

October 30, 1913.

**Correspondence.**

Dear Highway,—Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy.—Ps. 107, 2.

Thank God for his great plan of redemption. My heart rejoices in the fact that I have become a partaker of the grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ. "The cross now covers my sin, the past is under the blood; I am trusting in Jesus for all; my will is the will of my God." Praise the Lord. The meetings at Gordonsville were certainly blessed of God, and many were helped. Brother Wright did well. He is now supplying for me while I am engaged with Brother Dow in the battle here. We began here in the hall on Thursday, the 16th, and will probably continue for some days yet. The people turn out very well, but the spiritual state is very low. We will try, by the help of God, to break up the fallow ground and sow some seed at least. The real need of the church is the Holy Ghost. The spiritual state in many communities is really alarming, and we need to keep in touch with God, and the fire in our souls to lead people up to the blessing.

P. J. TRAFTON.

Dear Brother Baker,—Please find enclosed my renewal for the Highway. Also my testimony.

I praise the Lord for victory over sin. I can truly say that Jesus is all in all to me. He has taken away the veil and we can enter into the holiest of all by His precious blood, and enjoy sweet communion with Him. Praise Jesus for a full and free salvation which cleanses my heart just now, and I am exploring the land of Canaan, and new heights I am gaining every day.

M. D. HILLMAN.

Jonesport, Me., Oct. 15, 1913.

Dear Highway,—We have here by the sea a little church with which the most of our people are but slightly acquainted, and since we are all one in Christ Jesus, I know that you will be glad to hear from the brothers and sisters who have lately joined our ranks.

This church is the fruit of the labors of Brother and Sister Henderson, now of Grand Manan. The membership is small, but they are individually of sterling worth, and nothing is more precious to their hearts than the love of God and the cause of holiness. A large number at the first received the precious truth, but when the testing time came many fell away, "having loved this present world." The few who are left are a real "Gideon's band," their strong aim and purpose being to keep true to God and to work untiringly for the upbuilding of the cause of God and holiness in the salvation of the people of this town.

For about ten months of 1912-13 the services were held regularly, both midweek and on the Sabbath, including the Sunday School, in the absence of a pastor, and in all of that time, in spite of severe storms, not more than one or two services were missed.

I first became acquainted with this people in April of this year, when I came to Beals to assist Brother H. H. Cosman in special work.

I enjoyed my work very much with Bro. Cosman and his people, and God gave us some souls, whom we hope will remain true to Him. The remainder of the time until Beulah I spent with the church at Jonesport.

Beal's Island is separated from the mainland by an arm of the sea only about a mile in width at the narrowest part, so that the sister churches feel very near to each other, being the

only two Reformed Baptist churches in this vicinity.

We are very glad that one of the four conventions planned by the Alliance committee is to be held at Jonesport, and we are praying earnestly that God will give to us at this time an old-fashioned revival, when men and women shall weep and mourn because of their sins, until they find pardon, full and free, at Jesus' feet; when believers shall see their glorious privilege of being sanctified wholly, shall fully consecrate themselves and all they have to God, and tarry until the fire falls which burns out sin, and Christ shall reign supreme in the heart in His own fulness—perfect love.

Brother Cosman and his people expect to unite with us and to be present to assist in every way, except at such times as rough weather would prevent crossing. We trust that all the dear brothers and sisters will unite with us in earnest prayer for God's blessing upon the work here. Here, as elsewhere in the vineyard, there is much need of effectual fervent prayer, and of an unwavering determination in working for the success of God's kingdom in the salvation of precious souls, the sanctification of believers and the establishing of the truth, for there are few places where error and false doctrine are much more deeply rooted than in this place.

I am enjoying my work very much here. It is very encouraging to a pastor to know that his people are in full sympathy, heart and soul, in the work. We are earnestly working and praying together for the upbuilding of God's Kingdom here. We find the interest is steadily increasing, and we confidently expect to see a rich harvest of precious souls.

Your sister in Christ,

M. ELLA SLIPP.

**THE FOX OF WORLDLY AMUSEMENTS**

A little fox which crept into the vineyard soon after its planting, and which has grown large and old, and is surrounded with an ever-increasing brood of growing little foxes, is the fox of worldly amusements. There is possibly no other thing which so slyly does its work of despoiling the tender vines as this fox.

The theatre, by its foolish, immoral plays, is doing incalculable harm. The marriage relation is treated in almost all theatrical plays as a joke; and the home, the pillar of civilization, is being undermined. Divorces are increasing at such a rapid rate in our country that unless the tide is checked, every other marriage will be annulled in the year of 1925. Much of this increase in divorces can be traced to the theatre, with its poisoning influence.

Suicides and murders are increasing. Although there are many other contributing causes for the increasing suicides and murders, some of them are traceable directly or indirectly to the immoral play. Many crimes, such as robbery, etc., have been inspired by the moving picture show, and have been traced directly to them by the courts.

Both the theatres and moving picture shows are beyond redemption, and should not be patronized by Christians. Neither of them can be operated on even a moral basis; for should they be they would not receive sufficient patronage to support them. Edwin Booth attempted to operate a moral theatre in New York City. He spent a million or more; his theatre failed, and the building was sold for a warehouse.

Then I have made no mention of the shows, baseball games, fairs, races, Sunday parks, celebrations, etc., which claim so much attention of professed Christians. More than this, many of the churches are given over very largely to

show and amusements. It is with a blush of shame that I acknowledge the fact that churches are now being built with billiard tables and pool rooms in them. Card parties are very common. Both the world and the church have gone amusement mad. My, what will the harvest be, with all this being done in the name of religion!

Many a young man has taken his first step toward the gambling dive, and many a young girl has started toward the brothel and a life of shame in the card party or parlor dance in some professedly Christian home. More than one betrayed, fallen and dying girl has told this story which is sad but true. In numerous instances the so-called amusements prove nothing less than gambling. It is just as sinful to play a game of cards for a gold cup as a gold dollar. How can we as Christians lend any encouragement to such a system as I have vaguely outlined? To do so would be ruinous to ourselves and others.

The fox of worldly amusements, with its detestable brood, will rob us of the following valuable things.

1. Precious time which should be spent in the study of the Bible, in pious devotion, and in the discharge of Christian duties.

2. Money, which should be spent in advancing the interests of the Lord's kingdom and in making for ourselves comfortable homes in anticipation of a rainy or adverse day.

3. Energy and interest for the Lord's cause, which sooner or later will result in an abandonment of even our profession of religion, our joy of salvation having long since departed. He who finds it necessary to supplement his religion with such worldly amusements confesses that his is not the religion of the Bible. The whole-hearted Christian has neither time, money or disposition for such things.

The fox of worldly amusements is not imaginary; it is real. Let us detect him and cast him out of the vineyard of our lives. Let us not go anywhere that we cannot ask the blessed Holy Spirit to accompany us, nor where we would not want to be found if Jesus should come.—*Gospel Banner.*

**A MIGHTY GATHERING OF MEN.**

The National Convention of Methodist Men to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, the last four days in October will be an event of special significance to Christian men workers all over the world. It will be the first event of its kind among Methodist men, and it will illustrate in an inspiring way the interest the men of to-day are taking in affairs pertaining to the kingdom of God. It is purposed to call together three thousand delegated men—ministers and laymen in equal numbers—from all over the United States, and to set before them the missionary work of the M. E. church. It goes without saying that there will be many Sunday school men in this convention and that, directly and indirectly, the Sunday school will feel the influence of this great gathering. In very recent years the attitude of the men of the world toward missionary work has undergone a great change, and all organizations of men banded together for Christian work are heeding the missionary call. This great convention is under the call of the laymen's missionary movement of the M. E. Church. All of the missionary and benevolent boards of the church are united in the movement, which is seeking to interest the men of the church in doing more than they have ever before done for the cause of missions.—*Adult Bible Class Monthly.*