

The Christian Messenger.

A RELIGIOUS AND GENERAL FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

NEW SERIES.
Vol. XXIX., No. 15.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Wednesday, April 9, 1884

WHOLE SERIES.
Vol. XLVIII., No. 15

News from the Churches.

Minutes of a Council.

An ecclesiastical council called by the Penfield Baptist Church convened in the edifice of the above mentioned Church, on Tuesday, April 1st, at 3 o'clock, P.M. The Council organized by choosing Deacon C. F. Clinch, Moderator. Rev. W. J. Stewart, Clerk. The credentials of the delegates were then presented.

The following Churches were represented by the following brethren:
Leinster Street, St. John.—Brother J. E. Masters.

Fairville.—Rev. W. Camp and Bro. B. H. Thomas, Licentiate.

Portland.—Rev. W. J. Stewart.

Musquash.—Deacon C. F. Clinch.

St. George.—Rev. M. P. King, Deacons J. Dewar, U. Sparks.

2nd Falls, St. George.—Dea. Thos. Goss, Brethren H. Gillmore, D. Milliken.

Deacon Justison then stated that the Penfield Church had for some time past enjoyed the labours of Bro. F. D. Davison, and feeling satisfied that he was called of God to the work of the ministry, unanimously resolved to ask for this Council to assist in setting the Brother apart to the sacred office.

Bro. Davison was then called upon to give a statement of his Christian experience, call to the ministry, and views of Christian doctrine. This being done in a very satisfactory manner, the Council unanimously resolved to recommend his ordination. The following programme was then arranged for the evening and carried out in the presence of a large and solemn congregation. First. Ordination Sermon, by Rev. W. J. Stewart. 2nd. Ordination Prayer, by Rev. M. P. King. 3rd. Right-hand of Fellowship, by Rev. W. Camp. 4th. Charge to Candidate, by Bro. J. E. Masters. 5th. Charge to the Church, by Deacon J. Dewar. 6th. Reading of Scripture and Hymns, by Bro. B. H. Thomas. Benediction by Rev. F. D. Davison.

REV. W. J. STEWART,
Clerk.

Penfield, Charlotte Co., N. B.,
April 1st, 1884.

WEYMOUTH.—I desire to record with thankfulness the many tokens of favor and esteem bestowed on me and mine, by the people to whom I minister, among which I might note especially a visit from the congregation at Weymouth, on the evening of Dec. 7th, ult., also on Jan. 13th, a like gathering of the congregation at Southville, through which, together, we were made the recipients of outward good to the value of \$90, and not a little heart cheer and encouragement. But better than all, God of late has been pouring his richer blessings upon us here in Weymouth, in the way of reclaiming His children and saving the unconverted. On last Lord's day it was my privilege to baptize six trusting souls, who, with one restored, were afterward welcomed into the Church.

Our hearts are encouraged and our powers are drawn out anew in work and travail as, day by day, we are permitted to see some returning prodigal, and to hear some seeking soul cry out for mercy. It is needless to say that after a protracted period of sore trial and conflict with the arch enemy, such refreshing from the presence of the Lord is peculiarly sweet to the hearts of both Church and Pastor, and the end is not yet. To God be all the praise.

WM. SPENCER.

April 3rd, 1884.

The largest safe ever constructed has just been built at Liverpool at the Phoenix Works of the Milner Company. It weighs nearly forty tons, and is 18ft. square.

FROM TRURO.—March 31, 1884.—
Dear Messenger.—Thou art the bearer of good tidings. From week to week thy columns furnish news of Zion's prosperity, the strengthening of churches and the salvation of souls.

Pastors are thereby encouraged, and the faithful in Zion, almost weary of waiting, take heart and address themselves to the Lord's work with quickened zeal.

I trust your items of news from revived churches and happy pastors will multiply a hundredfold.

It may encourage some toiling ones to know that God is richly blessing the church in Truro. Without extra meetings or outside help, save from above, a quiet, healthy growth is manifest. I do not deprecate extra meetings or outside help. I believe in both. But God's work need not be hindered, even where it is impossible or impracticable to multiply services, or call to the pastor's aid evangelistic help.

If the leader in the church can summon to his aid, even a few earnest Christian men and women, he may confidently expect the blessing of God on their united efforts.

Our meetings on Wednesday and Friday evenings have been increasing in interest and numbers, since the beginning of the year. The church has steadily advanced in spiritual power. The pastor has been cheered to find in visiting his congregation, cautious but anxious inquirers. Gradually these have developed strength sufficient to publicly ask for the prayers of the church. The first Sabbath in March we had our first baptism in this year. Four followed their Saviour in His ordinance.

That day the pastor announced that each Friday evening during the month there would be *Special Conference*, when it would be in order for those who had found Christ to offer themselves for baptism. Each evening some responded.

Thirteen young men and women were baptized last evening before a crowded audience. Others are coming? "Why should the work cease?"

Yours very truly,

J. E. G.

[The above came to hand just after we had gone to press last week. We were very sorry to be obliged to withhold so welcome a communication from our readers. We were glad to hear from our brother, and since then from others, that so large a congregation attended on the occasion of the baptism. The seats were all filled and standing room all occupied, and then the large doors to the vestry were opened, so as to admit those who sought to attend on the occasion.—Ed. C. M.]

CHESTER.—The remainder of Bro. J. J. Kempton's communication last week was as follows:—I am encouraged by seeing a growing anxiety among the church members to see the Lord's work advance, and a willingness to engage in carrying that work forward. God will bless His people when they "have a mind to work."

The Sabbath School in Chester held a very successful concert last evening. It was a review of the quarter's work, recitations, music, etc. It was very good, and reflected great credit upon the Superintendent, Mr. Chas. A. Smith, and his staff of teachers. The selections were of the very best character, and were recited in excellent style. Special mention should be made of two of the teachers—Mrs. DeWitt and Mrs. Huxford—on account of their efforts and success in furnishing music for the occasion. It was a great treat to be permitted to hear, and at the close we thanked God and took courage. I may add that some few members of the school appear to be religiously awakened. May the dear Lord lead all such into light.

GUYSBORO.—Rev. J. J. Armstrong writes April 3rd, 1884:—"We certainly have great cause for gratitude to God that so many of the churches, especially in the Central and Western Associations are enjoying revival influences. We rejoice most heartily with those who are thus permitted to gather in the fruits of their labors. As a result of the work of grace referred to, there have been, so far as reported, 348 accessions to the church, 326 of which have been by baptism. Surely we are experiencing a day of God's power—our prayer is that the glorious work may continue and extend till all the churches participate in the blessing. We are working on here amid many discouragements, praying and hoping for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We attempted to hold some special services in one section of the field but the weather and roads were so unfavourable that they had to be discontinued. The church is much depressed at present in consequence of the heavy loss sustained in the death of its senior deacon, Bro. Christopher Jost. After several weeks of great suffering, borne with Christian fortitude and resignation, he gently fell asleep in Jesus, on the 28th ult., in the 79th year of his age. An obituary notice will be prepared and forwarded by his son, the Rev. C. Jost. On the occasion of our brother's funeral, which was largely attended, an address was delivered by the writer, who was assisted in the services by the Revs. Jas. Buckley and W. Purvis."

CANARD, CORNWALLIS.—Rev. S. B. Kempton writes April 3rd, 1884:—"I am thankful to say, that we have good news to communicate too. Indications of the Divine presence among us were manifest. A very quiet work has been in progress at Port Williams for some weeks. Quite a number have been received for baptism there, and there are indications of converting grace being given, in other sections of the church. Truly the Lord is good to Israel."

Rev. Mr. Young is aiding me for a few days in extra service at Port Williams. He preached last evening at Canard with much acceptance. He is an earnest worker in the Lord's service, and we heartily bid him God's speed. I sincerely hope that you will be able to furnish good news from the churches week by week, through the whole year."

NOTES FROM WOLFVILLE.—The Conference of the Baptist Church here held on Saturday last was a meeting of unusual interest. The Rev. T. A. Higgins was formally inducted into the pastorate. Deacon J. W. Barrs on behalf of the church gave the right hand of fellowship, and Rev. Dr. Sawyer gave a very appropriate address on the occasion. Seventeen candidates for baptism and membership were received and were baptized on Sunday evening by the Pastor. One of these was a student from the College, Charles, son of the Rev. Dr. Day.

There is quite a wide-spread religious interest among the young people at the Institutions. Several of the Academy students have professed conversion and in the Seminary all the young ladies with scarcely an exception have given expression to their desire to become followers of Christ. Several of these belonging to Presbyterian and Episcopalian families, will probably join their own communities when they return to their homes, and it is expected that a number from the Institutions will offer themselves to the Wolfville Church at the next Conference. Bro. Young had attended several meetings in the Village and on the Hill, and has spoken with great acceptance.

Nearly all the recent additions to the Wolfville Church were from the Sabbath School.

Dedication at Central Chebogue, Yarmouth Co.

During a few months past our people have been actively engaged in modernizing and renovating their house of worship. Although the burden seemed heavy, yet they carried it cheerfully. They are now rewarded in having a neat and comfortable place for the worship of God. The whole cost will not be less than one thousand dollars, which to this church is a large sum, in view of the fact that many of our standard-bearers have fallen, and have gone to their reward, while many of our younger people have found homes elsewhere. At the re-opening on Sabbath March 30th we were favored with excellent discourses by our ministering Brethren Gordon, Cohoon and Young. These were clear and forcible presentations of divine truth, such as will be effectual in building up the church of Christ.

Our prayer is that richer blessings may be granted us, and that "the glory of this latter house shall be greater than that of the former."

Yours truly,

J. D. SKINNER.

April 4th 1884.

WINDSOR, April 7th:—We are grateful to record that God is abundantly blessing the Church here. We have been holding special meetings, three evenings a week, for the past eleven weeks. The meetings have been well attended. At times, our vestry has been full, the Church has been revived, backsliders have returned, and sinners have been converted. Our pastor Rev. H. Foshay, baptized fourteen more young converts yesterday, some of whom we believe, will be active workers in promoting the cause of Christ. It cheers our hearts to see week after week in the MESSENGER, that God is adding many to the Church in different places. Our prayer is that the number may continue and increase. R.

We are informed that the Rev. W. H. Richan is contemplating a change of pastorate. His labors at Barrington have been greatly blessed in the 20 years he has spent with that church. His interest has been given largely to providing the people with good comfortable church accommodation, and now each of the five sections are so provided, making it in many respects a very desirable field of labor. We trust Mr. Richan may be led to another field in this province, where he may be equally useful and successful.

The world goes up and the world goes down
And the sunshine follows the rain,
And yesterday's sneer and yesterday's frown
Can never come over again.
Charles Kingsley.

Love never exhausts itself by giving.
The more we love others and seek to do them good, the more power and good we have to give them. The more we love, the larger our hearts become.

"Do you feel that you love Christ?" was asked of an aged and dying Christian. "Better than that," was the reply. "Christ loves me."

I have discovered the philosopher's stone that turns everything into gold. It is—"Pay as you go."—John Randolph.

Many seem to think that to be a believer is to have certain feelings and experiences, forgetting all the time that these are but the flowers, and that the fruit must follow.—M. Cheyne.

A young farmer recently plowed up an earthen jug containing 1900 half eagles in a field near Island Shoals, Ga. It is supposed that his grandfather buried it before the Rebellion, during which he was killed.

It is related that the Prince Louise, in responding to an invitation to come to Windsor, telegraphed, "The Campbells are coming."

Correspondence

For the Christian Messenger.

Pastors but not Members.

Mr. Editor,—

The following questions and remarks thereon appear in the N. Y. *Examiner* of the 20th inst:

1. A minister is settled over a church for some years, and fails to bring his letter to said church. Is this right? 2. Is it proper in such a case for him to preside over the business meeting of said church? 3. Can he rightfully represent said church as a delegate to Associations or Conventions, not being a member of any church in said State? R. S.

We must answer each of these questions in an emphatic negative. Baptist usage is invariable in requiring the pastor of a church to be also a member of it. This usage is founded on good sense, and is conformable to the New Testament order. One who is not a member of a church may be an acting pastor, or a stated supply, but not the regular pastor. An acting pastor might in some cases, as a matter of courtesy, represent the church as delegate, but this would be an irregular and exceptional course. We do not think that any person not a member of a church is a proper presiding officer in its business meetings. In fact, the whole state of things contemplated in these questions is foreign to the New Testament polity, as interpreted and practised by the Baptist churches of this country.

It will be remembered that the letters to our Western Association last year disclosed the fact that some of our ministers had their memberships in churches from which they have long been removed, and during all this time they had been pastors of other churches. Such pastors have often been sent as delegates to the meetings of the Association though the Constitution declares that the Association "shall be composed of delegates appointed by the churches of which they are members."

The new form of church letter adopted last year shows where each minister's membership is, and so makes manifest what before would pass unnoticed. It is to be hoped that in future, only such as are constitutionally appointed, will be entered as delegates.

Very truly yours,

A. COHOON.

Hebron, March 24, 1884

For the Christian Messenger.

Baptist Book-Room Agency.

DEAR BRO. SELDEN,—

I began my second tour in New Brunswick at Sackville. By the whole-hearted co-operation of pastors Rev. E. C. Corey and Rev. D. G. McDonald, I had the privilege of speaking to their respective congregations on Sabbath of my work. The church to which Bro. Corey ministers not being very large, cheerfully contributes \$17.00 toward the Capital Fund. As to Bro. McDonald's church, the life-giving, health-promoting results of his people's liberal giving during the past year, (over \$1,600 for a parsonage, for pastor's salary, \$1,100; for Convention schemes over \$300.) I had the privilege of witnessing by their so cheerfully pledging themselves for \$123.50 for Capital Fund. How rich and true are God's promises. "The liberal soul shall be made fat," or the more God's people give the more He will give them to give. How wise for men to take God at His word. In doing His will they surely bring upon themselves great temporal as well as spiritual blessings. There is very much good cheer in Brother McDonald's work here, as in every place he has labored since he entered the ministry. As a direct result of the last few weeks' special meetings, fifteen have been baptized, and more to follow. Since he began his labors here 70 have been baptized, 38 of whom were heads of families. I was pleased to see the abundant evidences that the completion of the union of the two churches, so long prayed for by the faithful in both churches, is probably not very far off. For this let all pray, that God may be glorified thereby.

On a former tour I visited the Dorchester field. They pledged \$77.00 to Capital Fund. Under the vigorous leadership of Rev. A. T. Dykeman the church is united, and are having tokens of real prosperity.

DIMOCK ARCHIBALD.

Salisbury, N. B., March 31st, 1884.

For the Christian Messenger.
Student Missionaries.

It now appears that fifteen young men, all well recommended, are looking to our Home Mission Board for employment during the approaching vacation. There are plenty of fields for all these and many more, if the Board can only secure the needed assistance in locating them.

We have written to such fields as we think to be vacant and likely to need supplies. We hope that all the Brethren who have received our enquiries will send forward their answers at once.

Not knowing just what churches were pastorless in a few of the Counties, we have sent cards to pastors resident in these counties, asking such questions as will elicit the desired information. Several have already replied, we hope that others will do so at once.

We now ask the co-operation of all our Pastors. Brethren, if there are pastorless churches near you, will you not encourage others to apply to us for a young man for four or five months?

To the Brethren in pastorless churches who may read this, we say: Do not fail to bring this matter to the notice of your Brethren, and write me at once, stating what you will probably be able to raise towards support. By so doing you will likely be able to secure the labors of an earnest young brother, and prepare the way for the settlement of a pastor in the near future.

Remember, most of these men will be ready to commence work the first week in May. Whatever is done, therefore, must be done quickly.

Very truly yours,

A. COHOON,

Cor. Secy.

Hebron, Yr. Co., April 4, 1884.

For the Christian Messenger.

Cheap Baptist Library.

There are, no doubt, many individuals as well as Sabbath School Committees, who in securing a fresh supply of books desire to economize funds. Please give attention. Here are about 50 volumes in paper covers, costing from 5 to 10 cents each, containing, as they do, the cream of Baptist literature, comprising thrilling lectures and sermons from the most distinguished authors of the past and present, on such subjects as the following: Baptism; Baptist History, Struggles and progress; Church Organization and Policy; Communion; Defence of Baptist Principles, Doctrinal and Practical. These books will be a rich treat to the thoughtful part of our churches. No danger of making the people too wise; the more the church members know the easier it is for the pastor to preach to them. The result will be that if Sabbath Schools send for sets, that our Book Room will be flooded with orders for a few extra copies of special pamphlets to supply the ever-increasing demand. \$4.00 will get a complete set, but less than a set will be furnished to suit parties. Leading pastors have already secured sets. Send all orders to Geo. A. McDonald, 104 Granville St., Halifax. DIMOCK ARCHIBALD.

Notices.

The Annapolis County Baptist Ministerial and Monthly Conference will meet at Lawrencetown, on Tuesday, April 22nd, at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Rev. S. B. Kempton, A. M., of Canard, Kings Co. will lecture in the evening—subject: Missions.

REV. J. T. EATON, Sec'y.

Paradise, April 7th, 1884.

RECEIVED FROM WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES.

Halifax, Granville St. Church,—

Mrs. A. L. Wood.....\$47 00

Halifax, North Church,—

Mrs. Clements (omitted in Jan.) 18 05

Canard,—Mrs. S. B. Kempton..... 10 00

M. R. SELDEN, Treasurer.

Halifax, April 8th, 1884.

Moneys Received.

N Sutherland, \$2; Rev F S McGregor, \$3; J E Lockwood, \$2; J P Foster, \$2; J Soley, \$2; S T R Bill, \$4; J B Thomas, \$2; J B McNutt, \$2; Rev D McKeen, \$2; A Pearl, \$2.