

baptized two and received four into Rolling Dam church and two into Oak Bay church. Thanks be to God for these tokens of grace received on this field. We have one dear good faithful deacon in this Ledge Dufferin Baptist church. Bro. James M. Young is always faithful, ready to help any and all that are in distress, always at prayer meetings ready to lead in the absence of the pastor. May God bless our brother and raise up many more in our churches like him.

Oct. 12th. H. D. WORDEN.

ST. STEPHEN, N. B. Important and much needed repairs have been made upon the interior of the church building during the summer. A new choir gallery has been built at the right of the pulpit, the old gallery being utilized for additional pews. The walls have been newly papered, the woodwork tastefully painted, and various minor improvements made. When the new carpet is laid, and the new cushions in place, the Baptists of Saint Stephen will have a house of worship admirable in every respect for neatness and good taste, and well adapted for further aggressive work. The cost of improvements will exceed a thousand dollars. This we have arranged to pay off in four years. "Rally Day" in the Sunday School was appropriately observed on September 30th; there were 252 in attendance. All departments are in good condition, and an excellent spirit prevails.

W. C. GOUCHER.

Oct. 18th, 1900.

DORCHESTER, N. B. The church has called as its minister Rev. B. H. Thomas, late of Digby, who has been supplying the pulpit for some weeks. Mr. Thomas has accepted the call of the church and has moved his family to Dorchester.

ANDOVER, N. B. For a long time you have not heard from us at Andover. Now lest you forget we are here, we want to tell you we are living and moving on in the old way slow and sure. The faithful few are trying to hold on the faith of the Father's. Every Sabbath morning good congregations come up to hear the Word, we do not wonder at this for our Pastor Demmings gives us journey bread for all the week and we feel we have sustained a loss if we are absent. The services in the week are fairly well attended through we are feeling the loss of quite a number of our best workers among the young people who are away from us; just now we are somewhat strengthened by having our Bro. Ervine with us occasionally, yet we mourn that the Master has seen fit to lay aside his devoted servant from active service, only the Master knows why. On Oct. 14th after the morning service, with joy in our hearts we gathered at the water side, while our pastor baptized his first candidate. Was it not fitting that this one was his wife? Two weeks later she, with another sister coming to us by letter from Grand Falls church, were received into church fellowship; we are hoping and praying that others may soon follow. The field is large and the laborers few. Our pastor is working hard, holding regular services at a number of outlying stations beside other pastoral work. We are often anxious fearing he may not be physically able to stand all the work he is called upon to do. Then we cry Lord give all needed strength and grant to him, and to us of his flock that we may be more zealous and careful to hold up his hands, and lend what aid we can in saving the perishing around us.

Rev. B. N. Nobles, the new pastor of Carleton Church, St. John, Baptist church entered upon his duties last Sunday, Nov. 4th, and was greeted by large congregations. The Sunday school held a "Rally Day" service in the afternoon, at which an appropriate programme was carried out.

Remember that if the opportunities for great deeds should never come, the opportunity for good deeds is renewed for you day by day.

The Ways of Faith.

Faith has many aspects, and the narrative of the healing of the Gentile woman's daughter, puts into salient relief some of its most important phases.

Those who saw Jesus and came under the influence of His personality had inspired in their hearts certain impressions concerning His nature and claims and power, which put them in the most favorable situation for that personal response of their souls to Him which is of the essence of faith. It is no wonder that those who heard His voice and looked into His face, and came under the direct influence of His personality, believed on Him. We often wish that we could share their high privilege. We feel that in such conditions our faith would be readily inspired; but the position of this Gentile woman comes nearer to our own. In some way, through the testimony of neighbors or that vague impression produced by popular rumor, she came to believe that Jesus could heal her daughter. It may not have been a thoroughly reasoned conviction, but there can be no doubt of its strength. Moved by it she sought our Lord with the direct, simple cry in which the whole force of her woman's soul was condensed: "Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David!"

Seldom did Jesus put confidence in Himself to a severer test than that to which He subjected the faith of this woman. She is reminded that she is a "stranger from the covenants of promise;" but just as the stream rises behind a barrier until it overflows it or sweeps it away, her desire and confidence could not be repressed by a rebuff. Her face became the stronger, and she had a swift vision of the truth that the mercies of God are larger than any covenant: "Even the dogs mays eat of the children's crumbs."

Still, it was not merely the testimony that she had heard about our Lord that brought her to the attitude she finally assumed. With it was combined the extremity of her need. She felt intensely for her daughter. Perhaps one reason why our faith often is not stronger, is that we do not realize the depth of our need. It is the consciousness of sin that quickens and sharpens the soul's moral perceptions. Faith in Christ is strengthened by need, not simply because when we realize our necessity we grasp, like drowning men, at straws, but because the face-to-face view of the reality of things makes the soul's movement clear, direct, and intense. Anything that weakens the consciousness of guilt and the sinfulness of sin robs faith of its clearness and energy.

The way this Gentile woman came to faith marks out the path for us. Like her we get our impressions of Christ from the testimony of others. But the persuasion that arises in the heart from this may lead to controlling convictions, to an unshakable confidence, to a personal tie between the soul and Christ, and to the verifications of faith that come from the response of the Lord to our desires.

Acknowledgement.

I suppose it is both becoming and expected that I should send some report to the press, that those who may be interested in our welfare might know how and where we are. At present we are at the old homestead at Andover. Here I first saw the light of day, and was carefully reared by kind and loving parents. As I write many memories of the past force themselves upon me. Those of the kindnesses and prayers of parents, and the love and fellowship of brothers and sisters, now scattered, and of the associations of the best lot of young people I have ever met to associate with. But oh how changed are the scenes of those days. How scattered are the associates of other days. Only a few of them remain.

Then the remembrances of the vital change of heart, conviction, repentance, profession of faith, practical Christian living, call to the ministry, struggling in rebellion against calls of duty, final surrender, going forth in obedience, failures and successes, ordination, removal to other parts of the province. O how God has led me. Now in my physical weakness I am here again, either to regain the vigor of the past, or continue to decline as God, whose I am and whom I serve, wills.

My coming at this time to this point is a lot of choice, but it seems to be the guidance of the Divine hand, and "Where he leads me I will follow." Hoping in the near future to be led out into some sphere of usefulness in the Lord's vineyard.

The Springfield churches are vacant and desirous of a suitable pastor. Regarding them I would say that during the four and three quarters years I spent there I have no evil report to make. Myself and family received many expressions of kindness, and ample support. Had my health been continued I have no doubt but our relationship, as pastor and people, might have continued to a much longer time. The coming man need not fear, but just let me say that he who comes asking a \$700 salary, etc, need not apply. Such a demand is beyond the means of the people. But no servant of the Lord Jesus will suffer on this field if he works and trusts, that is, works for God and the people, and trusts in both. For the extra and unexpected experiences of kindness extended in our affliction I tender my hearty thanks, praying that God's richest benediction may rest upon them.

I would also make mention of the very kind and generous remembrances of the brethren at the New Brunswick Convention in so tangible a form—a \$50.00 gift, which with other kindnesses were presented, are aiding us materially aided us in hard places. To those contributing in any way we say thanks. May God bless you all.

S. D. ERVINE.

Andover, Victoria Co., N. B.

The Lord Reigns.

When in 1865 President Lincoln was assassinated, a mob, swayed by fierce passions, gathered in front of a hotel in New York in which James A. Garfield was a guest. He came to the balcony in front thereof, and quieted them with the sublime quotation from the 97th Psalm: "The Lord reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of isles be glad thereof. Clouds and darkness are round about Him: righteousness and judgment are the establishment of His throne." Beneath the influence of these words, the passions of men grew still and somehow they felt that though the head of the government and his chief adviser were stricken down, the government itself would live because God was still upon His throne. In the face of a great catastrophe, in the presence of some vast problem, or beneath the shadow of some overwhelming sorrow, we are wont to creep within the circle of the trust evinced by Mr. Garfield. We know that we are not of ourselves equal to the solving, or the bearing, it may be, of that which is before us, and we reach out for some stronger hand than our own. We have not to-day the childlike trust of the old Hebrews. Everything that came to them, every manifestation of the forces round about them, was but a putting forth of Jehovah's power. The clouds were His chariots, the thunder was His voice, and every daily gift was the direct product of His care.

To some extent we have banished God from His world. We have put the reign of law in the place of His sovereignty. We think, perhaps, more of the operations of secondary causes, than of the sceptre of the First Great Cause. We have to do this in some measure because of the greater light we possess along certain lines. We know more of secondary causes and world-forces than did the Hebrew of old. We know that they have their mission, and that in their free play, they accomplish definite results. We have to remember these things, or we should vastly fail in our interpretation of Providence, and reverse Whittier's dictum, and declare, that good in him which evil is in us. We need constantly to be on our guard in this direction. And yet we want to be more on our guard lest by scrupulous care here we banish God from His universe. Above the natural force, behind the control of law, He sits who set the force in motion and who is and ever has been the Law-Giver. Let us not banish the Divine from either private or public life. The Lord still reigns, and righteousness and judgment are now, as in the past, the establishment of His throne. Amid all the unnamable atrocities of the present situation in China, we should not in any wise forget this great fact. The unfolding of the future are hidden from us. The wisest statesman is powerless to forecast solutions for