

From the Churches.

DIGBY, N. S.—The B. Y. P. U. on Christmas eve presented Pastor and Mrs. Thomas with two beautiful "cobble bottom" rocking chairs, for which they desire to express sincere appreciation.

R. H. T.

HILLSDALE HAMMOND, KINGS CO. N. B.—During the year just closed, the Masters benediction rested on us. We confidently look for the continuation of His blessing during this year. Last Lords Day Sister May Howe, united with us by baptism. More will follow. R. M. BYRON.

CHESTER.—Pleasant times Xmas. The Junior Unions at Chester Grant and at the Basin gave me each a nice present. A pound party at the parsonage closed happily the old year and ushered in the new, with lots of good things. The Junior Union leaflets are so cheap now that it is better to use them. PASTOR.

AMHERST, N. S.—Our work is moving along with regularity. We have nothing special to report. At the present time we are engaged in the Week of Prayer which is proving very helpful to the Christians, and we trust that sinners may be convicted. We wish the MESSENGER AND VISITOR a happy and prosperous New Year.

NORTH CHURCH, HALIFAX.—The church is preparing to hold Jubilee Sunday, Jan. 30th, and continue until Friday following. Several prominent pastors are to take part, members of "ye olden times," wherever you are, write the old church a Jubilee message, and remember that an effort will be made on the Sunday to pay off the mortgage. A "Golden offering" will be taken and you can help. Write the message to the clerk, G. A. McDONALD.

NEW GLASGOW.—On Tuesday evening, Dec. 28th, being the tenth anniversary of the pastor's wedding, a number of the congregation and friends came to the parsonage and spent a pleasant time by means of games social talk, recitations, cake and coffee. They left many presents for Mrs. Raymond for which she is very grateful. The people have shown us much kindness since our coming to this town. G. F. R.

OAK BAY AND BARTLETT'S MILLS.—Rev. J. W. S. Young, assisted pastor W. H. Morgan in special services with the Oak Bay church. The preaching was pointed and full of power. Fifteen confessed Christ, and up to date three joined the church. More are expected soon. We are now with the people at Bartlett's Mills. A great many have already stood for prayer. We expect a great work done there. Bro. Young is very earnest in the work.

RAWDON, N. S.—On Sabbath morning, Jan. 2nd, it was our happy privilege to meet at the water side, when Miss Sadie Wellwood followed her Lord in the ordinance of Baptism, making six in all that have joined this church within a few months. On New Year's evening, a social was held at the home of Deacon Wier where one hundred persons enjoyed the privilege of taking tea together. After which the company were pleasantly entertained with music, singing, speeches, and other means of entertainment, such as Rawdon people know well how to furnish. And last but not least the pastor was made happy by the presentation of \$45.10. At a late hour we parted, feeling that a happy new year had commenced for some. R. MUTH.

BAY VIEW, YARMOUTH CO.—We are enjoying a little reviving. Our meetings are of more than ordinary interest and some whose voices have not been heard for sometime are praising the Lord. There is a general desire to begin this year in such a way as to make it one of the best in the history of the church. A word again in grateful reference to the kind thoughtfulness of our people. Christmas evening, in response to a ring at the door we were presented with a beautiful parlor lamp and centre table. But this was only a prelude to the following Tuesday evening, when about fifty people gathered at the parsonage and gave us a liberal donation in cash and other valuables. Twice before during the past year, has the parsonage been invaded in this manner, once by the adult young people and at another time by the younger class. These tokens of good will help us in more ways than one, and they deepen the desire, that God may make this year one of the richest of our life in usefulness and consecration to the Master's work. D. H. MACQUARRIE.

Jan. 4.

UPPER GAGETOWN.—The rough roads did not prevent some fifty of my friends meeting Christmas evening at the parsonage to extend the greetings of the season. After a very enjoyable time Dea. John Hoben gave one of his complimentary addresses to the pastor and family, and then presented me with (\$20.) twenty dollars in cash and other necessities, for which I felt very thankful. We have decided to observe the week of prayer, and at its close if there seem to be an increase of spiritual interest, we will (D. V.), continue the special meetings, and in view of this will be ready to welcome all the help the Lord will send us. I ask an interest in the prayers of all who love the Lord Jesus.

Yours truly,

CHAS. HENDERSON.

MOUTH OF KESWICK.—The Lord is manifesting His power in this village, backsliders are returning and poor sinners are being saved. At our regular prayer meeting four were received for baptism. One sister, the mother of a large family, comes to us from the Church of England. The little flock feels greatly encouraged. Oh, that God would display His mighty power here. Pray for us. Our new and beautiful house at Macnaquack was dedicated last Sunday. Pastor Cahill, of Centerville, preached two excellent sermons to large and intensely interested congregations. In the evening the writer preached to a crowded house, after which a social service of great power was enjoyed. The memorial window purchased by Sister Gilbert Dykeman adds greatly to the appearance of the house. "Our great need here is a reformation, and that means a good deal up this way. GRO. HOWARD.

GIBSON.—The new year has opened auspiciously with us. At the first Sunday morning service two were baptized, Thos. Hoben, Supt. of the C. E. R. and Harry Hoben, oldest son of the late conductor Hoben, John Henry, station agent, has been received by letter. Others are coming. Allan Hoben, M. A., in the senior year at Newton, spent his Xmas holidays home, in a way that most truly showed forth the spirit of the season; he is an exception to the rule "that a prophet is without honor in his own country, and in his own house." Santa Claus, after treating the Sunday-School children to all manner of good things, unexpectedly turned around and "collared" the pastor (in fur). The handsome new parsonage on the lot adjoining the church, is well under way and the committee which has the building of it in charge, is a guarantee that it will be done right, and by May 1st be ready for occupancy. J. B. CHAMPTON.

January 5th.

UPPER DORCHESTER.—The year just closed was one in which this church had done good work. Spiritual and temporal interests have been marked with prosperity. Kind considerations for the comfort and welfare of the pastor and his family have lasted all the year. On Jan. 3, our home was visited by many of the friends, and after spending a pleasant evening socially Dea. Robert Scribner, called the company to order and Dea. J. B. Tingley came forward and with a very neat and unassuming address, presented the pastor with a beautiful fur coat, a present from them and other friends. The coat was procured from Messrs. Dunlap & Co. of Amherst where the best goods in that line can always be obtained. If good congregations, good prayer meetings and good S. Schools are indicative of a united and happy people, then we claim this for both churches, the one at Upper Dorchester and the one at Dorchester. For this gift the recipient would thank all who in any way contributed towards it. We have to be thankful all the time, because the kindness of the people is so constant. C. C. BURGESS.

January 6th, 1898.

PRINCE WILLIAM.—Since our last communication to the MESSENGER AND VISITOR, Xmas has come and gone. Santa Claus has been visiting his friends on this portion of the St. John as well as elsewhere. At the beginning of Xmas week the congregations of the Baptist Churches of Prince William and 2nd Kingsclear through Mr. Judson Coy, M. D., and his estimable wife, presented their pastor with a magnificent fur coat, valued at \$45 by the reliable firm of Tennant, Davies & Clarke of Fredericton of whom it was purchased. Also on Xmas Eve, despite the severe cold, a few of the Prince Wm. friends assembled

at the parsonage and with them was Miss Estabrooks who remembered "Our Baby" by the presentation of a handsome fur boa and doll. This is not the first time that Miss Estabrooks has taken "Adelia" into consideration. On the Monday following Xmas, a goodly number of the company that purposed coming Xmas Eve, but were hindered on account of the inclemency of the weather, gathered into our home, spent an enjoyable evening and served refreshments. When they left for their homes, there remained on our table several pounds of tea, raisins, crackers, cheese and soap and a pair of heavy driving mittens. May he who has received these tokens of gratitude from his many friends, endeavour to show them in more ways than one that he is far from being ungrateful for their kindness. And may they who have been prompted to perform such kind acts bear in mind as the Xmas tide is flowing out, that it is their grand privilege to allow the love that caused God's great gift to man to flow into their hearts, it may be for the first time, or if not with renewed fullness and power. F. B. SHELVE.

Burden, Dec. 28th, 1897.

BILLTOWN, N. S.—A few weeks ago we referred to the work of General Missionary, Arthur F. Baker, at Woodville, a section of this church. He left us on the 27th ult. During his stay forty-six were baptized, fifteen of these are heads of families. A few of the meetings were held at Lakeville where a number were hopefully converted to God. Bro. Baker's visit has, we have reason to believe, been a great blessing to the church and community. How great the blessing time will more accurately determine. The cause of religion had become low in these parts, Christians needed very much to be revived. The results of the too free use of cider was manifest. A number have been rescued from the snare of the tempter, but we are free to confess that we fear the influence of this intoxicant. It seems to be a most potent instrument in the hands of the evil one for the destruction of men. When will fathers and mothers awake to the mischief they are doing to their own children and to the youth around them by their encouragement of the deadly evil? We rejoice in what the grace of God has done for many of late. Hearts have been renewed, homes made happy, the morals of the community improved and valuable additions have been made to the church. We now hope that we shall do better work for God than heretofore. Bro. Baker greatly endeared himself to the people during his stay. Those who hear him feel that he is a man of convictions, who can say, "I believe, therefore have I spoken." He will be long remembered among us for his earnest, faithful work. M. P. FREEMAN.

KEMPT, QUEBENS CO., N. S.—Three months have elapsed, since my coming to this place. We have been kept quite busily engaged. The field is large and taxes our strength to its utmost capacity. Owing to the scattering of the inhabitants our congregations are not so large as we would wish. But all our services are fairly well attended and prospects are brightening. We are endeavouring to marshal the Lord's hosts for active warfare and by the blessing of the Holy Spirit, hope for good results. Queens is noted for the intelligence and hospitality of its people. Among them we are snugly and comfortably settled and are beginning to feel at home. It is very pleasant to labor among a people who appreciate and take an interest in you and the cause you espouse. Our people are doing all in their power to make our stay among them happy. On the evening of the 30th ult. our spacious parsonage was filled to its utmost capacity with friends, from all the region round about. Their smiling faces, cheerful voices and benevolent hands, expressed their esteem for, and good-will towards us. After several hours had been spent in pleasant conversation, interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, and all had partaken of a sumptuous repast, prepared by our good sisters, the company quietly dispersed, leaving us richer by \$55. We extend to our friends our hearty thanks, and say to one and all, come again. Jan. 4th. L. J. SLAUGHENWHITE.

HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH, FITCHBURG, MASS.—A piece of good news is never amiss. I am sure you will be glad to know that we are in the midst of a very gracious revival. Last spring over fifty found Christ with us. Now the good work has broken out again with even greater power than before. On Dec. 26, I baptized a young man and on Jan. 2, two young ladies. In the after-meeting following the baptism, 22 rose for prayer. It was a most powerful service, more than one strong man wept like a child. Two of the boys from the Brigade were the first to rise. Now out of the 40 at least 30 of them have risen for prayers and desire to be Christians. M. P. K.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



On Monday evening, 12 rose and on Tuesday evening, 18 more. The services will continue all this week and next. How much I wish I had some good brother like Isa Wallace or Bro. John Marple, to help me in this delightful reaping time. The interest has spread all through the congregation, the Sunday School and the Junior Endeavor. The Boys' Brigade have a prayer meeting of their own every night before the regular meeting to pray especially for the boys; they have taken as their motto, "Every boy in the Brigade for Christ." I meet with them, and I can assure you it would do any Christian's heart good to hear them pray for one another. I preach my first anniversary sermon on Jan. 9th and will be glad to send you a line about that service and also a further report of the revival in our midst. We are very grateful to God for moving upon the hearts of the unsaved. To Him be all the glory. A. T. KEMPTON.

Fitchburg, Mass., Jan. 5.

DOAKTOWN, N. B.—The holiday season is past again. It brought to us the usual greetings and kind remembrance in gifts, something however, a little aside from the ordinary, happened to us on the evening of Dec. 25, when about forty of our young people from Ludlow took possession of our humble abode; Mrs. K. being absent on a visit to N. S. The young ladies of the party quickly spread the tables and from their baskets laid thereon a bountiful repast. Then was the King, the Princess and Princes invited to dine with this happy group. Order being restored again, and, finding ourselves richer in basket and store, we accompanied our friends to Simm's Hall, where the young people of the Baptist church gave a concert in aid of paying the debt on the church edifice. The concert was in every way a success netting with the sale of a few well filled baskets the sum of \$61.01. It was just hinted to our young friends, that they had better give the concert at Boistown on New Year's Eve, this they did, and increased the above mentioned sum by \$20.01. It has been a hard pull for the little band of Baptists in this place to rebuild having lost their old church by fire about four years ago. The good sisters have not been at ease in this matter, always ready to try something to raise a few dollars more. It must be with satisfaction that they now have all but reached the end of this troublesome debt. It snows and it blows, so we are not able to reach Ludlow, for service Lord's day morning, 2nd. In the evening however in response to a request made by a committee of the joint conference of the Boards of F. M. in the United States and Canada, a sermon was preached in the D. T. Baptist church by J. C. Me-ser-a. Our young brother taking for his text words found in Luke 9: 13, "Give ye them to eat." The sermon wasn't of the kind that makes you shed great tears over the "Poor Heathen," but of the kind that makes you feel guilty and mean, just as the most of us ought to feel, in the way we are handling this matter. When our young brother closed, as he did, very abruptly, saying, "He guessed he would stop here for the present," I felt to say, well, if you can stand there as a youth preaching your second sermon, and plead in that powerful way for the heathen, what will you do as a man, will you not go and face to face plead with them for God; and is He not raising you up for this very purpose. Jack is in his second year at Acadia, he is about to receive a license from the church to preach, so that he may spend the summer months with some of our churches looking for supply from that quarter. Now that I have started, I hardly know when to stop. Already I fear I have trespassed upon your valuable space. However as we are well on our way into our fourth year, on this field, and have not troubled you much in the past, considering to that as far as Baptist Bishops are concerned, we represent the whole of Northumberland, you must "grant us our indulgence." M. P. K.