For the Visitor.

ERE ROSE UP CERTAIN OF THE SECT OF THE PHARISEES.

BY L. E. W.

It has been said that man everywhere has some inclination to worship. It is, I think, equally true that his natural tendency in this direction involves no abnegation of self. Whatever the object of adoration or the conception of his attributes, the worshipper assumes that his favor is, in some way, to be purchased. This idea of a bargain, which recognizes the dignity and merit of the disciple is traceable through a variety of forms, suiting itself to the degree of knowledge and refinement of those by whom it is entertained; yet from the grosser manifestation in the offering of food to idols, the dedication of shrines, the bestowal of gifts, the performance of penance, until it seems almost lost in its more subtile forms of ritualism and legal observance, it is the same—an expression of man's self-importance, and unreadiness to receive justification as a free gift and prove its acceptance by an after life of devotion and service.

In their entire history, and even in the basis of their creed at the time of this lesson, there was much that would appeal to us as good. They had devoted themselves to a strict observance of the Mosaic Law, with all the oral directions which they had accompanied it; but on the other hand they had, as a class, grown into such a dependence upon this observance, and such self-gratulation in it as to bring upon themselves the earnest rebukes that our Saviour never uttered. In their scrupulosity about the letter—in their peurile wrangling over the addenda and minutiæ—they had utterly lost sight of the spirit of the law. In reaching the condition of self-righteousness, of formalism, and of rottenness in which the Saviour found them, they had but followed the natural tendency of a doctrine that recognizes human merit as a title to salvation.

Here were certain Pharisees who believed, and yet, despite our Saviour's most unequivocal teaching, despite the master-strokes with which he pierced the cloud of formalism in which they had so satisfactorily wrapped themselves, old habits were so strong, the power of tradition so great, that they were not yet fully emancipated. Even the truth had not yet made them free, and they were still inclined to impose burdens grievous to be borne.

Though Peter silenced their demands yet he did not forever lay the ghost of Pharisaism. Still it rises and will not down, refusing to understand the great principle which the apostle enunciated, that God purifies the heart by faith. Men to-day, with self-complacency, attempt even to ridicule the basis which Christ laid down for human salvation, confounding intelligent faith with presumptuous confidence, and arguing from the ignorant assumption that it establishes license rather than restraint. It were better for them, before attempting a discussion of the subject to read and endeavor to understand the exhaustive analysis, and explanation of the apostle Paul.

WEEK OF PRAYER, 1884.

The week of prayer commences with the first Sabbath in the year, January 6, and the general arrangement of topics is as follows:

Sunday, January 7.—Praise and Thanksgiving.

Tuesday, January 8.—Confession of sin, and prayer for cleansing and revival.

Wednesday, January 9.—Prayer for families and instructors of youth.

Thursday, January 10.—Prayer for the church of Christ.

Friday, January 11.—Intercession for the nation.

Saturday, January 12.—Prayer for missions at home and abroad.

This is the general series of topics, but subdivisions may be made according to the wishes of pastors and churches.

For a club of five new subscribers to the *Record* at its subscription price, 60c each we will send the party getting up the club a gold dollar. For a club of twelve with cash subscriptions we will give a half sovereign, and for a club of twenty a sovereign. Boys and Girls try the *Record* and let us hear from you.

For the Visitor.

A FEW THOUGHTS ON THE PAST SIXTEEN YEARS.

BY REV. JOHN ROWE.

The past sixteen years have gone like the fleeting shadows of a summer's eve. These are the years which have passed over my head since I first went to Yarmouth. Events have been rapid, vivid, solemn and cheerful, like the ever changing lines of a summer sky. Many friends have vanished, never again to cast their shadow on life's pathway, or to gaze with us on the beauties of rising and setting suns. Some have gone to genial climes, to look upon fairer scenes than earth can produce, and feel the warm glow of perpetual summer. The valley of death has been safely passed and now they walk the golden streets. Others again have fallen under the black shadows of a life of guilt, never to rise above the impenetrable darkness. In their land the Star of Bethlehem never shines, and golden harps are never heard. Sorrow, like a swelling tide, rises over the soul never again to ebb. There the darkness is unrelieved by a ray of light. Yet the crowds rush onward in the broad way—it is always full. Could the veil be lifted up and the last sixteen years disclose their results to the gaze of living mortals, what scenes of horror and despair would be revealed! Wailing and lamentations would be heard. Yet men will laugh at this, and rush on in their corrupt ways to this dark abode. I am startled at my own thoughts when I call to mind how slight are the impressions made upon the best of men by the solemn facts of revealed truth. God alone can duly impress the human mind with these eternal realities. Sin has an inconceivable and fascinating power which none but God's Spirit can arrest and destroy. The flowers that are most in the sunlight will be most beautiful, so the man who is most in the sunlight of God will be fairest to look upon. His conceptions of good and evil will be clear and true. He sees that pure happiness depends upon pure morality. Indeed the design of the gospel is to bring men into a pure, moral state. Misery then will take wings and fly away. Yet poor blind mortals oppose this system of revealed truth, which would shed glory around all their future prospects, open up delightful fields of thoughts, radiant with untold glories, ever bursting forth into new forms of expanding and majestic delight.

I was one of a group of ministers who laid the foundation of the Missionary Board at Yarmouth. Brother Day took the most prominent part in the development of its principles. Each point was carefully weighed and freely discussed. His pen nobly defended its greatest utility against an unnecessary attack which made a small ripple on the waters of paper-war. It was a harmless breeze which gave a wider spread to the canvass of the union bond. It brought its great utility before the denomination. That organization is now the most essential outlet to the strength of the body, in the development of pure Bible principles, for there is no other denomination which embraces all the Bible doctrine, and nothing else in its creed. I am happy to pen this last sentence, as one identified with the Baptists who preach the gospel on the banks of Jordan, and baptize their converts on a profession of their faith.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

According to appointment the Carleton and Victoria Counties Quarterly Meeting was held with the Jacksonville Baptist church on the 14th inst. Owing to the state of the roads and severity of the weather, there were not so many from a distance present as ordinarly. Bro. Ballentine preached on Friday evening. The sermon was followed by earnest addresses. Business meeting on Saturday forenoon, an excellent conference in the afternoon, and a good missionary meeting in the evening, Rev. Geo. Howard preached in the morning, Rev. G. N. Ballentine in the afternoon and the writer in the evening. The congregations were very good, and the sermons contained much of the gospel element. The pulpits of the Jacksontown, Main St. and Albert St. churches in Woodstock were supplied on the Sabbath, by ministers from the Quarterly Meeting.

The wants of the mission fields in these two counties were taken into consideration, and some action taken regarding them. The ministers in attendance were Revs. A. Chipman, G. N. Ballentine, A. H. Hayward, Geo. Howard, Thos. Todd, and Brother E. F. Miles, licentiate. The next session is to be held with the Baptist church at Florenceville, on the first Friday in March at 7 p.m. Rev. Samuel Burt was appointed to preach the opening sermon, and Rev. B. Jewett the Quarterly. The Minister's Institute to meet at 9 a.m on Monday following Quarterly Meeting. The collections taken for Convention plan have not yet been reported to me.

THOS. TODD, Sect'y-Treas.

Woodstock, Dec. 21, '83.

For the Visitor.

NOTES FROM HAMMOND, KING'S CO.

In response to invitations, about twenty-five couple of married people, most of whom had passed the meridian of life, met at the residence of Robert Howe and wife, of Hammond, on the evening of the 14th inst., to celebrate the thirty-fifth anniversary of their married life. We found our host and hostess in the best of health and spirits and received from them as also from their son and wife a warm welcome, and were soon after seated at the tea-table. We then gathered those of our company who could and would sing together, and led by Professor Wetmore, who is teaching a class in Hammond, we sang the old tunes that we had heard our parents sing half a century ago, and which were highly enjoyed on this occasion. After more than an hour thus spent we retired to the dining room to examine and admire the silver presents to the bride, amounting in all to about $45.00. Rev. R. Mutch was then called to the chair and after a few introductory remarks proposed the health of our host and hostess, which, by request, was responded to by William Fowler, Esq., who had been groomsman on the occasion of this anniversary. Several toasts followed, ably and humorously responded to by gentlemen present. After a sumptuous supper all returned home with pleasant memories of a pleasant evening, and best wishes for Mr. and Mrs. Howe.

A GUEST.

IN MEMORIAM.

DEACON Z. HENRY BENNETT.

The news of the death of Z. Henry Bennett, who died at Alberton, P. E. Island, November 24th, spread an unusual gloom through the large circle in which he moved and was known. Brother B. was born in Cornwallis in the year 1818. There his youth was passed in preparation for the battles of life, but he did not depend on his own preparation or strength for victory, for when quite young he was brought to a saving knowledge of Christ, and in him he trusted. He buckled on the gospel armor and went forth in the strength of the Lord, through whom he at last conquered.

In 1836 he was baptized and began his life of usefulness in the church. Soon after this he removed to Calais, where he remained two years. In 1839 he removed to Pembroke, Maine, and the many friends whom he gathered round him during his ten years' stay there will read with grief these lines to the memory of one whom they loved and respected. In 1840 he was married to the noble-hearted lady who, now a widow, mourns the loss of her untiring affectionate husband.

Brother B. spent a short time in Mascarene, Charlotte Co., N. B., then he removed to Pennfield, where he remained until 1872, when he removed to Alberton, P. E. I.

Soon after coming to Alberton he joined the Baptist church, here and took an active part in advancing the cause of Christ, and as there were few male members of the church much of the work rolled on him; but it was his greatest delight to be found in the service of Christ.

He was chosen to the deaconship about two years ago, and honored the confidence the church placed in him by his consistent walk and untiring efforts for the advancement of the kingdom of his Lord.

He continued in the active discharge of his duties until November 22nd, when, engaged in some work on his house, he fell and received injuries which caused his death. But although he was so suddenly called away, he was ready, with his lamp trimmed and burning.

Before he died he called his family to his bed-side and told them he was going home, and shortly after his spirit took its flight to God who gave it. No pain disturbed his parting hours, but he calmly sank down as into sweet sleep. For him death was disarmed of its terrors, and his spirit passed away in breathings of unutterable love and immortal hope.

Brother B. leaves four sons and three daughters. One son is away on the sea, and one daughter is in Eastport, Maine, the rest of the family are settled in Alberton.

We extend our sympathy to the widow and family in their bereavement, and ask the blessing of the Lord to rest upon them.—COM.

Christian Messenger please copy.

A VISIT TO ANDOVER.

No. 2.

To the Editors of the Visitor.

At Andover I met with my old friend and supporter Adam Beveridge. He supported me while in St. Francis by his constant attendance with his family at the Sabbath school and the preaching services. He was wonderfully persevering in this respect. I cannot remember that a storm or snow-drift ever stopped him. I can see him now as vividly as at the time he used to plough through the snow on many a bitterly cold, blustery day with his children covered up in the buffaloes. He also supported me by his money liberally. While in St. Francis several of his children died with the diphtheria, perfectly resigned and happy in prospect of their speedy departure. They called their young friends together and exhorted them to prepare to meet them in heaven. One of the boys quoted the passage, "Many shall come from the east and west and shall sit down with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven." When asked where he learned it, he replied in the Sabbath school.

Their triumphant deaths encourage me to persevere in sowing the seed of the Kingdom.

On Monday Bro. Vickery drove me over to Fort Fairfield to see Bro. and Sister Slocomb, whose kindness and warm-hearted christian hospitality so won my confidence and sustained me in my work in St. Francis during the time I remained with them as a member of their family. I found them very much interested in Colonel Howe, who is now lecturing on temperance at Fort Fairfield and vicinity. They think he is doing great good there. He has great sympathy for the drunkard and appears to be successful in pulling him out of the ditch. He proposes to make Fort Fairfield his centre for the winter campaign and lecture whenever called for.

On my return to St. Francis I called to see Sister Keating, my fellow-helper in the truth during my whole stay in St. Francis; but now living on the Tobique road five miles from Grand Falls. I have never been acquainted with any one who in my judgment has more clear and consistent views of Bible teaching. She has been a faithful laborer, too, in the cause of Christ, always at her post in the prayer and conference meeting to praise God and put down self.

At the Falls I met Judge Stevens, with whom I had a very interesting conversation. He is a very faithful and earnest preacher. Several of the people of St. Francis have spoken to me of the impressive manner of the judge's charge to the jury on criminal cases at Edmonston. His style of preaching is certainly very interesting and withal very dignified. It is also a rich treat to listen to his conversation. Having arrived at Baker Brook I found the bridge of ice all gone; but the following Sunday at St. Francis it was stretched across again.

Now, dear VISITOR, I return you my hearty thanks for letting me speak through you to those who want to hear from me, and if I am too tedious for others just shut me down for their pleasure and I will try and write something next time more agreeable to all parties concerned.

A. ESTABROOKS.

Church News.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Salt Springs.

God's gracious presence is still in our midst. Two persons were baptized and welcomed to the fellowship of this church on Sabbath, Dec. 16th.

R. M.

Lower Perth.

Four have been baptized by pastor Henderson as a result of some special meetings. Others have been converted and are expected to follow the Lord in baptism.

Hammond Vale.

A number of the members of this church and congregation met at the residence of their pastor, Dec. 20th, had a most enjoyable time, and left their pastor with $41 more than when they came. We also received a nice present valued at $10, from a friend in this place a few days ago. It is pleasant to preach to a people so ready to supply our wants as I find the people of Hammond to be.

R. MUTCH.

Elgin, A. C.

Last Lord's day was a glad day for the 1st Baptist Church at Elgin. Five converts were baptized and received into the church, all Sabbath-school scholars. Bro. Williams has been rendering acceptable service to the church and pastor.

These good and kind people gave me a donation of nearly $70 last evening. Forty-five being cash. The rest was most useful goods. The occasion seemed pleasant and profitable to all, both giving and receiving. It was held in Dr. Robinson's Hall. A grand tea was prepared by the ladies, and disposed of by all present. May their purses and larders never grow less. Many thanks to them.

Yours, &c.,

GEORGE SEELY.

Dec. 21st, 1883.

Surrey.

Last Wednesday evening the members of my church and congregation came and took possession of our house and filled the tables with all kinds of nice things, and a happy company sat down to tea, after which bank bills and silver and valuable articles were placed in the hands of a committee, the whole amounted to $65.00, $37 of which was cash. The Hon. John Lewis was appointed chairman, who on behalf of the Valley Baptist church presented us with the above named gifts outside of the salary, which is all paid up to date. Very interesting addresses were given by the following persons: Deas. Dawson Steeves, and R. T. Gross, Rev. M. Gross, Robert Taylor, Rev. C. C. Bleakney, T. A. Patterson, W. H. Gross. Excellent music was furnished by Miss Isabella Gross and Miss Bleakney. Thank God for a kind and loving people.

E. H. HOWE.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Rev C H Martell, june 83, 2; Mrs B Cleveland, jany 84, 2; Mrs R Beveridge, jany 84, 2; Uriah Sparks, jany 85, 3; I A Palmer, jany 84, 1; Elijah Starkey, feb 84, 2; Daniel McKenzie, oct 83, 1; John H Lovett, dec 83, 8; John Gunter, jany 84, 1; A R Thorne, jany 84, 2; M C Beal, jany 84, 2; Isaiah Steeves, jany 85, 2; D T Kees, dec 83, 3; Annie McEwen, may 83, 2; Thos Braman, may 84, 2; Mrs S West, feb 85, 1; Thos Ganong, jan 84, 1; A Brown, jany 84, 1; W H Cook, jany 85, 2; Wm Kierstead, feb 84, 2; Mrs Robinson, aug 84, 2.

Pianos for the Governor General of Canada.

We see by the *Ottawa Citizen* that two pianos, of the Celebrated Factory of Wm. Knabe & Co., have just been selected for his Excellency, the Marquis of Lansdowne. One was a magnificient Grand "Knabe," in elegant Rosewood Case, and the other one of their Upright Cabinet Grands. The Tone, Touch, and Workmanship of these instruments are described as being perfect. The most thorough Judges were employed to make the selection, one of them being Mr. E. Harriss, who previous to leaving England, held the high appointment of Local Examiner to the Royal Academy of Music, London.

Marriages.

COMBRON-WEST.—At the residence of the bride's mother, Hillsboro, A. Co., Dec. 2nd, by Rev. E. H. Howe, Mr. Adelbert Cameron and Miss Udaislia West, both of Hillsboro.

ARCHIBALD-HAMMOND.—At the Baptist Mission House, Bimlipatam, India, October 25th, by Rev. E. Sanford, assisted by Rev. G. Churchill, Rev. I. Chipman Archibald, of Halifax, N. S., and Miss Carrie A Hammond, of Andover, N. B. Both are missionaries of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Society of the Maritime Provinces.

Deaths.

[Simple death notices, without obituary poetry, less than 10 lines in length, are inserted free. More than this are charged at 5 cents a line.]

SCOTT.—At Dorchester, Mass., Dec. 15th, Deacon James M. Scott, aged 55 years, 10 mos., 13 days, formerly of Pennfield, N. B.

THE "VISITOR" FOR 1884.

Arrangements are being made to make the VISITOR for 1884 still better than ever before. In order, however, to fully effect our plans money is needed. It is owed us, but our appeals seem ineffectual to move many of our patrons to payment of their small bills to them, but to us in the aggregate a large amount. We desire for many reasons to bring the VISITOR to the advanced payment system. It will prevent errors in bills and give the reader the wholesome feeling that he is reading his own paper and not that of the proprietor. To promote this end we desire to give notice that after the first of January 1884 we shall feel at liberty to stop sending the VISITOR to those who are more than one year behind in payment and send their bill for collection. We shall greatly dislike to do this but justice to ourselves and to our paying subscribers demands it. We further propose to send all who pay up their back debts and remit in addition $2.00 advance payment for 1884, a copy of the *Canadian Record* for a year. It is an excellent 8 page Missionary and Sunday School paper adapted to promote intelligence in the family and desire for the spread of Christ's kingdom in the world. Let us have a hearty response to this offer. To all new subscribers paying in advance we make the same offer. Will our pastors speak a favorable word for their denominational paper, make known our offer and send us new names. Every Baptist minister n the Maritime Provinces is our agent to help on this good work.

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LEGIBLE as the plainest LONG HAND, yet capable of being written at a speed of 200 words per minute. For terms address, SHORTHAND, Care "SUN," St. John, N. B

1 mo.

XMAS Presents Distributed Free.

The Great London and China Tea Co. beg leave to inform their many friends in the country and the public generally that their stock of Christmas gifts are now complete, consisting in part of a splendid assortment of Glass and Chinaware, Vases Lamps, Magolicia and Silver-plated ware and a large variety of goods too numerous to mention, which are distributed free to all purchasers of Teas and Coffees, we take this method of introducing our teas, knowing well that they have only to be tested to be appreciated by the most exacting connoiseur.

Just received 200 packages of the choicest retailing teas ex steamship Ocean King expressly imported for the Christmas trade (ranging in prices from 25cts upwards). Coffee fresh roasted and ground on the premises while customers wait. All Goods warranted to give satisfaction or the money refunded. Great London and China Tea Co., 33 King Square, St. John, N. B., 45 Main St. Portland N. B., and 191 Barrington St., Halifax, N. S.

MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa until noon, on 25th JANUARY, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, on a proposed Contract for four years, once per week each way, between MISPEC and ST. JOHN, from the 1st April next.

The conveyance to be made in a suitable vehicle, drawn by one or more horses.

The Mails to leave St. John Post Office on Saturday of each week at 12 o'clock, noon, reaching Mispec Post Office on same day at 2 o'clock, p. m.

Returning: to leave Mispec Post Office on same day at 4 o'clock, p. m., reaching St. John Post Office at 6 o'clock, p. m.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen, and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of St. John and Mispec.

JOHN MCMILLAN,
P. O. Inspector.

Post Office Inspector's Office,
St. John 14th Dec., 1883. 51-1

CONSUMPTION.

I have a positive remedy for the above disease; by its use thousands of cases of the worst kind and of long standing have been cured. Indeed, so strong is my faith in its efficacy, that I will send TWO BOTTLES FREE, together with a VALUABLE TREATISE on this disease, to any sufferer. Give Express and P. O. address.
DR. T. A. SLOCUM, 181 Pearl St., New York.

A PRIZE Send six cents for postage, and receive free, a costly box of goods which will help you to more money right away than anything else in this world. All, of either sex, succeed from first hour. The broad road to fortune opens before the workers, absolutely sure. At once address, TRUE & CO., Augusta, Maine.

FOR the 7th edition of the **"Life and Labors of C. H. Spurgeon,"** the greatest preacher of the century. By Geo. C. Needham, the Evangelist. Endorsed by all denominations. The best selling Family book ever published. Agents are meeting with wonderful success. No competition. Any man or woman wanting a good business, address, for extra terms and special territory.

AGENTS WANTED.

$66 a week in your own town. Terms and $5 outfit free. Address H. HALLET & Co., Portland, Me.

PENSIONS for any disability; also to Heirs. Send stamps for *New Laws*. COL. L. BINGHAM, Attorney, Washington, D. C.