

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL.

The Port Maitland Reformed Baptist Sunday School held its Christmas Social at the new home of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin B. Perry, where a large number of children and older folks enjoyed a very pleasant evening. All present were remembered in some way as well as a number not present. Music, readings, luncheon and prayer with heart yseason's greetings and best wishes for the coming year contributed to make the gathering a success. A hearty vote of thanks were tendered Mr. and Mrs. Perry for their kindness in the use of their home.

OBITUARY.

Capt. David Trefry.

On Dec. 16th at Chestnut Ave., Lynn, Mass., there passed peacefully away Capt. David Trefry in his 69th year.

He leaves to remember a loving husband and kind father, his wife, Mrs. Eva Trefry, one son, George, of Boston, and one daughter, Mrs. Grace Roy, of Yarmouth, N. S., together with many relatives and friends. A short service was held at the home in Lynn by Rev. Mr. French (Pentecostal). The body was taken to Yarmouth and the funeral held from the home of his daughter, Mrs. Roy, on Dec. 19th, where the service was conducted by Rev. L. T. Sabine, of Havelock, Digby Co., N. S., assisted by Rev. M. S. Richardson (U. B.) of Yarmouth. Interment was made in Mountain Cemetery.

To the bereaved is extended sympathy with comfort that the departed is not lost but gone before.—L. T. S.

The gospel claims to be able to make old sinners new creatures in Christ. The gospel will make sober men out of drunkards, honest men out of thieves, truthful men out of the lecherous and defiled. The gospel is a marvelous power; it brings liberty to the captive, life to the dead, joy to the sorrowful, peace to those in trouble; it binds up the broken-hearted. It is not only good news, but it is the best news that ever came into this lost world.

The gospel has power in it. It breaks, it pierces, it burns, it purges, it changes, renews, it transforms, it lifts up, it carries forward; it gives strength to live right, to think pure, to love one's enemies, to believe in Christ, to worship God, to commune with the Holy Ghost, to get victory over self and atan and the world. It transforms sinners in the kingdom of Satan into priests and kings of the kingdom of God. Too much cannot be said for the gospel; it is not only the Word, but it is also the power of God.

It is work that keeps faith sweet and strong. And though we leave the Mount of Vision we do not leave the Lord. He is with us in the shop, the office, and the place of toil. The only way to lose the Lord would be to refuse to leave the holy Mount. If Peter had stayed on the hill he would have found himself alone.—J. D. Jones.

If God be your pattern make your plans large.—Moody.

THE SLUMP IN MORALS.

Cigarette smoking is increasing among women. Recently one of the greatest Methodist Universities expelled three young girl students for smoking cigarettes. One objected to her expulsion as she said she smoked cigarettes at home. A large part of the men students smoke cigarettes and of course they aid and applaud the girl smokers.

The saddest evidence of this slump of decency was that recently the student "Boosters' Club," in an entertainment, imported what evidently was a prostitute woman who appeared on the platform of that chapel nude except a clout. The President of that University happened to see it, and at the next Chapel service simply rebuked the Boosters' Club for its disgracing the school when he should have expelled that entire Boosters' Club who were boosting immorality.

Where will this slump of moral decency finally land this country? Every God fearing man or woman trembles when they remember that history does repeat itself. We will land exactly where ancient cities landed. God allowed their enemies to damn them.

Punishment, though delayed, is as inexorable and certain as death.—E. S. D. in Witness.

THE FRAGRANCE OF A HOLY LIFE.

The above words came to me while reading the following clipping from a London paper: "Florists are doing away with the scent of the flower by increasing its color and size. All the plant's energy is put into growing large and perfect blooms so that there is nothing left where-with to develop the flower's fragrance."

The danger I see among holiness professors is that of losing the sweetness of Christ life out of our soul while at the same time we are orthodox and straight in doctrine; knowing how to teach and explain the first and second works of grace; radical on the dress question, etc.

There is something about sanctified life that is a thousand times greater than the outward view of holiness. There is a three-fold aspect to the subject of holiness, viz.: doctrinal, experimental and practical. Since this is true there is a danger in just stressing the doctrinal part and becoming formal and dry, while we are neglecting the experimental and practical part and losing the holy fragrance out of our soul. Mr. Wesley often observed that the great light on religious matters without any great love was dangerous.

Another thing about fragrance is that it attracts. That is what God put it in the flower for. Two girls in a perfume factory were so saturated with the sweet odor that when they left their work for home hundreds of people would turn to look at them, yet they could be traced for a block because of the sweet odors that followed them, but they were not conscious of it.

Moses' face shone and he wist not it did shine. We will do more to convince worldly professors of religion and holiness by manifesting a Christ-like spirit than by all our arguments, logic, scholarly discourses, etc.

A very highly educated man while talking to the writer on the subject of

holiness said that the thing that hurt him was to see its professors show a bad spirit when some one did them a wrong. How we wish this were not true. A holiness that doesn't keep us sweet has something wrong with it.

There is something about the life of the sainted Fletcher that reminds us of walking in a flower garden. A holy fragrance lingers about his life and writings. Jesus' life had this fragrance—the children flocked to Him, women left their homes and followed Him, they hung upon His very words. Peter and John caught His spirit and people took knowledge of them and said that they had been with Jesus.

Oh, for a tarrying until everything un-Christlike is burned out of our hearts and we are filled with meekness and humble love and our lives perfumed with the fragrance of the "Rose of Sharon" and the "Lily of the Valley."—John M. Hames, in the Wesleyan Methodist.

THE PRODIGAL SON.

Return, O wanderer, return,
And seek thy Father's face;
These new desires which in thee burn,
Were kindled by His grace.

Return, O wanderer, return,
He hears thy humble sigh;
He sees thy softened spirit mourn,
When no one else is nigh.

Return, O wanderer, return,
Thy Saviour bids thee live;
Come to His cross, and grateful learn
How freely He'll forgive.

Return, O wanderer, return,
And wipe the falling tear;
Thy Father calls, no longer mourn;
'Tis love invites thee near.

Return, O wanderer, return,
Begin thy long-sought rest;
The Saviour's melting mercies yearn
To clasp thee to His breast.
—W. B. Collyer.

"Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, it is taking hold of God's willingness."

Unprayed for I feel like a diver at the bottom of a river with no air to breathe, or like a fireman on a blazing building with an empty hose.—Gilmour.

The blessed folks are those who live up to their knowledge, so Jesus said, "If ye know these things, happy are ye IF YE DO THEM."

Today, all over the land, life lags behind knowledge. I put this to the test one time in a meeting where I had been asked to preach, and was told by the pastor to do just as I would in my own pulpit. I quoted that Scripture, "If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin;" and then gave Sheridan Baker's interpretation of the passage; it is "doing the best you know how;" I asked all who were doing the best they knew how, to please rise, and not one person in the place rose. They were honest and told the truth.