

SEMI-CENTENNIAL.

[CONTINUED FROM FIFTH PAGE.]

THE EVENING SERVICE.

A Powerful Sermon by Rev. Wm. Dobson of Windsor, N. S.

The evening service was attended by a congregation that completely filled the great edifice. The choir sang for an opening hymn "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," which was followed by prayer by the pastor. Then came hymn No. 115, "Ob, Could I Speak His Matchless Worth," and prayer by Rev. Mr. Huestis. This was followed by the invocation, "Come to the Manger in Bethlehem," after which Rev. Mr. Dobson read the lessons, and the choir chanted "Gloria in Excelsis."

Pastor Rogers in announcing the services for the coming week, took occasion to return thanks on behalf of the choir for the very liberal attendance at the carol service Friday evening and intimated that another would be held at Easter time. This was followed by the singing of hymn 116.

Rev. Mr. Dobson of Windsor, N.S., was the preacher, and chose for his text Romans 4th chap. verse 4: "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us." At the outset he testified to the pleasure he derived from being present to assist in the jubilee services of the church. He was glad to be among old friends once more and considered it an honor to be allowed to speak to them from the pulpit. Referring to his text he said that it would be almost a truism to say that it is well for one when setting out to think for himself to settle clearly in his own mind that the law of gravitation does not exist because Newton said so, but that Newton said so because it was true. Jesus did not exist because the apostles and the bible said so, but they said so because it was essentially true. The bible is not a maker of truth, but deals in that which was and ever will be. If the bible had never been written, truth would have been just as it is today. If Christ had never come to the world that essential righteousness which lies at the heart of things would have been just the same as it is now; all that the apostles did was to draw aside the curtain and reveal it. After quoting some remarks made by a celebrated atheist the preacher observed that it was possible for a man to have a wide creed and still hold to that essential righteousness which lies at the heart of things. It does not matter said he, what your theory of right and wrong might be, God deals with you and me with that, essential righteousness which lies at the heart of things. After quoting from Joseph Cook, Herbert Spencer and Matthew Arnold in support of his contention, the preacher went on to speak of the duty of Christians on earth today. Moses stood beside the burning bush one night and said, "I am Jehovah," and from that statement Jehovah built a nation, Jewish economy had worked into concrete civilization the thought, "Our Father who Art in Heaven," and Christians today would find that thought at the back of the righteousness which lies at the heart of things. After quoting from a sermon delivered by Wesley on law, he pointed out that there was only one system in the word of God and that is for all. There is no moral system for the preacher that does not condition the politician. There is no moral system in the universe that makes the end justify the means, either in South Africa or Fredericton. What is right in Fredericton is right in Alaska; it was right yesterday it was right today. It does not matter that you don't profess anything, that essential righteousness which lies at the heart of things is the condition. He did not profess to have a monopoly of history or a monopoly of intellect to interpret it, but he would say that if history had made an impression in the past it is this; That if men, women or angels get out of harmony with that essential element which lies at the heart of things, they are gone and the nation is gone. He instanced the fall of Babylon in support of his statement, and contended that the same cause had ground Carthage and ancient Egypt to death, and he was afraid it was still grinding today. When a nation gets out of harmony with God it is not a question of armies or of finance, but out of harmony with God and sooner or later it becomes a ruined nation. Get out of harmony with God, young man, and you are lost. Doctors will tell you that the cause of your illness is that you are out of harmony with your physical nature; they do not attempt to cure you, but endeavor to bring you back in harmony with the righteousness of your nature. The trouble may be that decay sets in long before you are conscious of its presence; you laugh it off and treat it as fun, but the grinding is going on. It is at the heart that man

begins to decay, his mind may be as good as ever, and he may be as strong in bone and muscle, but the grinding is going on. It is ruinous to men and women and ruinous to a nation, for a nation begins to decay at the heart. Where there is friction there is degeneration and where there is degeneration there is eternal loss. Politics, says John Stewart Mill, is the science of government, and the effort of all governments is to bring humanity into the essential righteousness of things. The English idea of commanding what is right, and prohibiting what is wrong is the whole genius of British law. Great Britain is trying to work out that problem today by bringing every good subject into harmony with the law, so that the nation will not be ground into decay. For this you employ policemen, for this you levy taxes, for this an army and navy are kept up, and for this King Edward was crowned the other day. When a man comes to love the Lord with all his heart, friction ceases, degeneration ceases, and he has attained that essential righteousness which lies at the heart of things. It was for this that the sky darkened at Calvary and the ground trembled beneath the cross. If this does not become truth in your experience, it is all in vain that God loved the world, it is all in vain that Christ died upon the cross. When the judgment becomes a fact of history the grinding will still go on. None admired British law more than he did, but it could never bring him into harmony with righteousness if he had not the desire. But here is where Christianity triumphs; it promises to come into your hearts and change the old rebellious natures. The man who doesn't like Christianity is out of harmony with God; but when Christ comes into a man's nature, you are enabled to love what God loves. When you come into certain relations with Jesus Christ the friction ceases, and being justified by faith we have peace with God. All things are yours, whether of the world, or death, or life, because they are Christ's. All things work together for good for them that love God. Christianity is not a profession but it is the soul in harmony with the essential righteousness which lies at the heart of things—a harmony in the general nature of things that will last as long as time. It is not going to set up a system of ethics and run them, and it is not what they might think is right or wrong. There is no moral system, as practised by the Jesuits, that the end justifies the means, and it matters not whether it applies to the burning of farms in South Africa or in Fredericton. The morals held for Roberts were the same as for other men. The preacher closed his able and carefully thought out sermon with an eloquent plea to his congregation to seek that which would bring them into harmony with God.

The service concluded with the singing of Gloria from the 12th Mass, and also Rock of Ages, Rev. Mr. Dobson pronouncing the benediction.

MARYSVILLE NEWS.

New Lights for the Rink—Curling May be Revived.

(Special Correspondence to the Herald)

Dec. 29.—The management of the rink have placed in that favorite resort three large indoor arc lamps of 600 candle power each, imported from the best street light Co. of Canton, Ohio by Mr. Samuel Hallett the York county agent. The lights were tested last Friday night and were a great improvement over anything ever tried in this part of the country, the result of which is the rink will be lighter this season than on any previous occasion. The light is not only unusually bright but very steady and adds wonderfully to the appearance of the building. Those interested in hockey are looking forward to the first game of the series of the New Brunswick hockey league which takes place in our rink on Tuesday evening, January 6th, between the Fredericton and Marysville teams, and as these teams are old rivals an exciting game is expected and should be well attended.

Our young men are talking strongly of reorganizing the curling club which was in existence a few years ago, and as Marysville contains some good and enthusiastic players of the roaring game, it is a good idea and should be carried out, especially as the rink is at their disposal on certain nights in the week through the kindness of the management.

The invitations are out for a complimentary banquet to be tendered the Daughters of Rebekah by Nashwaak Lodge I. O. O. F. in their hall on New Year's eve. The function promises to be an unusually grand affair and it is expected about 175 guests will be present. The invitation cards, which are the work of the Herald office, are very nobby and much admired by all for their neatness.

Marysville was well represented in town yesterday afternoon, several of our most noted horsemen enjoying the excellent sleighing and some smart brushes

were the order of the day. King street being the most important scene of action.

Our peaceful little community is again being disturbed by the appearance of that colored individual, Charles Hudlin, who wended his weary way in this direction last week, much to the fear and disgust of the awe-stricken inhabitants, especially the unprotected females, who dread the sight of this wandering pilgrim.

Henry Blanchard returned Saturday from Lowell, where he has been spending his Christmas holidays, and resumed his duties in the weave room.

The many friends of Mr. C. H. Hatt will be pleased to learn that he has almost fully recovered from the accident of last Tuesday.

On Hand.

Nice P. E. I. oysters, also Bay du Vin oysters, 60cts. and 80cts., per quart at Parsons' Restaurant, Regent St.—Nov., 29 dtf.

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