

Haddon Spurgeon, the greatest preacher of modern times! Who can estimate the value of that single, simple sermon? Yet the preacher never knew the result of his morning's labors, and will never know on earth, but the last great day will declare it. Our horizon is bounded by the present. Others may build on our foundation, and reap what we have sown. A certain minister sorrowed greatly during the last few months of his life, because he could not see conversions taking place under his ministry as in former times. Within a year of his decease, fifty or sixty persons came forward and united with the church over which he had presided, and traced their conversion to his earnest, faithful labors. We know not upon how many points our ministry may touch, and it is impossible to say how wide-spread is our influence, or how enduring is our work. The sermon preached in half an hour may change the tenor of a whole life, and bear fruit to all eternity. We toil, not simply for the present, but for coming years and coming ages. The apostles preached for the future; so do we. The work is difficult, for we have to fashion, not the plastic clay, but the rugged rock from nature's quarry. Though the process is slow, the work accomplished is enduring. *The converted soul is saved for ever.* The useless gourd may reach its maturity in a few brief hours, but the majestic oak is the growth of centuries. A tent may be pitched in a little time; it takes longer to build a temple. The laborer rests from his labors, but "his works do follow him," and, after all, a man's works are his truest monuments.

And what are deemed final results by us, as far as our achievements are concerned, may be, in the purposes of God, but means to greater ends. Providence, with all its mighty agencies and grand developments, is on our side. More friends and forces are working with us than we can trace or tell. Duties are ours, but events are God's. And so, we may calmly labor on, leaving results with Him who "seeth not as man seeth," and who "knoweth the end from the beginning." Long endurance wins the day. Patience hath its victories, and faith has its reward. None ever suffer or work for Christ in vain.

"Well, to suffer is divine;
Pass the watchword down the line,
Pass the countersign: 'ENDURE.'
Not to him who rashly dares,
But to him who nobly bears,
Is the victor's garland sure."

God's work goes on, and must go on till Time itself shall cease. Far and wide His kingdom is extending. Obstacles shall be removed and enemies overcome. Soon we shall cease from toil, but others will carry on God's work, and carry out His purposes. Precious promises are given for our encouragement. "The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal." The Lord knoweth them that are His. Still we need present manifestations of the Divine favor and blessing. The prayer of Moses suits us well: "LET THY WORK APPEAR UNTO THY SERVANTS, AND THY GLORY UNTO THEIR CHILDREN. AND LET THE BEAUTY OF THE LORD OUR GOD BE UPON US; AND ESTABLISH THOU THE WORK OF OUR HANDS UPON US; YEA, THE WORK OF OUR HANDS ESTABLISH THOU IT."

For the Christian Messenger.
Endowment Agency.

WENTWORTH, N. S.,
Sept. 25th, 1877.

Dear Editor,—

My last was written from Salem and told of the revival of God's work, and of satisfactory progress in the Endowment enterprise. I regret that it is not in my power to-day to report anything of a very gratifying nature.

"Hard times—failure of the potatoe crop—depression in shipping interests—scarcity of money," are some of the familiar notes to which the Endowment Agent, has patiently listened all along from Parrsborough to Great Village. These sad notes followed by such mournful refrains as, "Our pastor's salary is not fully paid up; our parsonage is in debt; or our new parsonage must be finished before winter. There is a debt on our new meeting house or a new church edifice is absolutely necessary to our comfort and progress," take away much of the romance and poetry from the agent's work.

My appeal in Parrsboro' was almost a failure as to immediate results. Some thing will be done probably on my return in October. One incident however, I received as peculiarly pleasing:

—A young brother, the popular teacher of the large public school in Parrsboro' Village called on me and subscribed \$20, and informed me that he designs to join the Matriculating Class in Horton Academy if possible in Nov. next with a view to pursue a course of study in reference to the Christian ministry. Our young brother Hutchinson has already attempted to preach and gives promise of usefulness in the Master's cause. I learn that a younger brother, possessed of first rate natural ability, regards himself also as called to the ministry and is making arrangements to study at Wolfville. This, surely, is encouraging.

At Five Islands I met bro. Ingram who kindly gave me every assistance in his power in the prosecution of my work. In the Five Islands and Lower Economy Church we were quite unfortunate. Some who would likely aid us we could see and some from whom we expected large subscription, had met with severe losses that hindered their giving as they desired. Brother David P. Soley gave me \$57. He and his brothers had previously given largely. The Upper Economy and Portapique Church gave \$131. The Portapique branch gave the entire sum, the other portion I confidently hope will yet do generously.

I spent last Lord's day with brother M. P. Freeman at Great Village, and DeBert River, and enjoyed my visit much in those places. The brethren in Great Village are about finishing their new parsonage, and will be taxed to their utmost. They gave me \$100. The DeBert River brethren have recently built a neat place of worship at Mass Town, and are proposing to "arise and build" another at DeBert, and so they feel exalted from giving heavily. They, too, will do about \$100. Bro. Freeman is doing a good work beloved by his people and indefatigable in labours. At DeBert he has enjoyed a very gracious revival during the past year.

In company with bro. F. I visited on Saturday last the Acadian Mines, and received a subscription from Bro. J. D. Cook a former student of the Institutions at Wolfville. He will obtain other subscriptions and be one medium of communication for that place with the Treasurer of the College. Here is a stirring little town, pleasantly situated. The company working the Mines give employment to 350 men and are carrying forward an extensive business. Rev. G. F. Miles is preaching to the Baptist Church there with encouraging prospects. His congregations are large.

In my \$40,000 estimate for Nova Scotia and P. E. Island, exclusive of Yarmouth County, the places along the Bay between Advocate and London-derry were marked \$1000. This sum I am happy to say will be realized in those places and probably more.

ISA. WALLACE.

The Christian Messenger.

Halifax, N. S., October 3rd, 1877.

Subscribers in arrears will much oblige by forwarding the amounts due without delay.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES OF GRANVILLE STREET CHURCH.

To many persons the Fiftieth Anniversary is no more of an event than the forty-ninth, or the fifty-first. The fact of the fiftieth year being kept and specially observed in the Jewish commonwealth, and the large and universally joyous and blessed influence it exercised in their national economy renders it a favorite period for a celebration under the Christian dispensation. This fact together with that of the 30th of September falling on Sunday, the same as it did in 1827, suggested to the Baptist Church in Granville Street of this city, the propriety of having some special services to mark the completion of the half-century. Accordingly invitations were given to several ministers who had been formerly connected with the church to be present and participate in the services, of these the Rev. Dr. Crawley, Rev. I. E. Bill, and Rev. Dr. Tupper were present. Several others would have come, being in full sympathy with the occasion, but were prevented by domestic and public engagements.

THE SERVICES OF THE LORD'S DAY commenced by a meeting for Prayer and Praise at 10 o'clock in the morning, and was largely attended. Rev. Dr. Tupper opened the meeting by offering appropriate prayer and hymns, and by

an affectionate address, at the close of which Rev. I. E. Bill called up some highly interesting reminiscences in relation to the venerable minister in the chair. Mr. B. said four events in the life of his aged and venerable brother, had been vividly brought to his mind. 1st. He (Mr. B.) when a boy, was present on the occasion, over sixty years ago, and witnessed the baptism of Mr. Tupper, then quite a young man. It was the first Christian Baptism he had ever seen, and it made a deep impression on his mind, as it did on the large company present. The baptism was administered by Rev. Edward Manning in the Sheffield's Mill-pond.* The 2nd scene was on the occasion of Mr. Tupper holding a religious service and preaching for the first time in his life, in his (Mr. B.'s) father's house. The 3rd was that of his ordination to the Christian Ministry in the old Canard meeting house, (this took place July 17th, 1817), upwards of sixty years ago, a very solemn and impressive service. The 4th scene was that of a visit he had paid to Dr. Tupper last year, when he was on, what was supposed to be, his death-bed. He then took leave of him, as he supposed, for the last time in this world. The appearing of his aged friend again now in Granville Street Church was to him an occasion of great joy and pleasure, and rendered this anniversary one of no ordinary gratification and satisfaction. Prayer was then offered by brethren present belonging to the different Baptist churches in the city. Rev. E. M. Saunders spoke of the observance of this day, and the presence of the aged brethren as occupying a position like the men who, standing with one foot on the ship and the other on the land, hand the passengers from one to the other, thus forming the connecting link between the past and the present. They help us to a better appreciation of our present advantages, and inspire us to address ourselves to the work of the future with more zeal and earnestness.

The time was all too short for this preliminary meeting, which had to be brought to a close to make way for the regular hour of worship.

At 11 o'clock a large congregation assembled, many of whom had come a long distance to be present on the occasion, having been members of the church in their early days, but who were now among the generation soon to pass away.

The 88th Hymn "Lift up to God the voice of praise" was sung and Rev. I. E. Bill offered prayer.

The anthem "Te Deum" was sung by the choir. Rev. E. M. Saunders then read from a pamphlet, now in press, some account of the baptism which took place in Bedford Basin on the 30th of September, 1827, and the address to the candidates; and in the afternoon to the newly formed church. A brief extract will be read with interest. It states that after correspondence with ministers in the United States, the Rev. Ira Chase, Professor of Biblical Theology in Newton Theological Institute, and Mr. Alexis Caswell, Professor in a College near Washington, came to visit the converts in Halifax who desired to be formed into a Baptist Church.

"On the morning of the following Lord's Day—September 30th—a large concourse of people assembled at a quiet spot on the shore of the Bedford Basin. The weather was fine, and the surroundings were beautiful and impressive. The still and solemn assembly gave serious attention to the following appropriate remarks which fell from the lips of Professor Chase before he baptized the waiting candidates—Lewis Johnston, M. D., J. W. Nutting, Esq., Mrs. Lewis Johnston, Mr. J. W. Johnston, Miss E. Tremain, and Miss S. Grant:—

"You are aware, my friends, of the purpose for which we are here assembled. We have come to obey one of the commands of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Your countenances tell me that you have not come here to interrupt or to mock. I rejoice in the confidence that you have come to listen and to behold with respectful attention. I need not detain you with preliminary remarks. Let us with becoming reverence enter upon the devotional exercises that are before us."

After singing the hymn,
"How great, how solemn is the work,
Which we attend to-day!"
prayer was offered. A solemn impression seemed to be upon the minds of all, and the heartfelt Amen was responded to at the close. The administrator again addressed the audience in these words:—

"We have learned that this mill-pond was drained last autumn, and has given an area of over one hundred acres of pasture. This summer it was covered over by a large crop of flat grass as evenly as if it had been carefully sown, and yielded from two to three tons per acre.

"On this occasion, my respected hearers, it may be expected that I should vindicate the ordinance we have come to observe. But there is a subject which should be previously settled. When I cast my eye over this multitude my mind is borne onward to that day, when amidst the innumerable multitude of all nations, we shall meet before the bar of God. I fear—I greatly fear, that many of you are unprepared for that meeting. O let me speak freely to your consciences. Are you prepared to meet your God? Have you repented of your sins? Have you, with all the heart, believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, and become his willing and devoted followers, each saying, 'Lord, what wilt thou have me to do,'

"If you are not thus prepared, you are not prepared to enter profitably upon the discussion of the subject of Baptism. You are neglecting a previous subject, a subject of overwhelming importance. Your souls are in danger of everlasting perdition. And God forbid that I, or any of my brethren, should call away your attention from your first and immediate duty to any controversy respecting any external rite or observance which Christ has enjoined on his disciples. Let me entreat you in the fear and love of God to settle the previous subject—to become in heart and in deed disciples of Christ. Then you will be better prepared than you can be at present to consider the subject of Baptism; and then, while your bosoms are glowing with gratitude to Him who loved us and died for us, I would refer you for information concerning Baptism, and most confidently would I refer you to the Holy Scriptures. Let them lead you; let them, with the love of God shed abroad in the heart, be your guide."

Then, turning to the candidates he addressed them at some length from the thirteen verses of the first part of the sixth chapter of the Epistle to the Romans. The following are the closing sentences of that address:—

"Think of the power of the Saviour who rose from the dead. He had power to take it again. All power in heaven and in earth belongs to him. To Him then commit yourselves without reserve. Obey His voice. Trust His grace. Here, in His strength, resolve anew to strive against every sinful propensity, till you pass through the floods of death; for He is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy."

Says the writer who gave an account of the Baptism:—"Silence and decorum pervaded the assembly, and some were affected to tears. In some of the intervals occupied in coming up out the water, and in descending, a verse of an appropriate hymn was sung by those upon the shore. Then all was stillness, but the voice of the administrator and the gentle moving of the water."

In the afternoon the stone Chapel was opened for the first time, for public worship. The Articles of Belief and the Covenant are substantially the same as those of the Associated Baptists of these Provinces. After reading them to the church, which had already adopted them, Dr. Lewis Johnston, having been appointed by the church for that purpose, came forward and received from Prof. Chase the right hand of fellowship for all the members.

We have the golden sentences which fell from the lips of Mr. Chase as he held Dr. Johnston by the hand."

We must not anticipate the appearance of the pamphlet by making here further quotations.

The Sermon was then preached by Rev. Dr. Crawley from Philippians iv. 4, "Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice." It was an able and affectionate exposition of the blessedness afforded by the gospel of Christ and the sources and duty of Christian rejoicing. The discourse was delivered with much animation and evidently preached under the inspiring remembrance of fifty years ago. The preacher having been either a participant or witness of all that had been just described by what Mr. Saunders read from the advance sheets of the pamphlet. It is probable that we may be able shortly to place this very instructive discourse before our readers.

In the afternoon the Sabbath School assembled in the Church in Granville Street and held a Review Concert. After some time occupied in tracing the Apostle Paul in his travels, labors and sufferings on his three great missionary tours, interspersed with a number of Gospel Hymns, several short, lively, interesting addresses suited to the occasion were given by Revs. Dr. Tupper, Dr. Crawley, I. E. Bill, Dr. T. H. Rand, E. G. W. Greenwood, and others. The latter had formerly been Superintendents of this Sabbath School. Rev. J. F. Avery was present and offered the opening prayer.

In the evening the Rev. I. E. Bill preached a very able and powerful sermon on the Divine faithfulness and the care and concern of God for his people, from Isaiah xlix. 15.

Many of the illustrations were very

striking and highly significant, especially those referring to the reasons on which the affirmation of the text was founded. The references made to prominent members of the church who had passed away were affectionate tributes to their memory and well appreciated by not a few of those present. The kindly interchange between friends, some of whom had been absent for years, at the close of the service, and the mutual congratulations were most cheering.

The fine weather of Saturday for friends to arrive, the charming days on Sunday and Monday rendered the occasion one of no ordinary character. It had been in contemplation by the North Church and the Third Church to suspend one of their services to join with Granville Street on the occasion, but it was deemed undesirable, as the House would not be sufficiently capacious to accommodate them all.

It may not be inappropriate here to mention that during the fifty years of the Church's life it has had several changes of pastors, as appears in the pamphlet referred to:

The Rev. Alexis Caswell returned to the States in July, 1828, having been pastor less than a year. He was succeeded in October of the same year by the Rev. Henry K. Green, of Andover Theological Institute. Mr. Green continued his pastoral labours from October, 1828, till March, 1831, when he returned to the States.

Rev. E. A. Crawley became pastor of the Granville Street Church November, 1831, and his pastorate did not cease till 1839, when he resigned to unite with Dr. Pryor in conducting Queen's College, now Acadia College.

He was succeeded on the 24th of February, 1840, by the Rev. D. N. Sheldon, of the United States, who had lately returned from France as Baptist Missionary. Mr. S. remained with the church during this time.

The Rev. Joseph Belcher, of England, was engaged as pastor on the 1st of November, 1844. A schism took place in the church during the time Dr. B. was pastor; but the newly-formed body did not exist long. He was succeeded by Dr. Crawley, who, in 1847, became pastor the second time. Dr. Crawley left in 1852. The Rev. David Freeman was invited to supply the pulpit for a while, and at the end of this time he was called to the pastorate, and was ordained in August, 1855. After about three years of pastoral labor, Mr. Freeman resigned, to engage in endowment work for Acadia College. He was succeeded by the Rev. W. H. Humphrey, who entered upon his labours November 14th, 1858. After about three years of pastoral labor Mr. Humphrey, on account of ill health, resigned his charge, and returned to the United States. Mr. Humphrey was succeeded by the Rev. John Pryor, D. D., who continued pastor for about five years. The Rev. E. M. Saunders accepted the invitation of the church to become its pastor, and entered upon his labours on the first of September, 1867.

The pamphlet also treats on contemporaneous history especially in Educational matters; the troubles in the church; the special revivals; and gives a full list of the officers and members from the beginning.

A Social Tea Meeting of the Church and Congregation was held on Monday evening. It was considered that it should be free to all the congregation.

THE SOCIAL TEA-MEETING

was a delightful opportunity of a more free and pleasant interchange of friendly greetings, and was largely enjoyed by many of the friends. Twelve large tables were laid in the upper rooms of the New Vestry, Spring Garden Road, and exquisitely adorned with some of the choicest of flowers. The ladies presiding at each of these were efficiently assisted by young ladies and young men, and supplied with the tea and coffee made in the kitchen adjoining, and all was done with the utmost ease and good order. There was an excellent variety of good things and an abundance without any extravagance or waste. After the first comers had been supplied they withdrew to the large lecture room below, and others came into their places until three or four hundred had partaken of the festival, and all had come together to hear the more formal addresses delivered from the platform. The pastor introduced this stage of proceedings by calling for some singing; a few members of the church choir came to the organ and sung in good taste the Vesper Hymn with Jubilate.

Rev. Dr. Tupper then offered prayer. After a brief address from the Rev. Mr. Saunders, Rev. Dr. Tupper was invited to speak. In the course of about ten or fifteen minutes, he related some most interesting facts and recollections in relation to Halifax, and especially the early progress of Baptist principles here. He described his first interview with Rev. John Burton, long