

BITS OF LETTERS.

From a letter received a few days ago from bro. William Cliff, formerly of Queensbury and this city, we make extracts as follows, knowing that his friends hereabouts will be glad to hear of his enjoyment in his old age. He writes from Somerville, Mass.

The longer I stay here the better I like it. Somerville is growing very rapidly; its population twelve years ago was about 50,000, now it is 61,000. It is much to the credit of the place that there are no saloons. Some of the churches are very prosperous, especially the Baptist church at Davis Square. The pastor is a noble man of God; he preaches the truth with power and love and a sound mind, and is capable of feeding the flock of which God has made him overseer. In thirteen months he has added 90 members to the church. The church now numbers 660. I was there last Sunday, and the people came in crowds, as if the whole city was coming to hear the word of God. They have a large Sabbath School of 540 pupils. As the Free Baptist church in East Somerville is quite a distance from me, and I am getting feeble, I do not get there much. But in Roxbury, near where my daughter lives, I attended the two weeks of prayer. The church is in good working order, and they have a good preacher, but we did not see as much good as we would like to have seen.

Rev. J. N. Barnes sends the following incident, of interest particularly to the immediate friends of the little girl and others concerned in it:

A little child, the daughter of brother and sister Stanick, of French Lake, Sunbury Co., had been spending a few weeks with her grand parents, about five miles from home. One bright Sabbath morning in March, 1899 she said to her grand-mother, "Let us go over and see old Mr. and Mrs. Hanson," people who lived about one mile and a quarter distant, on the road leading from Geary to Blissville, and all the way through the woods. There was a heavy crust on the snow so they could walk on it. But her grandmother thought it would be better to go to see a family in another direction, and much nearer. After a while the child said, "Can I go?" Her grandmother said yes, not thinking the child intended to go alone. Presently they missed her; search was made, but she could not be found. At length they decided she must have started for Mr. Hanson's. The child arrived in safe, and found the two old people unable to help each other. She at once hurried back, and on the way met her grandparents looking for her, in great fear. They went with her and found it as she said. The two old people all that day and all night grew worse; indeed, they thought the old gentleman would die. A doctor was sent for, who came, and found he had pneumonia. By the blessing of God on the doctor's treatment and the care of their friends they both recovered. Where these old people live is a very lonely road, and there had been no one that way for a week or more. Sure, God must have put it into the mind of this dear little girl to go that way that Sabbath morning, and thus lead others to the rescue. The Master is always right: "A little child shall lead them." These facts were stated to me by the parents and grand parents, and I write them as illustrating one of God's ways of ministering needed help. The little girl, now a bright girl of eight years, is a member of the Mission Band at her home. She said to me a few days ago that she desires to be a missionary some day.

Rev. R. Heine, of Caledonia, N. S., writes about the duty of Free Baptists in foreign mission work. He says:

"I noticed a few weeks ago an article at union in higher education and foreign mission work with another denomination. I would ask, Why so? Why leave our own fields in India and Africa on which considerable money and consecrated lives have been spent? Why leave a struggling Free Baptist interest who need our help so much to help another better manned than ours? Let us arouse ourselves and help out our struggling brethren in India. No wonder young men went volunteer to do someone else's work. Our work in India was never in better shape than now; and there is every evidence of a great outpouring in the years to come. Also Re Higher Education; The Free Baptists of the Provinces need a college and Theological school of their own. It is necessary to our successful existence. Many ask, How will we get it? There is enough property in our provinces to build Educational institutions for us when we arise and do what we should do. Select a site as near as possible to a large city so as to have the greatest advantage in scholars. Practically built our institutions in Lewiston, Me. The same number and more in the provinces can do just as well if they, with God's help, undertake the same thing. This throwing aside of our standards and seeking union with others is weakening. It is time it was stopped. Then God will bless us and give us what we need. We have a glorious mission to perform and with God's help it will be done. It is said that at Magersfontein our men decided the order to retreat in the moment of victory, such a sight will be to the world, before God, the saints and angels, if we should surrender our position at the present time."

There are many churches for a long time have not had conversions in connection with their work. Have they forgotten that the mission of the church is to seek the salvation of the unconverted? They should be praying earnestly, and living and labouring for the conversion of the unsaved about them.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

OAK POINT, K. Co.—The special meetings at Oak Point were closed last night. They resulted in a wonderful blessing to the church. Matters of difficulty which have existed for years between leading men of the Church have been satisfactorily settled. The church stars out with better prospects than ever before. Six followed the Lord in the ordinance of baptism, five were received into fellowship, one young lady intends joining the Brown's Flat Church. A number of others feel deeply impressed for reasons known only to themselves they did not make a full surrender. We hope they will go forward in the near future. We believe the work has only fairly begun. We organized a Young People's Society last night with a membership of 30—20 active and 10 associate, with more to come in. We believe this Society will be a power for good in this community, as we have some fine material to develop. We have also, started a Sunday prayer-meeting. I expect to assist my son in special meetings at Jerusalem, the coming week, and then (D. V.) I expect to begin at Hamilton Mountain Church. I have been much interested in reading the reports of the work being done by my brethren in other parts of the field. Pray that it may be a year of great blessing for us as a people, and that the Lord may abundantly pour out his blessings on this people.

April 9th, 1902. S. J. PERRY.

GRAND MANAN.—I spent last Sunday the 6th inst., with the church at North Head and Castalia Grand Manan. They have been without pastoral care since bro. Cochrane left them last Sept. In the face of this fact they are certainly doing well. Both churches sustain their regular mid-week and Sabbath day prayer meetings.

The Castalia church has an excellent young people's society, which is doing good work. The membership is not large but many of the members are earnest consecrated workers. One of their members, Miss Richardson, is in very poor health and is much missed in the meetings. The Sabbath school is growing in numbers and usefulness. Bro. Robt. Middleton is the Supt. They have an enrollment of 53. I was present and enjoyed the attempt to teach one of the classes.

The Sunday School at North Head, I was told, is in a very healthy condition. The church there has sustained quite a loss in the death of its senior deacon bro. James McFarlane, who died about midwinter. I baptized a very promising young man at the close of the morning service at Castalia. His membership is with the Methodist church there. Both North Head and Castalia churches had excellent Easter concerts which were enjoyed by crowded houses.

These people are in need of a pastor. They are surrounded by denominations that are always supplied with aggressive ministers. Our cause there cannot grow, perhaps cannot even hold its own, under the present pressure. The cause of conditions as they are now, is in reality due to their inability to raise a living salary for a pastor, could one be secured.

It would seem that the Home Mission board should in some way make such provision for these and similar churches as to make it possible when they do their part, even though the amount be below the average salary, they should not suffer because of weakness, for which they are not to blame. Presumably, the funds are too small to do this. Our strong churches must give more, our comparatively strong ones expect less, and our weakest ones be better cared for, if we are to grow as a people. We "that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak."

I am writing this letter at the request of the brethren there who are becoming somewhat discouraged. They are loyal Free Baptists, and should be cared for. How are these difficulties to be overcome? Let some wiser head attempt to solve the problem. It is an important one.

April 9th 1902 A. J. PROSSER.

FROM REV. H. A. BONNELL.—Bro. Ganong (Baptist) and I are holding union meetings at Shaanon and at the Belyea's Cove Baptist church. We have seen much good done. Both churches have been revived. Pray for us that many sinners may be converted.

H. A. BONNELL.

FROM REV. W. H. PERRY.—Perhaps it is time I wrote another letter for the INTELLIGENCER. I am always interested in the Denominational News, and it has been very cheering to read of God's blessing upon the different sections of our field. I have been quite busy since I came here, but have held no special services. I have been

blest with good health and have enjoyed my work. I hope and pray that we may see the quickening influence of Gods Spirit all over this field. I have found the people all very kind. On April 9th friends from Covrville, Salisbury and Eagle Settlement came and sawed and split our Summer's wood. For this and other kind acts may the Lord abundantly bless them. I hope all our ministers may be remembered in like way. It seems to me, Brother McLeod, that you have made the INTELLIGENCER even better than before, and it a ways was a good paper. I think Free Baptists are making a mistake who deprive themselves of its influence and inspiration.

W. H. PERRY.

Salisbury, Apr. 10th, 1902.

CARLETON COUNTY FREE BAPTIST PREACHERS INSTITUTE.—Most of the Free Baptist preachers of Carleton County, met at the rooms of Rev. L. A. Fenwick A. B., Bath, Carleton Co. on Monday the 7th inst. The good landlady had an excellent dinner prepared, and we all sat down with excellent appetite, especially those of us who had driven long distances. Father Noble returned thanks. After dinner, an hour was spent "free and easy," until the arrival of the express. At 2.30 p. m. the chairman, Rev. G. W. Foster, called the brethren to order. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. J. Noble. There were eight present, viz. Revs. J. Noble, J. Perry, J. T. Parsons, G. W. Foster, J. B. Daggett, L. A. Fenwick A. B., M. L. Gregg and Lic. J. C. Wilson. For different reasons Revs. H. Hartt, Wm. Deware, A. W. Currie and F. Allison Currie A. M. were unable to be with us, which was regretted very much.

The discussion of "Our Work" was very helpful to us all. Difficulties were frankly stated, and joys were shared. Several of the pastors had the joy of reporting revivals. All were very sorry to learn that bro. Daggett, advised by physicians, had tendered his resignation to the Hartland-Brighton pastorate to take effect as soon as a new pastor can be secured.

Rev. J. Perry's doctrinal sermon was highly appreciated by all.

Rev. L. A. Fenwick read a paper on "The relation of the church to Political Citizenship." It was strong and suggestive, and evoked an interesting and helpful discussion.

The next meeting will be at the Free Baptist parsonage, Hartland.

M. L. GREGG, Sec.

MINISTERS' MEETING.—The monthly meeting of the ministers of the Third and Fourth Districts convened in the parsonage at Gibson on Monday, 7th inst. There were present Revs. Dr. McLeod, T. O. DeWitt, F. C. Hartley, A. D. Paul, A. A. Rideout and F. H. Knollin, and Licenses. Cochrane and Bolster. The devotional exercises were conducted by bro. Cochrane. Minutes were read, also a letter from Rev. J. J. Barnes stating the condition of his field. Special prayer was offered for bro. Barnes and his work, and the secretary was instructed to write him. Each of the ministers present reported the work done during the past month, and some asked for advice; a very profitable hour was spent in consultation. The paper on "The Sabbath Question," prepared by Rev. F. S. Hartley, was read by the Secretary. It was a good paper, and with the discussion which followed was helpful and instructive. On invitation of bro. Rideout it was decided to have the next session at Marysville on Monday, May 12th, at 3 o'clock. The programme for the day includes a discussion on "Revivals," led by Dr. McLeod, and addresses at the evening meeting by bro. F. S. Hartley and Cochrane.

The evening session was held in the church and was participated in by all the ministers present. The addresses on missions by bro. DeWitt and Knollin were good, and were much enjoyed by all present, as was the excellent music prepared by the Gibson choir. We would be glad to have all interested note the date of the next meeting and plan to be present. Any of our ministers will be welcome.

F. C. HARTLEY.

Sec.

MINISTERS.—Rev. T. S. Van Wart passed through this city a few days ago enroute to his new pastorate at Deer Island, where he will arrive about the middle of this week. Mrs. VanWart and daughter accompanied him. He has sold his home at Upper Hainesville. He is looking forward somewhat hopefully to the work in the Deer Island churches. His P. O. address is now Fair Haven, Deer Island, N. B.

The Bath, C. Co. correspondent of the San says: "Rev. Joseph Noble preached in the Free Baptist church

Sunday morning, and Rev. John Perry Sunday evening, 6th inst. These two old gentlemen are wonderfully hale and hearty for men of their age."

Rev. J. N. Barnes spent a day or two at McAdam last week. He will go up river this week if Mrs. Barnes' health will permit.

Licentiate R. W. Ferguson has the sympathy of all his brethren in the sore bereavement he has suffered in the death of his wife. We pray God that he may have the fullness of divine comfort and support.

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MARRIAGES

BURNETT-MAYNARD.—At the parsonage F'ton, April 2nd, by Rev. F. Clarke Hartley, Mr. G. Hartley Burnett to Miss Rena Maynard both of F'ton Junction.

DEATHS.

RODGERS.—At Fredericton Road, Salisbury, on April 3rd, Alvira M., only child of James W., and Mary Rodgers, aged three months. Funeral service, by the writer, W. H. Perry.

WALLACE.—At Brown's Flats, Kings Co., on March 12th, of paralysis, Miss Prudence Wallace, aged 67 years. She professed religion a number of years ago and became a member of the Baptist Church. In her death a good woman has gone to her reward. The writer was requested to attend her funeral, but being unable to do so, Rev. J. B. Gough (Methodist) conducted the services.

S. J. PERRY.

EARLE.—At Carleton, N. S., April 2nd, Jennie O., wife of James R. Earle, and adopted daughter of A. R. Durkee, aged 31 years. In childhood she confessed Christ and joined the Free Baptist church at Carleton, in which she was for many years an organizer. Her life adorned the Christian profession and in her death the Christian's hope is for the comfort of the mourning ones. She leaves husband and an infant son.

DAVID PATTERSON.

MITCHELL.—At Wilson's Beach, Campo Bello, on the 6th inst. Verna, youngest daughter of Capt. Danl. Mitchell, of pneumonia, aged 2 years and 4 months. In their sorrow the members of the family, who have no, the comforting counsel and care of a mother, have the sympathy of their pastor and the people of the village.

MATTHEWS.—At Wilson's Beach, Campo Bello, N. B., on the 28th ult. Annie, youngest and only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Matthews, aged 1 year and 7 months. The little one succeeded in battling off a combined attack of bronchitis and pneumonia, but could not survive the resulting weakness, and after five weeks suffering took its flight to the country where sickness never comes. We express sympathy for the parents in their trouble.

A. J. PROSSER.

WILLIAMS.—At the home of her daughter, Mrs. Howard Gorham, Round Hill, Kings Co., April 6th, Frances, relict of the late Henry Williams, aged 96 years, leaving one son and one daughter, fifteen grandchildren and two great grandchildren, with a large circle of relatives and friends. Sister W. professed religion 56 years ago, under the labors of the late Rev. W. E. Pennington, and united with the Holderville church of which she lived a worthy member until death. Funeral services at the home and church by the writer; text 2 Timothy 4: 7-8. The remains were taken to Holderville for interment.

S. J. PERRY.



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FERGUSON.—At Petitediac, N. B., Free Baptist parsonage, on the 8th inst. of pneumonia, after an illness of only six days, Ada E., wife of Licentiate R. W. Ferguson, and youngest daughter of John R. Worden, late of Hampstead, Q. Co. She leaves a husband, four children and one sister, Mrs. D. B. Mayes of St. John, to mourn their great loss.

WORDEN.—At the same place, on the 9th inst., of pneumonia, John R. Worden, aged 78 years, father of Mrs. Ferguson. One daughter, two sisters and three brothers survive him. The bodies of father and daughter were taken to Hampstead for burial on Friday, the 11th inst. and were interred in the same grave. It is not often that two deaths in one family occur within a few hours. This doubly sad event made a deep impression, and evoked much sympathy for bro. Ferguson and the other bereaved ones.

SIPPREL.—At her old home, with her son William, Letitia, widow of the late Rev. Ezekiel Sipprel, aged 86 years. She leaves 6 sons, 3 daughters, 32 grand children, great 37 grand-children, 2 brothers and 7 sisters with numerous other relatives and friends to mourn their loss. Sister Sipprel professed religion about 65 years ago and joined the Free Baptist Church at Victoria Corner. In her early christian life her trials were many, her husband being much from home, leaving her with the care of the family. For several years she has been blind yet in all these adversities her faith in God has been steadfast, and many times she could rejoice in God the Rock of her salvation. At her funeral the attendance was large. The service was conducted by the writer, assisted by Revs. J. T. Parsons, G. W. McDonald and J. B. Dagget and Rev. Mr. Rice (Methodist). J. NOBLE.

DOWNNEY.—At Bellisle Bay, K. Co., Feb'y, 24th, of pneumonia, Mrs. Ro'ey A., beloved wife of John Downey, aged 76 years. Although in delicate health for many years, she was ever diligent in good work. By her untiring energy, care and watchfulness her life was more than ordinarily linked to that of her husband, by whom her removal is keenly felt. She was a true and noble wife and mother, a worthy follower of Christ, who "went about doing good." Very much might be said in her praise, but all is comprehended in the oft repeated phrase which escaped young and old the day she was buried, "We have lost a friend." The services in connection with her funeral were held at the Star Meeting house, Kars, and were largely attended.

F. G. FRANCIS.

HOWE.—Mrs. John Howe died at the home of her son, Charles Howe, Norton Kings Co., April 2nd of pneumonia, aged 76 years. The deceased was an old resident and was highly respected by a large

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circle of acquaintances. She will be especially missed by her immediate family circle, of whom four sons and a daughter and a number of grand-children remain to mourn their loss. But they mourn not as those that have no hope. The funeral services were held at Midland on the 4th inst., at which a goodly number of old friends assembled to pay tribute to her memory.

F. G. F.

DENOMINATIONAL NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The following places will be visited, and services held by the Conference missionary, Rev. E. S. Parker, B. A. on dates stated:

Head Millstream, Thursday and Friday, 17th and 18th.

Dutch Valley, Sunday, April, 20th, morning.

Penobscis, Sunday, April 20th evening.

Upper Millstream, Tuesday, April 22nd, evening.

Lower Ridge, Wednesday, April 23rd, evening.

Corn Hill, Thursday, April 24th, evening.

Graves Settlement, Friday, April 25th, evening.

Dutch Valley, Sunday, April 27th morning.

Penobscis, Sunday, April 27th, evening.

Petitediac, Monday, April 28th, evening.

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