

History of Methodism in Westmorland County.

Another Interesting Paper by Dr. Wilson—The Story
of the Church in Baie de Verte Told
in an Attractive Manner.

Of the nine circuits in the county of Westmorland, Baie de Verte is one of the most important. When detached from Point de Bute in 1869 it extended from Hall's Hill to Cape Tormentine, on the one hand, and from Bristol to Shmies in Nova Scotia, on the other. It now includes the village of Baie Verte, Port Elgin, Bristol, Tidnish and Lorneville—the last two named places being in the sister province. The head of the circuit is located some six miles from the provincial boundary, and about three times the distance in opposite directions from Sackville and Amherst. The land in the neighborhood is agriculturally good, large quantities of farm produce are raised and considerable business is still done in lumbering and fishing. Poverty may be said to be unknown in the people are generally in comfortable circumstances, and are quite above the ordinary intelligence. Educational matters have been well looked after, and a goodly number of the people have studied in the Mount Allison institutions. In religion they are largely Methodists, and on the Sabbath it is a pleasant sight to see dozens of carriages coming from miles around bringing the worshippers to the house of God.

As Sheffield has received honorable mention in these papers because of the many who have gone out therefrom to win distinction in the various walks of life, similar mention and for similar reasons may be made of Baie Verte. Two worthy ministers of the Methodist church, Charles Wesley Hamilton, of this city, ex-president of the conference of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, and Edwin C. Turner, of Centreville, Carleton County, were born and brought up there. One of the professors in Queen's University is William Goodwin. At least a half a dozen of the same name have entered the medical profession, with others the name of Allen and Atkinson and Hamilton. His Honor Mr. Justice Wells, county court judge, was a Baie Verte boy, and others have taken quite an active part in political matters. The record of the neighborhood is quite a creditable one, and its sons and daughters have no reason to be ashamed of "the place of their home and birth."

As the names of Barker, Burpee and Harrison are the names borne by a large portion of the people of Sheffield, as are those of Stevens and Green in Hillsboro, and Trueman in Point de Bute, the names of Goodwin, Allen and Chappell are met with everywhere in Baie Verte. Daniel Goodwin had been a soldier in the War of 1812, and subsequently settled at Baie Verte. He had a large family, his children made a good home and his descendants became numerous. The name of Chappell came from the United States at the close of the Revolutionary war, where they left their earthly all rather than to give their allegiance to their king. With such material to work with or upon the early Methodist preachers had reason to look for good results, nor were they disappointed. When the commencement was made or by whom nothing can now be spoken of with authority, but as it was in the neighborhood of his early home, it is morally certain that the honor belongs to William Black, and the time the later years of the eighteenth century. From that time occasional services were held until the year 1818, when James Dunbar so arranged his work that he was enabled to preach there once in two weeks. With increased attention to the needs of the people, greater interest was manifested, the congregations steadily improved, the membership was added to, and before his removal to other scenes of toil he had the satisfaction of seeing erected a neat little church, in which the good work could be more successfully carried on.

Three men, Joseph Avar, Gustavus Hamilton and Edward Wood, rendered important service to Baie Verte Methodism in its earlier days. Joseph Avar was born in Saint Austelle, county of Cornwall, England, in the year 1761, and in 1788 was married to Frances Ivey, who for sixty years was the faithful companion of his joys and sorrows. After residing for a time in Exeter, Bristol and London he removed to the island of Guernsey, where there was much talk of the invasion of England by Napoleon, and the people of the channel islands were so greatly alarmed at what might be the outcome many of them decided to seek homes abroad. Through the influence of some unknown friend Mr. Avar was offered and accepted a position from Mrs. Burns, who owned some lands in Murray Harbor, Prince Edward, to go out and manage her business there. Several of the Guernsey people, having purchased farms from him, and others having decided to go with them, he chartered a vessel for £300, and on the 15th of May, 1808, a party of seventy-three of both sexes and ages sailed for the island. Fifty-five years ago the writer of this paper became acquainted with some of the very persons who then crossed the sea with Mr. Avar, among whom were those who bore the names of Brehat, De Jersey, Le Marchon, Le Messier, and Le Lecheur. Some of the descendants of the last named are now residents of this city. It was a rare privilege to hear these simple minded, intensely religious French Methodists tell of the good old days, and of the benefit they received from the sermons and counsels of Adam Clarke, Methodism's greatest son, Dr. Coke, and of Mr. Wesley himself, who had preached in Mr. De Jersey's home in Guernsey. It is doubtful if there is another minister in our conference who

In this respect stands so close to Mr. Wesley as does the writer. Through Mr. Avar's influence the home authorities sent out James Bulpitt to care for them, by whom he was warmly welcomed, and to whom he was made very useful. After residing on the island for some years Mr. Avar came to this province and settled in Joliette. He had four daughters, three of whom died in the Old Land—one of these being buried in City Road cemetery, near the grave of the Rev. John Wesley, and the fourth, married Margaret Wells, became the second wife of the Rev. Frederick Smallwood, and two sons, one of whom, Adam Clarke Avar, after four years in Joliette life, died on March 18, 1821, and his body lies in the old cemetery in Fredericton. The other son, Joseph Avar, was born in Bristol, England, came with his father to the country, married Margaret Wells, resided in Joliette until 1847, when he removed to Shemogue, where he remained until his death. His second wife was a widow Black, of Wallace, whose daughter was married to Mr. Avar's younger son Charles, a son of the said pair bears the name of the great-grandmother, Ivey. Joseph Avar was the George, Joseph, John, William, Samuel, Lewis and Charles—all of whom are dead excepting William, who resides with his son at Tidnish; and four daughters—the wives of the late Sheriff McQueen, Dixon Chipman, Robert Cope, and Josiah B. Marvin, Mrs. Dr. Melvin of this city being a daughter of the latter.

Returning from this family review to the career of the first Joseph Avar, a few words will suffice. He united with the Wesleyan church in St. Austelle, where he remained until 1804, when he removed to Grand Falls, in the county of Carleton. During these thirty years he rendered valuable service to the church as a local preacher, and his removal was a serious loss. A few of his relatives are found in various sections of this country, was more an evangelist than a local preacher and he in 1831 was recommended as a candidate for the ministry, "but on account of his age, and being a widower with children" the English authorities declined to give him a place in the regular itinerancy. "Few men," says one who knew him well, "could lay his finger with more sensitive touch upon the pulse of a meeting. At an awkward pause it was admirable to see this experienced leader with such rare tact come to the rescue. His prayers were wisely appropriate, fervent and brief." Dr. Smith in his history says: "In any sketch of provincial lay laborers, a man of his sixty years, made with an obituary notice of one of his granddaughters, Alice Wood, wife of Rev. Wm. J. Bartlett of the Nova Scotia conference, from the pen of Rev. Dr. Chapman, appeared in the issue of the Wesleyan of the 14th of this month.

Among the more prominent men of later days, were or are, Abert Wells, father of Judge Wells, Cyrus and Robert Goodwin, John R. and Chapman Chapman, and Barker and Wesley Turner, at the Baie; Joseph and William Avar, Daniel Dobson and Woodford Purdy, of Bristol; Frank E. Purdy, of Wall street and superintendent of Zion Sabbath school, is the son of the last named; John Ward, at Port Elgin; Richey Copp at Tidnish, and Stephen Ostry and Charles Oscar and Gilbert Black, at Lorneville.

Baie Verte became a circuit in 1869, since which time it has had the usual experiences of sunshine and shade, of a creditable record, but has always been represented at home and as shown in this paper, equally well represented abroad. It has now four respectable churches at Bristol, Port Elgin, Lorneville and Baie Verte. The last named was erected during the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Wilson, and of which the best description can be had, together with the circumstances connected therewith, from a document, which was placed in the corner stone, and of which the following is a correct copy:

When this stone was laid Queen Victoria was in the 44th year of her age and the 40th of her reign.

Her son-in-law, Lord Lorne, was Governor-General of Canada. Sir John A. Macdonald, M. P., K. C. B., D. C. L., was Premier, Hon. Sir S. L. Tilley, M. P., K. C. M. G., was Finance Minister, Hon. John Costigan, Minister of Inland Revenue, Hon. Judge Ritchie, Chief Justice of the Dominion, Hon. Judge Allen, Chief Justice of New Brunswick.

Our Representatives in the Dominion Parliament were, in the Senate, Hon. Hon. A. Landry, Provincial Secretary. The Local Members were: Hon. D. L. Hamilton and P. A. Landry; and John A. Humphrey and C. A. Black, Esqrs.

The President of the General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada was Rev. Dr. Douglas, of Montreal.

The President of the Conference of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island was Rev. John S. Pinney, of Sackville; Secretary, Rev. R. W. Wed-

The Celebrated English Cocoa. EPPS'S COCOA

An admirable food, with all its natural qualities intact. This excellent Cocoa maintains the system in robust health, and enables it to resist winter's extreme cold.

The Most Nutritious and Economical.

dall, of Bathurst; Journal Secretary, Rev. Robert Wilson, of Baie de Verte.

The Baie de Verte Circuit extended from Hall's Hill to Timber River, and from Bristol to Shmies.

The trustees of the church was Rev. Robert Wilson; the trustees were Robert Goodwin, Cyrus Goodwin, John Ward, W. H. Faulkner, Barker Turner, O. J. McCully, M. D., and Isaac Hamilton.

The trustees of the parsonage were Cyrus Goodwin, W. H. Faulkner, Richey Copp, Silvester Rayworth, Bedford Goodwin; church steward, Albert Goodwin; collector, Amos Goodwin.

The oldest member of the Methodist church at Baie de Verte was Nelson Beckwith.

The corner stone was laid by Josiah Wood, H. W. Taylor and George E. Casey & Son, a tannery; Mrs. Henry Carey, a dressmaking establishment; and the Post Office was kept by A. C.

The contractors for the building were, John A. Somers, and George and Nelson Beckwith. The mason work was done by Rufus Lowther, Edward Brownell, and George and Nelson Beckwith.

The season had been a very exciting one. An election for the Commons at Ottawa and the Assembly at Fredericton had just taken place. War in Egypt had begun and Ireland was in a very unsettled condition, and the outlook was rather forbidding.

The spring had been very wet and late, the crops were not promising, and things generally were not encouraging.

This stone was laid according to the Discipline of the Methodist Church of Canada, July 18th, 1882, by Josiah Wood, Esq., M. P.

The church was dedicated on the 11th of February, 1883. Rev. J. S. Pinney, chairman of the District, preached in the forenoon, Rev. W. J. Kirby at 3 p. m. and the prayer in the evening. The congregations were large, and attention and interest good, and the collections excellent. At the sale of pews the next day the competition was keen, some bids running as high as \$120. A bell, obtained from the McShane Foundry, Baltimore, was paid for by outside friends, the principal contributor being Josiah Wood, M. P. The organ and platform chairs were secured in the same way. These amounts were secured by the pastor in Amherst and Sackville, and by the sale of cards.

The church is a credit to the place. The design is beautiful, and no more graceful spire can be found in New Brunswick today, unless it be that of the church at Marysville. The interior is admirably arranged. The pulpit is between the doors, the floor is on an incline, and the pews are curved. The whole cost is in the neighborhood of \$600.

During the forty-six years that have passed away since Baie Verte became a circuit the following ministers have been the regular conference appointees:

1869-63—James Tweedy,
1863-65—William Alcorn,
1865-69—Alexander S. Tuttle,
1869-73—William Wilson,
1873-77—David B. Scott,
1877-81—Stephen T. Teed,
1881-85—George Harrison,
1885-89—John R. Allen,
1889-93—Robert Wilson,
1893-97—Samuel R. Ackman,
1897-1901—Stephen T. Teed,
1891-95—Douglas Chapman,
1895-99—Levi T. Johnson,
1899-03—Wallace B. Johnson,
1893-97—Silas James,
1897-1901—Samuel Howard,
1901-05—Wm. A. Thompson,
1905-06—B. O. Hartman.

Among the incidents of perhaps more than local interest associated with this circuit the following may be cited. Some ministers take no account of anything that occurs around unless it is distinctly religious, or at least, ecclesiastical, while others identify themselves with the life of the people as if they expected to make it their permanent home. One of the latter was the minister in charge during the erection which led up to the building of the railroad from the international to Cape Tormentine. While all were agreed as to the need of the road, there was a division of opinion as to where the station should be made at Sackville or Amherst. Each had its advocates, and at one of the meetings the minister in question having been called upon favored Amherst as the best for Baie Verte, Tidnish, and that section of the country. At the close of the meeting the remark was made: "That speech will cost you Sackville."

Whether he ever had or had not any chance of a seat in the university town, and whether he has had or has not such a call, is neither here nor there. He has always thought for himself.

ALBERT COUNTY SCHOOLS FOR SALE

HOPWELL HILL, Feb. 22.—The trustees of the Riverside consolidated school will offer for sale at public auction on March 10th the school houses and premises formerly belonging to the school districts of Riverside, Albert, Chester, Beaver Brook and Midway, which went to make up the consolidated district.

Hon. Mr. Tweedie has offered two prizes for competition by the pupils of the school, one of \$25 for the best essay on the history of Albert county, and the other of \$10 for the best essay on consolidated schools.

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The "watch," which is certainly a fine piece of workmanship, is fifteen inches across the face, of proportionate thickness, and is finished in gold leaf, with hands and crystal, and is to all appearances a mammoth gold watch. The work is spoken of very highly.

This has been a winter of accidents, and a medical appeal for Canada to bear her part in this respect. In the discussion which followed, Sir Frederick said that in approaching a question of this kind, political aspect could not be overlooked—it was not a question of whether the people of Canada were willing to pay their fair share towards the maintenance of the British navy; it was a question whether the people of Canada were going to tax themselves and contribute money to be expended by a committee in which Canadians would have no part.

He did not think the people of Canada were prepared to take that step nor did he think they could be charged with niggardliness because they assumed that attitude. In considering the cost of the empire they could not separate naval defense from land defense. They were absolutely inseparable. Then if that proposition was sound it was not possible by a fair understanding between different parts of the empire that one portion should pay that attention to army and land defense while another part would devote that attention to naval defense.

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Mrs. Robert Bustard, Maxwell, York Co., N. B., writes: "I can say that Dr. Chase's Nerve Food entirely cured me of what I believe was the beginning of locomotor or paralysis. My nerves were very bad and at night I could not sleep at all, nor could I control my arms and legs. They seemed to fairly jerk me off the bed."

"For six weeks I was this way and cannot describe what I suffered, but now I am entirely cured, thanks to Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. It is a pleasure to recommend this great medicine to anyone suffering as I did from nervous disease."

It is the young man out West in some frontier place who has to eat his own sinkers and doughnuts and pin his clothes together with a horseshoe nail, who is so enamored of femininity that he is willing to marry anything in a woman's dress that comes down the aisle.

The glided youth whose club is an artist, and whose valet knows his business, has no need to marry for a home and he is apt to remain single to the end of his life.

Everything that makes man independent of woman reduces woman's chances of marriage, and how those who are teaching boys to sew will answer to the husbands of girls of the next generation is a question we must leave with their consciences to settle.

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SUSSEX CLUB PROGRESSING

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The letter says that after the shooting of Luzhnevsky, whose bodyguard of Cossacks did not save him from five well aimed bullets, Mile. Spiridonova was knocked down and beaten with the whips of the Cossacks and rifle butts. She was then dragged by her hair down stairs to a sleigh by the enraged Cossacks, taken to the police station, undressed and thrust into a damp, cold cell, where she was subjected to eleven hours of torment in order to force her to reveal the names of her accomplices.

The girl says that two officers took brutal pleasure in kicking her back and forth across her cell, tearing her hair, burning her flesh with their cigarettes and threatening her with abandonment to the Cossacks unless she confessed.

Mile. Spiridonova is now in a hospital in a serious condition. Her skull is fractured in two places, one eye is injured and her body is a mass of bruises from head to foot.

The newspapers demand the instant trial and punishment of the two officers whose names are given; but the vengeance of the revolutionists will probably anticipate the official action. Russia also condemns the organization, "which sent this child on such a mission."

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WHY MEN MARRY.
(By Dorothy Dix.)
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SUSSEX CLUB PROGRESSING

SUSSEX, N. B., Feb. 22.—A meeting of those interested in the erection of the building in Sussex for the use of the young men of the town, was held tonight. It was decided to request the co-operation of the clergy and the leading men of the place in forwarding the movement. A committee consisting of Dr. Daly, Chas. Short and Herbert McArthur will solicit stock subscriptions among farmers, and S. H. White, Geo. W. Fowler, M. P., and R. McLean will look after the business men. The committees will act together in preparing the constitution, and another meeting will be held in two weeks.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 22.—Great wrath has been aroused in liberal circles by the publication of a letter from Mile. Spiridonova, the 17-year-old girl who shot back Luzhnevsky, chief of the secret police, at Tamboff, in which she describes the indignities and brutalities to which she was subjected. On account of her youth and her self-sacrifice in executing this sentence against M. Luzhnevsky, who was a suppressor of the peasant disorders, she has been called one of the heroines of the revolution is called a second Charlotte Corday.

The letter says that after the shooting of Luzhnevsky, whose bodyguard of Cossacks did not save him from five well aimed bullets, Mile. Spiridonova was knocked down and beaten with the whips of the Cossacks and rifle butts. She was then dragged by her hair down stairs to a sleigh by the enraged Cossacks, taken to the police station, undressed and thrust into a damp, cold cell, where she was subjected to eleven hours of torment in order to force her to reveal the names of her accomplices.

The girl says that two officers took brutal pleasure in kicking her back and forth across her cell, tearing her hair, burning her flesh with their cigarettes and threatening her with abandonment to the Cossacks unless she confessed.