

Admiral Sampson, of the United States Navy died on Tuesday of last week. The controversy as to the relative merits of Admiral Schley and himself worried him and doubtless hastened his death.

Five young women graduated as dentists receiving the degree of D. D. from Pennsylvania College last week.

Archbishop Corrigan (Roman Catholic) of New York died Monday night of last week. He was 62 years old.

All the bells in Cuba will be rung at noon on May 20, the hour at which the Cuban Republic will come into being.

The C. P. R. trackmen, whose claim for an increase of wages was referred to arbitration, are to receive 20 per cent increase.

Queen Wilhelmina's condition is much improved.

Thirty thousand Norwegians have sailed to America this year.

The executive committee of the manufacturers' association has decided to invite the premiers of Australia, New Zealand and Canada and some members of the British Cabinet to attend the annual meeting to be held in Halifax next August.

Russia's coercive measures in Finland have reached such an extreme of cruelty that an agitation has begun in many quarters looking toward the interference of the European powers in behalf of the unfortunate inhabitants. The farmers are emigrating in large numbers, an average of well up to a thousand leaving every week.

CONCENTRATION OF FORCES

I have read the letter of Bro. Long, with much interest in hope of obtaining some new light on a somewhat old question, but I think I shall be justified in the conclusion that no thing new has been presented. That does not imply for a moment, that Bro. Long's presentation is not worthy of consideration, far from it, but, simply that each point made, is but that so often said, and heard in the past, which cannot wrought the desired conviction secured the needed adhesion. Bro. Long, of course, understands that he has not given the whole case, either on a theoretical, or practical standpoint, but, he has given strong reasons in his view of the case from his standpoint. And it is well to look at them. The claim is made that as Baptists should be organically one. Why? Because (1) the causes of separate organizations are of the past. Now, is that the fact? Bro. Long explicitly states: "The doctrines which the churches contended against are not now taught." Can that be said broadly? Within a few months I have heard the doctrine of a limited atonement; still know full well others of the same denomination taught the doctrine of a general atonement.

Grant as to essential faith we are to-day, save as to the communion, not that true as to others? The aim of Baptism does not make us one! Bro. Long knows our form as Baptists is not confined to any one angelical denomination. Essentially we are one with all Christian believers.

But, as distinctive immersionists emphasizing that phase of truth, as to believer's Baptism, we are near to each other. Further, in our view of the Lord's Supper, both as to teaching and practice, we are just in the fathers' position. Has there generally been a change within the house we are asked to enter? And, that both as to doctrine and practice? Fully aware of distances approaching to our faith and practice, but can it be said that, that faith and practice all round is general? The answer must be no! Yes! but it will be said in union there must be discussion looking to a larger good.

The answer to that is why concession? And why organic union to obtain that? Swifly the reply will be because one strong interest is better than two weak ones. Suppose that is stated, how if in making the strong interest, you have suffered loss? A loss not compensated for in the good obtained.

More looking at things as they are, after case can be cited that the proposed union would result in less active work than is being done to-day.

But, to hark back to the main point. As Free Baptists our faith in the communion is of a piece with the rest of our belief. "Free" is the word, both as to faith, spirit and practice. From the first to this day that position has been our stronghold. That position goes beyond a form of polity. Well! is it in this day in the good interests of the kingdom, to narrow that position? If on all other points there is a consensus, where is that oneness acknowledged to be expressed? Not merely to a form but as to essential spirit. Is not that Lord's table? And, the LORD'S TABLE, where is the

Scriptural prohibition of any renewed child of God? To narrow at the Table, is to strike at the central feature of our distinctive position as a people. The very genius, spirit, of our entire organization is in protest against that which is so truly expressed by the word—Free.

And let this be said, Compromise on so essential, distinctive character, is to some out of the question.

Then (2) reference is made to the union of the Methodist family, and the Presbyterian family in this Dominion, what divided them? So far as I know questions of polity. That I think is the fact. Our position is entirely different. In polity practically we are one. But are we in spirit in that "freedom" that belongs to a "kingdom," where it can be expressed, namely, at the Lord's Table?

And (3) is our Lord's Prayer for oneness, organic union? Are not all believers in and lovers of the Lord Jesus Christ, one in Christ to-day? When has the universal and visible church been one except in the sense named?

Very remarkable Roman, Greek, Anglican Churches are pleading that prayer, overlooking the fact that the oneness is comprehensive of all churches, and even beyond that, in the Spirit and Law of Christ Jesus. And, further be it said beyond any question the mourned divisions of the past have been to the glory of God, and the extension of His Kingdom.

Still all know that as Bro. Long states that where possible unity of force in organic relations is wise and commendable. Is it wise in our position? Bro. Long says Yes! I have given but a part of the case of those who think it is not, and already I have taken up too much space. So perhaps you will kindly allow me in another letter to refer to other features, and to conclude with the sincere hope that the question will be by us all kept on the level and plane of what is best for not alone one side or the other, but for Christ's Kingdom.

T. H. SIDDALL.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

MOUNT PLEASANT, C. Co.—I have been holding some special services with the church at Mount Pleasant. The meetings have been fairly well attended, and have been seasons of blessed refreshing from God. The hearts of the brethren and sisters have been encouraged and cheered; voices have been again heard praising the Lord that had been silent for some time; and some have been converted. At the close of last Sabbath service two followed their Lord in baptism; and there are others we trust will do so in the near future. The meetings are being continued.

GEO. W. FOSTER.

May 7th.

ST. JOHN WEST.—Church work is prospering in the Carleton Church fairly well. While the pastor is still unable to preach, he takes such part as he has strength to do. Our young brother, W. A. Kierstead, assistant pastor, is doing nicely and giving quite general satisfaction. He held a series of special services, in which he aimed at the direct conversion of the unsaved of the congregation. He continued the meetings for two full weeks and part of the third week. His preaching was plain, practical, and to the point and resulted in the salvation of a number of souls. On Sunday May 4th, nineteen were baptized. Some of these had been getting along in the meetings for a number of months; Several of them came out in the Sabbath School on "Decision day," and the balance as the result of the special meetings. As the pastor did not feel equal to administering the ordinance himself, Bro. D. Long, pastor of the North End church, kindly did the baptizing. A large concourse of people assembled at the open waters, near the Old Fort, where so many converts have been baptized. The day was beautifully fine, and Bro. Long performed the ordinance so gracefully that everybody was delighted with the entire service. At the evening service the pastor gave the hand of fellowship to all the converts who were in the morning baptized, and to four others who united by letter and on experience, making an addition to our membership of twenty-three. There were five of one family—father, mother, two daughters and an only son, who came in. The Lord's Supper, was administered in connection with the evening service, when an unusually large number of communicants sat at the table. It gave increased interest to this service to have our aged and veteran deacon D. W. Clark, with us, able to serve in his usual way. Some months had passed since Bro. Clark had been able to meet with the church at communion. His health is such

what improved. The pastor's health and strength do not gain as he hoped they would, and yet he is hoping for better days. Upon the whole we may "thank God and take courage."

G. A. HARTLEY.

ST. JOHN NORTH.—The work is going along about as usual. Three were baptized and, with one other, united with the church. We are hoping that others who have manifested a desire to become Christians may unite with us. We are trying to make our week night prayer meetings more evangelistic, so that the young people who attend may be given a better opportunity to confess their Master. I fear that often, after having made a special effort to get the unconverted to accept Christ, and not succeed in our efforts, we too quickly lose our fervent desire for their salvation. If more zeal was daily manifested by the church for the salvation of sinners and caring for weak members the church would be stronger, and there might be less need for evangelists and special meetings.

D. LONG.

MARRIAGES

GORRIE BROWN.—At St. John, on May 8th, by Rev. David Long, James C. Gorrie and Edna May Brown, both of St. John.

DEATHS.

AKERLEY.—At the home of his daughter Mrs. Wm. Evers, Fairville, on April 16th, Charles Akerley, aged 63 years, leaving 2 sons and 3 daughters. His remains were taken to Big Cove, Queens Co., for interment. Rev. O. N. Mott officiated at the grave.

D. L.

FLEMING.—At Howland Ridge, York Co., on the 27th ult, Thomas Fleming, in the 72nd year of his age. Deceased leaves a widow and a family of four sons and four daughters to mourn their loss.

J. J. BARNES.

PELKY.—At Gordonsville, Car. Co., on the 28th ult, Mary E., beloved wife of Robert Pelky, aged 72 years, leaving a sorrowing husband, two sisters and one brother to mourn their loss. Funeral services conducted by the writer.

G. W. FOSTER.

HICKS.—At Lo. Millstream, Kings Co., N. B., on Tuesday, April 6th, 1902, the infant son of Noah E. Hicks, died of measles. The little one, although only 11 months of age, had experienced intense suffering, calling forth from the mother extreme anxiety and care and depriving her of a much needed rest. To-day he is safe in the kingdom of God with the loving Saviour who said, "Suffer the little ones to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Service at the house and grave were conducted by writer. Interment took place at the Lo. Millstream Free Baptist burying-ground. May Christ comfort the bereaved parents by his sweet presence.

H. H. FERGUSON.

ELSTON.—At Adelaide street, St. John, April 17th, Charles Elston, in the 63rd year of his age, leaving a sorrowing wife to mourn the loss of a kind husband. The church has sustained a great loss, as he was an active worker. There were three characteristics that were prominent in his life—cheerfulness, earnestness and faithfulness. He was an enthusiastic worker in the Temple of Honor. The remains were taken to Holderville, K. Co., and interred in the cemetery there, under the auspices of the Temple of Honor. A memorial service was held in the Victoria St. Free Baptist church on Sunday, May 4th, which was very largely attended.

D. L.

LANGMAID-SEELYE.—At the home of the groom, at Wilson's Beach, Campobello, Apr. 11th, by Rev. A. J. Prosser, Alra Langmaid and Ella Seelye.

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Denominational Notices.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The First District Meeting, Lower Perth, Victoria county, the first Friday in July, 1902, at 2 p. m. To attend—Rev. A. W. Currie, Rev. A. D. Paul, Rev. G. W. Foster, Rev. J. Henderson, Rev. Henry Hart, Rev. C. T. Phillips and Rev. S. J. Perry. Second District Meeting, at Lindsay, Carleton county, the Friday preceding the fourth Saturday of June, 1902, at 10 o'clock, a. m. To attend—Rev. F. C. Hartley, A. B.

Third District Meeting, at Gibson, York county, the first Friday in September, 1902, at 2 p. m. Rev. J. J. Barnes to preach annual sermon. Fourth District Meeting, at Rusagornish, S. Co., the second Friday in September, 1902, at 10 o'clock, a. m. To attend—Rev. A. J. Prosser, Rev. H. A. Bonnell, Rev. C. B. Lewis. Fifth District Meeting, at Bald Hill, Queens county, the first Friday in July, 1902. Sixth District Meeting, at Dover, Westmorland county, the second

Friday in July, 1902, at 2 p. m. Rev. B. H. Noble to preach annual sermon. To attend, Rev. C. T. Phillips.

Seventh District Meeting, at Seal Cove, Charlotte county, the first Saturday in August, 1902, at 10 o'clock, a. m. To attend—Rev. J. N. Barnes, Rev. G. A. Hartley to preach annual sermon.

Dr. McLeod is appointed to attend all the District Meetings.

FORMS FOR REPORTS.

Forms for Reports of Churches and Reports of Sunday Schools, and blanks for the use of churches in making up their lists of contributions to the Conference fund and other denominational funds, have been sent to the Clerks of the First, Second, Fifth and Sixth District, for distribution to the churches of their respective Districts.

JOS. McLEOD.

Cor. Sec. General Con.

APPOINTMENTS.

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

Coverdale, Wednesday, May 14th, evening.

Lewis Mountain, Thursday, May 15th, evening.

Wheaton Settlement, Friday, May 16th, evening.

Anagance Ridge (Hall), Sunday, May 18th, a. m.

Newtown church, Sunday, May 18th, evening.

Lower Millstream church, Tuesday, May 20th, evening.

Long Point church, day, Thurs May 22nd, evening.

Narrows, Friday, May 23rd, evening.

Q. M. Notice

APPOINTMENTS FOR MAY.

Rev. J. N. Barnes, the missionary of the Woman's Mission Society will (D. V.) attend the following appointments:

Long Island, V. Co., 10.30 a. m., Sabbath, May 18th.

Arthurville, V. Co., 7.30 p. m., Sabbath, May 18th.

Coldstream, C. Co., 10.30 a. m., Sabbath, May 25th.

Windsor, C. Co., 3 p. m. Sabbath, May 25th.

Temple, Y. Co., 10 a. m., Sabbath, June 1st.

Middle Southampton, 3 p. m., Sabbath, June 1st.

Pastors and deacons will kindly announce these appointments. A collection for the missions will be taken at each meeting.

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Rev. W. C. Weston, Yarmouth, Ministerial Aid.

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