up by Moses in their sight; why call it superstitious to believe that marvellous effects may be produced by the wearing of a brass medal which has been blessed with the prayers of the church? There was greater danger of the Israelites adoring the brazen serpent than there is of any Catholic giving divine honors to a miraculous medal."

To which the *Presbyterian Witness* makes reply thus:

"It is true that Moses, under divine direction, set up a brazen serpent to help the faith of the bitten people. It is true, also, that the people, in a subsequent age, made bad use of the symbol, and that the 'brazen serpent' had to be abolished, destroyed, ground to powder! There is danger always of the crowd laying too much stress on images, symbols, idols, scapulars, old bones, magic matters, etc. There is a tendency to give undue prominence to externals. Church history is full of warnings on this point. Our own objection to pilgrimages is the tendency thus fostered to ignore the gracious presence and wonder-working power of God in our own homes, the 'miracles' of constant care and tender mercy that meet us morning, noon and night. Is he not the Gracious One at our fire-sides, at our bed-sides, in our fields, in our woods? Wherever the 'family altar' is erected, he is present to bless. The tremendous crisis of our lives—birth, illness, sudden death, or death after a thousand forewarnings, our sharp diseases, our merciful healings, spared life, daily communion at our tables where parents and children partake of their daily bread in the love and fear of God,—Is not our Father, our Saviour, our Sanctifier, present always, doing his blessed work and will in us all and through us all? Thus only are we prepared to enjoy rightly the public exercises of God's worship. To us, at least, this way is more in accord with the mind and word of the Divine Master than the worries, the costly excitements, the bitter failures, the innumerable disappointments of Lourdes Pilgrimages!"

Marriages.

FOWLER-THORNE.—At Mannhurst, December 22, by Abram Perry, Sanford R. Fowler, of Walton, N. S., and Laura B. Thorne, of Havelock, K. Co.

MURPHY-CORNING.—At Brooklyn, Yarmouth Co., N. S., December 21, by Rev. F. G. Francis, Frances May Corning to George Oswald Murphy, both of Brooklyn, N. S.

PARLEE-McGRANDEL.—At the Free Baptist parsonage, Lower Millstream, December 28, by Rev. A. W. Currie, Fred. W. Parlee, of Upper Millstream, and Margaret McGrandel, of Montreal.

MITCHELL-FLETCHER.—At the residence of Mr. Bland Fletcher, Wilson's Beach, December 24th, by Rev. O. N. Mott, Mr. S. Levi Mitchell and Ether Fletcher.

McLEOD-FRENCH.—At St. John, Dec. 20th, 1904, by Rev. A. J. Prosser, Mr. James Hilton McLeod and Edith C. French, both of the city.

Deaths.

THORNE.—At Lower Millstream, Dec. 18th, of consumption, Albert Thorne, in the 16th year of his age. His end was peace.—A. W. CURRIE.

GOGGIN.—At Head Millstream, Dec. 19th, of consumption, Frank Goggin, in the 25th year of his age, leaving a widow, father and mother, four sisters and three brothers to mourn their loss. He died trusting in Jesus.—A. W. CURRIE.

BOYD.—At St. John, N. B., on the 6th inst., Wm. Boyd, in the 72nd year of his age. Funeral by the writer.—A. J. PROSSER.

WILLIAMS.—At Douglas, Nov. 18th, 1904, Addie, the only daughter of Winant and Mary Williams, aged 29 years. Our sister was a true Christian, and bore her suffering with Christian fortitude. She was a faithful member of the Douglas Free Baptist church. Let others be untrue or lack diligence, she could be depended upon. She tried to do her duty to her church and her Saviour in every respect; she loved the prayer-meetings, and attended them whenever she could. "Her loss we deeply feel," but we trust it is heaven's gain. We extend our sympathies to her bereaved grandmother, and uncle and brother. Funeral sermon by the writer, from Rev. 14:13. "She was buried beside her parents in the Carlisle cemetery.—R. HEINE.