

ADDRESS AND PURSE FOR REV. S. A. BAKER.

A very pleasant gathering took place at the North Head, Grand Manan, on Friday evening, April 24th, it being the birthday of Brother Baker, when a number of the friends gathered to join in celebrating the happy event.

After spending the evening in conversation and singing, Rev. H. E. Mullin, who was present, lead in prayer. Rev. H. C. Archer then read the address which is found below, and also presented to Brother and Sister Baker a well filled purse of money. Brother Baker in thanking the friends for their kind wishes and money, referred to the many happy years he had spent with them on the Island.

Mrs. Thomas Nares then read the following verses which were very appropriate for the occasion.

The ladies served refreshments.

THE END OF THE ROAD

(Recited by Mrs. Geo. F. Matthew at the last meeting of the Ladies' Association of the Natural History Society)

We who have passed our three score years and ten

Have learned what courage human hearts must hold:

And now for life's last test we pray again
For courage to be old.

We do not realize our fleeting days,

We watch the swirl of life and feel its thrill,

Admire its progress, its achievements praise,

And share its service still.

Until, some day, the tasks once lightly met

Grow strangely irksome, to our weakened hold.

Our steps are slow, we helplessly forget,
And know that we are old.

The young compassionate us, for the lapse

Of memory, for failing eye and ear.

They smile at us, indulgently perhaps,
For them, old age is drear.

Oh, strong glad hearts of youth, it is not so,

Though ends the road, among the falling leaves,

An open gate, beyond the sunset's glow,
The trustful soul perceives.

Of earthly blessings, age is not the least
Serene is twilight sky, the journey past,
Like that rare draught at Cana's marriage feast

Life's best wine is the last.

—F. E. Pope.

Dear Brother and Sister Baker:

We have met here tonight to congratulate you, Brother Baker, on your 72nd birthday and to wish you many happy returns. We also remember that in a few days you will be celebrating another happy event, the 44th anniversary of your marriage. We are grateful to our Heavenly Father for the many blessings he has bestowed upon you since that happy day you started out in life together. We trust

that the same blessing shall be yours in the future.

May the autumn of your life be as bright and happy as the spring and summer.

As the leaves of the forest take on their brightest colors in the autumn season, so may these latter days of your life be brightened with joy and peace.

Looking back over the past we remember with kindly feelings the years you spent with us on the Island, as we labored together for the upbuilding of the cause of holiness.

While many changes have taken place since that time and many have been called to their reward, yet we are pleased that your lives have been spared, and that you have been permitted to come back and spend these months with us.

While we congratulate you both on reaching these days which mean so much to you, we ask you also to accept this gift as a small token of love and respect in which you are held by your many friends.

Signed in behalf of the North Head and Seal Cove Churches,

H. C. ARCHER.

H. E. MULLEN.

Pastors.

FINE POINTS IN ENGLISH.

The man had just informed the Pullman agent that he wanted a Pullman berth.

"Upper or lower?" asked the agent.

"What's the difference?" asked the man.

"A difference of fifty cents in this case," replied the agent. "The lower is higher than the upper. The higher price is for the lower. If you want it lower you'll have to go higher. We sell the upper lower than the lower. In other words, the higher the lower. Most people don't like the upper, although it is lower on account of its being higher. When you occupy an upper you have to get up to go to bed and get down when you get up. You can have the lower if you pay higher. The upper is lower than the lower because it is higher. If you are willing to go higher it will be lower." But the poor man had fainted.—Richmond Christian Advocate.

HOW IT WAS DONE

"When I was a little boy," remarked an old man, "somebody gave me a cucumber in a bottle. The neck of the bottle was small, and the cucumber so large it wasn't possible for it to pass through, and I wondered how it got there. But out in the garden one day I came upon a bottle slipped over a little green fellow, and then I understood. The cucumber had grown in the bottle. And now I often see men with habits that I wonder any strong, sensible man could form, and then I think that likely they grew into them when they were young, and cannot slip out of them now. They are like the cucumber."—From the Christian.

Censure and criticism never hurt anybody. If false, they can't hurt you unless you are wanting in manly character; and if true, they show a man his weak points and forewarn him against failure and trouble.

IAN McLAREN ON PREACHING.

Among a thousand people there may be at the most fifty with easy lives and detached minds, who will listen with pleasure to a lecture on the rituals of the Jews, or the schools among the apostles, but what food is there in those exalted themes for the toher folk?

There are widows anxious about their families, young men fighting a life or death battle with fiery temptations, lonely women with empty hearts, merchants harassed by business affairs, old folks nearing the bank of the Jordan, feeble people with the message of death in their bodies.

Perhaps they ought to be blamed for their indifference, but they really cannot care one straw who wrote, or what is the meaning of the Athanasian creed, but they are hungering and thirsting for a word of good cheer to strengthen their arms and to lift up their heads. It is cruel if they do not get it; it is sinful if they are offered sawdust instead of the bread of God.

But what of the reading and the cultured people? Allow me to whisper in some ministers ear that if he is going to select two or three professional men, and prepare learned sermons for them, he is making a double mistake. He is neglecting the common people who heard the Master gladly, and he is wearying the other people nigh unto death. They have had enough of the lecture room and its theories. They have some to church for light on daily duty, and inspiration to do it bravely.

Never can I forget what a distinguished scholar who used to sit in my church, once said to me, "Your best work in the pulpit has been to put heart into men for the coming week. I wish I had put more. And when I have in my day, like us all, one of the greatest men of science, who used to be a hearer in my church, never seemed to be interested, but when I dealt with the deep affairs of the soul, he would come around in the afternoon and talk it out.

My conclusions on this point are (and I offer them with confidence to younger men) that while people appreciate the literature of your subject and while they do not undervalue information on the Bible, they are ten thousand times more grateful for the inspiration of the book, and that our preaching should be according to the words of Isaiah, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem."—Sel. by J. C. B.

"SEEKEST THOU GREAT THINGS"

Though small the sphere,
Assigned thee here,
Take up thy task and do thy
But do not ask severer test

The smallest charge
May prove too large,
At Christ's great quest, wh
tell,

Not where they labored, b
—Job

He who does ne
will