

REMINISCENCES OF THE FIRST ALLIANCE AND CAMP MEETING HELD AT BEULAH.

The first Alliance held at Beulah Camp Ground began on Wednesday afternoon, June 27th, 1894.

The opening service was a prayer, song and testimony meeting, led by the president, Rev. S. A. Baker, in which a goodly number of happy, earnest testimonies were given to the fact that God could save and keep from sin.

The election of officers took place on Thursday, June 28th, at 2 p. m., resulting as follows:

President, Rev. John Gravinor.
Vice President, Rev. G. B. Trafton.
Recording Secretary, Rev. W. B. Wiggins.
Assistant Secretary, Rev. H. C. Archer.
Corresponding Secretary, B. N. Goodspeed.

Treasurer—Elisha Cosman.
Auditor Isaac Marsten.
Nominating Committee, Revs. J. H. Coy and A. H. Trafton and B. N. Goodspeed.

Officers of General Missionary Society.
President, Rev. W. B. Wiggins.
First Vice-President, Mrs. F. H. Hale.
Second Vice-President, Mrs. Geo. Burt.

Third Vice-President, Rev. G. B. Trafton.
Recording Secretary, Miss Mary L. Goodspeed.

Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. S. Hayden Shaw.
Treasurer, Mrs. Elisha Cosman.
Auditor, Rev. J. H. Coy.

Additional Members of Board of Managers:
Revs. A. Kinney and A. H. Trafton and B. N. Goodspeed, Judson Burpee and Isaac Marsten.

The first Annual Sunday School Report was prepared and read by Miss Alice N. Goodspeed (now Mrs. W. B. Wiggins), who had been appointed as Sunday School Agent at the previous Alliance at North Head, Grand Manan, and who was given the same office for the ensuing year.

Rev. M. D. Collins, D.D., of Ocean Grove, N. J., was the Evangelist during the Camp Meeting.

Rev. Joshua Gill, of Boston, was also present as a delegate from the Evangelical Association.

Rev. G. W. MacDonald, as Editor of "The King's Highway" at the time, makes the following comment: "Dr. Collins delighted the audiences with his clear, incisive presentation of truth, illustrated so admirably, touched with bits of humor, and filled with holy sweetness and divine power."

All the services were held in a large tent, made by Messrs. Holder of Saint John, and which served as a place of worship for the meetings of 1895 and 1896.

On a Saturday evening, during the latter meeting, a heavy rain forced its way through the covering of the tent, which had become defective in places, and it was suggested by Sister Bullock that a subscription list be opened toward the erection of a tabernacle. She and her husband, Brother Joseph Bullock, of

precious memory, headed the list with an offering of \$50, and in a short time nearly \$500 was subscribed. This Fund was kept open in the Highway with the result that in 1897 we had the privilege of worshipping in a beautiful tabernacle admirably adapted for our services.

In looking over the list of ministers and delegations who were present in 1894, we see that very many have joined the church triumphant; and perhaps there are very few who have been present at every meeting since that time.

Having been privileged to be present at every meeting during the past years, I have not only had my own soul refreshed, and my experience enriched, but have listened to hundreds of testimonies from those, to whom has come the blessed assurance of sins forgiven and hearts made clean through the precious blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

MRS. W. B. WIGGINS.

THE VALUE OF CAMP MEETING.

The above title was suggested to me as a theme for a written article. I can readily see the necessity of such an article, but am persuaded that it needs an abler pen than mine. Nevertheless, I have found some little inspiration while thinking upon it and so will pass on the results of my meditations.

Personally, I can say without hesitation that camp-meeting has been of great value to me, more especially when younger in experience, and hungry for new light and direction in the things of God. When I first attended I regarded the place as Heavenly and that is what it should be. I found the value in that I got wholesome instruction from the preaching, inspiration from the prayers and testimonies, a broadened vision of the work of God, encouragement from seeing so many from widely separated places and varied circumstances all enjoying the same blessed experience. It let me see that it was not something confined to my own little corner. It gave me strength of heart and determination to face the fight for truth and righteousness for the coming year. I have always tried to put something of value into the meeting and have always received something of value in return. I have ever been a bit suspicious of those who have intimated that they received no benefit from camp-meeting. I never was in a hurry to blame it on the meeting.

The caption of this article assumes that camp-meetings are of value, and time and experience have furnished ample data to prove or disprove this. They must have value or they would have ceased to exist long ago. Then as I do not have to stop longer to prove that they have value, the only course open for me is to mention some things wherein the value consists.

The value of a camp-meeting must consist in the accomplishment, to some measure, of the purpose for which it is held. Now what may be called a success in one camp meeting may not be called a success in another: that would depend upon the end in view. This leads me to ask, What is the purpose of our Camp-Meetings? The positive side of a question is some times best shown up by stat-

ing negatively what a thing is not, so I will state first a few things that our camp-meetings are not; that is, things that are not of value. They meet friends that are not of value. They are not summer resorts; they are not places especially to gather to meet friends and visit, as enjoyable as that may be. They are not a convenient place for the lame and the lazy and the indisposed to come to rest a while and to be sympathized with. Personally I have strongly disliked the idea of inviting folks to come to "rest;" it creates a wrong impression. If it is rest alone they seek let them stay home and rest. It is not a place to go for a car ride and then while there spend a good part of the time, meeting time included, on your back under an automobile with a wrench and screw-driver tuning up for the return trip. It is not a place to come to fuss if you do not find luxurious beds and nice feather pillows. It is not a place for eating and drinking and lying in the sun reading a novel—the newspaper is scarcely justifiable. Neither is it a feature of value that the meetings should be neglected for the sake of meeting all the trains and boats that arrive. But I must desist! Again I repeat, the value of a camp-meeting lies in the success of the main purpose for which it was instituted, and that purpose is, exclusively and emphatically in our case, the regeneration of the unconverted, the reclamation of back-sliders, the sanctification of believers, and the edification of God's children. The accomplishment of this purpose can come only by continually and collectively concentrating our energies to that end. All that diverts from the main issue, whether it be too much pleasure, too much talking, too much sleeping, or outright sin, will counteract and paralyze and kill the value of a camp-meeting. Disharmony, selfishness and prayerlessness will do the same thing nicely.

If camp-meeting be not a place where hungry souls can be blessed and filled and encouraged, a place where union and fellowship is heavenly, where the soul is drawn to God and re-energized to face the battles of another year, then it has no value in terms of spiritual notation. It may yet have value from a recreational standpoint, but if this be the purpose why spoil it by mixing in a little religion, why not make the issue straight, and make a summer resort, as I learn has been done in other places—let it be said with shame.

We can sum up the whole matter by saying that the approval and blessing of God by the outpouring of His Holy Spirit is the superlative value of the camp-meeting. Without this all else will remain flat and unsatisfying.

H. C. MULLEN.

"WHY CHRISTIANS SHOULD ATTEND CAMP MEETINGS"

Rev. L. J. Alley.

I believe I am right in saying that the Camp Meeting is symbolical of the ten day tarrying in the upper room at Jerusalem. We are told that at the end of this time the Holy Ghost fell on the disciples and resulted in a mighty revival greater than had been experienced in all the previous