

**MARRIED.**

Andrews-Clark.

A wedding of interest to people of this town took place in St. Stephen on New Year's Day at high noon, when Gladys Irene Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Clark, became the bride of Charles L. Andrews, of this town. The bridal party was unattended. The bridal party stood beneath a floral arch and wedding bell, where the marriage ceremony was performed by Rev. W. C. Goucher and Rev. S. H. Clark, the latter being an uncle of the bride. The happy couple were the recipients of many beautiful presents, testifying to the esteem in which they are held by their many friends. They will reside in Baring, Maine.

Allen-Grant.

At the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Allen, 71 Metcalf street, St. John, N. B., parents of the bridegroom, Mr. William A. Allen, and Miss Mary Grant, of Suffolk, England, were united in marriage by Rev. W. W. Howe. Mr. and Mrs. Allen will reside at 47 St. Patrick street, St. John, N.B.

**PRESENTATION.**

Miss Nellie Good,  
Moncton, N. B.

Dear Miss Good:

Another Merry Christmas season has rolled around, and amid all the joys and pleasures it has brought is this happy occasion, when we, the little girls of your Sunshine Class, may show in some small way our appreciation of your many kindnesses. The past year has indeed been a pleasant one, and we look forward to many another with you as our teacher. Please accept this gold pencil as a token of our love and affection for you.

We wish you all the Season's Greetings and a Bright and Happy New Year.

YOUR SUNSHINE CLASS.

**OBITUARY.**

Mrs. John C. Dobson.

The death of Mrs. John C. Dobson took place at her residence on Archibald street, Moncton, two weeks ago after a painful illness of cancer, aged 65 years. Sister Dobson was resigned to the divine will, and was remarkably patient during her tedious and painful illness. She was a member of the Reformed Baptist congregation for many years. She is survived by her son, Mr. Stanley Dobson, of Moncton. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor S. A. Baker and Dr. Bowley Green of the First Baptist Church. The remains were interred at Elmwood cemetery.

Those who claim that we are entirely sanctified at the time of conversion should give some reason for their belief, as it is contrary to the theology of all the churches that have spoken on this subject. When one would lead us out of the beaten pathway he should give us a good reason for it.—Christian Witness.

"Lot's wife left Sodom but did not let it leave her."

**A SAD STORY.**

We talked with a bright, successful pastor of a prominent church in a city. He had just returned from a town where he had gone to help in a meeting. The meeting was a great success; so much so that they prevailed on the assisting pastor to remain over Sunday. He did so, but wired and secured a brother to fill his own appointment on Sunday. Returning the following week he was publicly rebuked by one of his church officers on the next Sunday morning for his absence the previous Sunday. His manner was brusque, rough, and bitterly reproofing, reminding the pastor that he was hired and had no right to be absent one day without permission of his church board. This was in a prominent church, and this insulting layman passed for a prominent, respectable business man in the city.

**ANOTHER CASE.**

Recently talking with a still younger pastor of a different denomination, we found him almost broken in heart over the habitual nagging and irreverent and needless reproofs of one of his church officials who seemed to have appointed himself censor-general of the pastor. This young preacher is far above the average of young men of his age as a sagacious, diligent, prudent, and successful pastor. Sometimes even in public this censor-general dares to call this young pastor down for alleged mistakes or errors. Yet this high-browed critic passes a respectable and prominent business man in his city. Asked how the rest of his church treated this pastor, he answered that their demeanor was strictly that of a kind but cold business relation between employer and employee.

**ANOTHER'S STATEMENT.**

In a conversation recently with one of the highest leaders in a still different denomination we were deploring the decline of reverence for the pastors on the part of their officials and churches. This eminent church head said, "I am satisfied, Dr. Haynes, that this evil exists, but I believe it to be far worse in the South than in other sections. In fact, it seems that the 'autocracy' of ecclesiasticisms has shifted from the clergy to the laity. It is the laymen who now seek to rule the preacher rather than the clergy seeking to rule the laity." Being southern born, this editor had to blush.

**OUR AFFIRMATION**

We affirm positively from long observation and experience that here has been a distinct and definite and deplorable decline in the reverence and esteem and honor in which ministers were formerly held by their churches. We also affirm that this is evil, only evil, and that continually. It augurs a sad harvest for all the future as it now is yielding a harvest of woe in a corresponding decline in the influence of pastors with their congregations and the general public. The pastor's solitary call from God, and his solitary obligation imposed upon him by the laying on of the hands of his church is to influence peo-

ple toward God and salvation and the Church. Whatever retards or lessens their influence is of the Devil, devilish, whether it comes from sinister sources outside the church, or from professedly Christian (?) people inside the church.

**THE MINISTRY A CALLING.**

The ministry is a holy calling. It was the Holy Ghost who said, "Separate me, Barnabas and Saul, for the work whereunto I have called them." It was Paul who said to the church, "We beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake."

The modern and growing tendency to treat the preacher merely as an employee or hireling is simply atrocious and reprehensible from every point of view. It needs rebuke and we here and now rebuke it and denounce it with all the vehemence we possess.

God makes preachers. They are not made by men. He finds them among the laity, but "separates" them from that midst and puts them in a different and higher class and invests them with distinct and definite authority to "preach the word; be instant in season and out of season: reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine" (2 Tim. 4:2).

**"REPROVING" THE PREACHER'S BUSINESS**

Observe here there is absolutely no authority or right conferred upon the laity to "rebuke or reprove or exhort" a preacher. You can kindly advise and suggest and you owe this to your pastor, but stop right there, at the peril of your spiritual life. Touch not God's anointed. Accord them all the dignity and honor and authority with which God himself has invested them. Diminish not their influence by your criticisms or faultfinding or nagging. Extract from editorial in the Herald of Holiness.

**STUDY THE DOCTRINE.**

We urge our holiness evangelists and preachers to study the doctrine. A religion that does not think is weak. No amount of gush or emotion can atone for a fundamental element of ignorance. There are some who have so little conception of holiness that they suppose after they have preached a few sermons on the subject that they have fathomed its depths. We pity such preachers. They show that they have failed to understand the subject. The man who does not know that the doctrine of holiness is so great that he can study it all his life and still find something new, has hardly mastered the A. B. C. of it yet. If we studied the doctrine more we would be able to preach it more definitely. The trouble is we have so many who have just a few sermons on holiness and have learned nothing new for a decade. The apostolic injunction is never out of place, "Study to show thyself a workman that needeth not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth." If there were more study there would be more aggressiveness.—Christian Witness.

"There is no way of being holy by procrastination."