Bible Topical Studies for August.

ASSURANCE.

Some people, even Christians, who do not study the Bible, presume that Faith and Assurance are the same thing, or that they are so nearly alike, that one can hardly distinguish any difference between them. Whereas assurance is the result of strong faith in God, and constitutes the real enjoyment of the soul. No man can have the assurance that heaven is his future home till he be an heir of God, and no man can be an heir of God till he be a son of God, and no man can be a son of God till he have repented of his sins and believed that Christ bare them away in His own body on the tree. So that there are several rungs in the ladder of Christianity. These are Repentance, Faith, Sonship, and if a man do not enjoy the assurance that his future is all settled and secure, there must be something wrong somewhere. The salvation of God and the joy of it do not always go together, though they ought to. Salvation is a great mercy, but to so enjoy it that the heart is filled with perfect peace, this is a true indication of assurance. Faith and assurance are not always parallel lines, but they are always converging lines. For though faith and assurance do seem sometimes to stand apart, it is only for a while, as cause and effect they must ultimately be united. Job said, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," etc., but before he could say that, he had to be able to say, as he did five chapters before, "Though He slay me yet will I trust in Him." Faith is the poor trembling woman who came behind Jesus and touched the hem of His garment. Assurance is Paul saying, "Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect," etc.

AUGUST.

1. Tim. 1. 12.—Paul's thought on assurance.
2. 1 John, 3: 14.—John's proof text on assurance.
3. 1 Peter, 1: 3-4.—Peter's joyous thought of the future.
4. S.S. Golden Text.
5. 1 John, 4: 16.—Assurance the result of God's abiding presence.
6. 1 John, 5: 18.—Assurance proved by the purity of our lives.
7. 1 John, 5: 2.—Assurance proved by our two-fold love.
8. 1 John, 2: 3.—Assurance is realized in obedience to Jesus.
9. 1 John, 2: 5.—Assurance is enjoyed where God's love is.
10. 1 John, 5: 15.—Assurance is helped by answers to our prayers.
11. S. S. Golden Text.
12. 1 John, 3: 2.—Assurance is helped by our hope of perfection.
13. 1 John, 5: 13.—Why John wrote his first Epistle.
14. Col. 2: 2.—Assurance depends on our understanding the Gospel.
15. Isa. 12: 2.—Assurance and fear are incompatible.
16. Rom. 8: 28.—Assurance and resignation go together.
17. Heb. 6: 11.—Paul desired that every christian might attain unto assurance.
18. S. S. Golden Text.
19. Heb. 6: 19.—Our assurance depends on our anchorage.
20. Isa. 32: 17.—Assurance is an effect of righteousness imputed.
21. Heb. 10: 22.—The stronger our assurance, the nearer we get to God.
22. Hosea, 6: 3.—Assurance is linked to progress in the knowledge of God.
23. Phil. 1: 6.—Assurance is connected with confidence in God's power.
24. 2 Peter, 1: 10.—Assurance involves diligence in holy living.
25. S. S. Golden Text.
26. 2 Cor. 5: 1.—Assurance of our home beyond, the true christian's hope.
27. Psa. 23: 4.—Assured souls have no fear in the valley.
28. Job, 19: 25.—They are certain of seeing the Redeemer again.
29. Psa. 17: 15.—They are sure of rising in the likeness of Jesus.
30. 2 Tim. 4: 6-7.—Assured souls are ready when death comes.
31. 2 Tim. 4: 8.—Assured christians are certain a crown awaits them.

Dedicatory Services.

By invitation, several ministers met with the Baptist church and congregation at New Cornwall, Lunenburg Co., N. S., on Sabbath day, July 21st, to set apart their church edifice for the public worship of God.

Preaching services were held morning, afternoon and evening to large and appreciating congregations. The pastor, Rev. J. Williams, is much encouraged in seeing this building completed, and the little flock there having a home. The work was begun about ten years ago; though often abandoned, is now at length completed, and as the building was given to God for His worship, it is free from encumbrances. It represents the tears, prayers, labors and self-sacrifice of the few noble Baptists there, who have persevered until the work was completed.

Through the benevolence of the Central Association, the writer was permitted to present them with thirteen ($13.00) dollars, which, together with the collections of the day, pays all arrearages. The pastor and brethren desire to hereby tender their thanks to all kind friends who have in any way helped them. We esteemed it a privilege to be with them to take part in the exercises and pray God to bless pastor and people.

WILLARD P. ANDERSON.

New Germany, N. S., July 22

The dedication at Victoria Beach, Lower Granville, N. S., Sabbath July 28, will long be a memorable day in the history of the people of Victoria Beach. On that day their beautiful new meeting house was duly opened and dedicated to the worship of God. Revs. J. L. Read of Clements, Ont., W. L. Parker the pastor, and the writer of this notice participated in the services. After singing and the reading of appropriate Scriptures, the dedicatory prayer was offered by Rev. W. L. Parker. Then followed a sermon from Isaiah 27: 13, by Rev. Isa. Wallace, a former pastor. In the afternoon at 3 o'clock Rev. J. L. Read preached an impressive sermon from Nahum, 1: 7. In the morning the weather was unpropitious and many were hindered from coming, still large congregations were in attendance at both services. This new sanctuary presents an attractive appearance. Victoria Beach is a favorite resort for those who admire bold, grand and beautiful scenery, and visitors to this romantic spot will hereafter look with pleasure on this modest and attractive structure. The interior is for neatness, comfort and convenience everything that could be desired. The building committee, backed up by a noble band of Christian women, have done their work well, and the new meeting house, yesterday dedicated to the worship of God free from debt, reflects the utmost credit on all concerned. The people of Victoria Beach generally possess but little of this world's goods, but they have courageously toiled on and without any appeal to the public through the papers or otherwise, have carried forward their work to a successful issue. One good brother, W. L. Parker, is encouraged in his labors and expressed in the opening service, his strong convictions that the seal of the divine blessing would rest upon the self-denying efforts of the people of this part of His interesting field.

In the evening we had an impressive meeting which was largely attended at Lower Granville, and a collection was taken up for Home Missions.

ISA. WALLACE.

Granville Ferry, N. S., July 29.

Convention Delegates.

Delegates to the Convention at Fredericton, will please send in their names to any of the undersigned committee before the 15th of August.

The committee will endeavour to meet the wishes of delegates, particularly ministerial delegates, as far as possible, by providing them with free entertainment in the city and vicinity.

As the committee will not be able to provide for all the delegates, arrangements have been made with the different hotels and boarding houses whereby delegates wishing to entertain themselves, can procure board and lodging at reduced rates, from 50 cents a day and upwards.

Delegates are requested to send in their names promptly, and to specify the kind of conveyance by which they will come.

J. W. SPURDEN,
M. S. HALL,
J. G. MCNALLY,
D. W. ESTABROOKS,
HENRY G. ESTEY.

Still Another.

On July 8th I had the pleasure of remitting to Bro. W. J. Stewart, one hundred dollars for Foreign Missions, a donation from Sister Soley, of Lower Economy, wife of Deacon Soley.

May the Lord lead many more of our faithful sisters to respond to the soul-yearning cry which comes from the Telugu land. C. H. HAVERSTOCK.

Religious Intelligence.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES.

FIVE ISLANDS.—Had baptism at Five Islands first Sunday in July.

C. H. HAVERSTOCK.

ALMA.—The Rev. S. C. Moore is still our pastor. The Rev. Isa Wallace labored in connection with him recently, and two were added to the church by baptism. Our membership needs a reviving. Pray for us. N. ROMMEL.

Aug. 1.

NEW GLASGOW, N. S.—It was my privilege to administer the ordinance of baptism, at the close of last Sabbath evening's service, to two believers in Jesus. The candidates were a husband and wife. We are hoping for others ere long.

July 26. A. T. DYKEMAN.

—BROOKFIELD QUEENS, N. S.—There is a good interest in the Brookfield and Caledonia Churches to which I am permitted to minister in holy things. I baptized and received one into the fellowship of the former church on Lord's day, July 21. Expect to baptize again soon.

MONTAGUE, P. E. I.—On last Lord's day morning two persons from Sturgeon were baptized and received the hand of fellowship into the church known as the Three Rivers Baptist church. One was received by letter on our last conference, making an addition of three. I expect to baptize again next Lord's day in another section of my field. I. J. SKINNER.

July 31.

GRAVES SETTLEMENT, N. B.—This is a settlement about midway between Petitcodiac and Elgin. It was visited, not long since, by Bro. Herritt, who has been doing some colporteur work. He found fifty inhabitants, who were altogether without gospel privileges, and were eager to listen to the gospel. He held some meetings and started a Sabbath-school, which is going on with great success. Here is a fine field for missionary labor.

LONG CREEK, P. E. I.—At our conference meeting, Saturday, July 27, one was received for baptism. The following Sabbath morning, notwithstanding the rain, a small company gathered at the water, and our sister was "buried with Him (Christ) in baptism." We are just getting acquainted with our people, and find them anxiously waiting for a revival of God's grace in their midst. We hope soon to report additions.

F. D. D.

FALL RIVER, Halifax Co., N. S.—We are enjoying marked manifestations of God's presence in this place. The church has been much revived during the last few months. Last Lord's day, July 28, it was my privilege, for the first time, to baptize one rejoicing convert. This makes seven who have united with us of late, four by letter and three by baptism. Pray for us, brethren, that our efforts here for the Master, may be greatly blessed in the salvation of precious souls.

B. U. HATFIELD.

WESTPORT.—The pastorate of the Westport church will be vacant the 1st of September. This is a very interesting and important field to be supplied. It is well supplied with church buildings and parsonage, with a people abundantly able to supply all the needed funds and material for permanent growth. The compactness of the parish saves the pastor all the exposure and fatigue of larger districts, affording the best possible opportunity for study and hard work in the ministry of the gospel, and church management. The retiring pastor is prepared to consider a call from any church where there is a prospect of his being usefnl. J. H. SAUNDERS.

Westport, Aug. 2, 1889.

JEDDORE.—In April last, Bro. J. E. Tiner, under the direction of the Home Mission Secretary, came to Jeddore to spend the summer vacation. He is laboring very faithfully to compass the work on this extended field, and his efforts are highly appreciated by the people. Better than this, God has sanctified his efforts and souls have been saved. Shortly after Bro. Tiner took charge, I was called upon to baptize for him, when eight persons were added to the churches; and now I have just returned from another visit to the field, during which I baptized six others. This young brother intends to go to Toronto in September to pursue a course of study at McMaster Hall, and these churches will then be in great need of a pastor. W. H. CLINE.

TRACADIE.—The Lord continues to work graciously in this place. I expect to baptize a number next Lord's day. We are struggling to finish a newly built meeting house and are unable to complete it without aid from friends abroad. We are now appealing to our brethren who desire the advancement of the blessed Redeemer's cause for help in this matter. Bro. E. D. Shand, Esq., of Windsor, N. S., has kindly sent us $5.00 for said purpose for which we desire to return our hearty thanks, hoping that others may duly consider our position and do likewise. Any brother or sister who may feel inclined to send us help in the said undertaking will please send it to my address and I will thankfully acknowledge it in the CHRISTIAN MESSENGER AND VISITOR. D. MCLEOD.

EAST POINT, P. E. I.—Bro. Mellick has been rusticating at his old home. He finds that work with the hands is the best rest from brain work. He writes of the work at East Point: I have had the privilege of administering the ordinance of baptism at the request of the pastor, Bro. Bishop. One was baptized and another received, but on account of sickness and stormy weather did not come forward. Bro. Bishop is much beloved by his people, and so he should be. He is a man who in word and deed teaches and exemplifies the doctrine of loving one another. A few mercy drops have fallen upon the church here. May showers of blessing descend upon her soon. This is my mother church and I love her. "This man was born there." It is a sacred spot to me around which tender memories shall twine while life lasts.

SHELBURNE, N. S.—I am now settled on the Shelburne field, and have already entered upon Christian work with the Shelburne and associate churches, with the strong hope of seeing God's cause prosper and the churches built up. Last Sabbath I preached to the newly organized church at Port Clyde. After the sermon I gave the hand of fellowship to a brother, thus beginning my ministry there under favorable circumstances. In the Shelburne and Port Clyde churches we have just adopted the Lord's plan for raising money to support His cause. I mean the "weekly offering plan" as mentioned in Paul's letters to the churches. On the 21st of July my first sermon in Sand Point was the funeral sermon of our aged and respected Deacon Benjamin Downie, aged 78 years. He left this world to join the ranks of the glorified, after serving God in connection with Sand Point church for over forty years. The church and community, as well as his family, lament their loss. He proved himself by his piety and his care for the cause of the Lord and his pastor, worthy of his office, very unlike some who fill the important station of the deaconate. The churches whose pastorate I have just assumed in the name of the Lord, so far as I can see and learn, are blest with good deacons, for which I thank God and take courage.

T. M. MUNRO.

BROCKAWAY SETTLEMENT, York Co.—Having learned that the people of this place were without Baptist preaching, I had a desire to visit them and mentioned it to the brethren at St. George and they very heartily concurred with me. On Monday, the 22nd ult., I left my parish and after a forty mile drive, arrived at the above mentioned place in time for evening meeting. They were all very busy haying, but 65 persons came out to hear the Baptist preacher, which privilege they have had but once in 16 years. I preached every night during the week to a good congregation and visited every family and only found two communicants of any denomination, and they Baptists. I found that the Holy Spirit had gone in advance of me and had prepared some to follow their Saviour in baptism; so on Sunday morning we met at the bank of the river and three heads of families were baptized, two brothers and one sister, husband and wife. This was the first baptism in the place for 25 years. After the baptism the congregation returned to the school-house, where they worship at present; but they have a meeting-house in course of construction. After preaching I gave the hand of Christian greeting to the persons baptized, then started for St. George and arrived in time for service in the evening. The interest manifested on the part of the unsaved was good. C. E. PIERO.

—NEW CANAAN, QUEEN'S COUNTY.—August 1, finds us about two months with these very kind people. We regret that we have not been able to acomplish more for our great Master, still feel we have great reason to praise God for the steady growth of interest in our services. We have our prayer meeting Sunday evenings and it seems, as we listen to the earnest and tender testimonies, a kind of verbal report concerning the day's work. These prayer meetings have been wonderfully blest of God, but a special blessing was received last Sabbath evening. Some who have been silent in public worship for a long time, were once more upon their feet to praise God in his sanctuary here below. As one after another arose to make a fresh start for heaven stating they had nothing against any of their brethren with God's help vowed to do better, a heavenly influence filled our souls, admidst the sobbing of strong men and Christian women, we sang with the Spirit "There are angels hovering around." At the close one young man requested our prayers. We are pleased to state we have enjoyed a visit from sect. H. M. B. who came among us to see if there were any opportunties of grouping this field with the Thorntown and Island churches some twenty miles from here. Although unable to form any definite arrangements he hopes to in the near future, when he has had an opportunity of meeting their highly esteemed pastor Bro. Wetmore. He preached a very interesting and expressive sermon to us from Nehemiah 4: 6, and as he showed how God's people of old had a mind to work, he seemed to infuse into our very souls the same feeling. We feel grateful for the visit, and are much profited by the sermon.

August 1. E. B. M.

PERSONAL.

Rev. Isa Wallace wishes us to say that he has removed to Wolfville, and desires his correspondence so directed.

Rev. W. H. Warren, of Bridgetown, N. S., has accepted a unanimous and hearty appointment to the vice-principalship of the Union Baptist Seminary at St. Martins, and has already gone to P. E. Island to seek students. He is one of our most trusted and respected brethren. While we cannot but regret his loss to the pastorate, the Seminary is to be congratulated on obtaining one who will add so much to its strength.

NOTICE.

Absence from home prevented me from receiving Prof. Kierstead's letter in reference to the circulars to be sent to the churches. My reply in regard to the matter reached him in Montreal after his circulars had been issued. They therefore contain no reference to the contributions of the churches for "other objects not strictly local." It is desirable that I should have information on this subject in order to have my report complete. If the churches will kindly send by post card, the amount of their contributions during the year for benevolent objects, other than those embraced in the Convention scheme, and those not strictly local, I will be pleased to incorporate the amount in my report. These cards should reach me by Saturday, 17th inst.

G. E. DAY, Treas.

A meeting of the Governors of Acadia College will be held in the vestry of the Baptist church, Fredericton, August 23, at 10 a. m. T. A HIGGINS, Sec'y.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of Maritime Baptist Publishing Co., (Limited), will be held in the vestry of Fredericton Baptist church, on Friday evening, August 23, at 8 o'clock. The directors will meet in same room one hour earlier. G. O. GATES, Sec'y.

The next annual meeting of the Baptist convention of the Maritime Provinces will be held with the church at Fredericton, N. B., commencing Saturday, August 24, 1889, at 10 o'clock, a. m. Forms for returns have been sent to the churches. Additional copies may be obtained, if necessary, on application to the Secretary, at Wolfville, N. S.

E. M. KEIRSTEAD, Sec'y.

Rev. W. B. Hinson and Rev. J. E. Hopper will address public meetings in the interests of the Baptist Seminary, St. Martins, at Petitcodiac, August 13th, at Salisbury, August 14th, at Dorchester, August 15th, at Sackville, August 16th, in such houses as the several pastors arrange for. All friends of Christian education are cordially invited.

Rev. J. E. Hopper will speak in the Free Baptist church, Moncton, August 11th, in the morning, and in the Baptist church in the evening.

Association Notices.

The N. S. Eastern Baptist Association will meet (D. V.) with the church at New Glasgow, on the second Friday of September at 2.30 o'clock, p. m.

By resolution at the last Association, the statistics were to be made up to July 31st, and forwarded to me before the 10th of August.

Will the pastors and clerks please comply with this resolution, and not put it off till the Association is in session (as so many did last year.)

Notice of travelling arrangements will be given in due time.

T. B. LAYTON,
Secretary of Association.

Great Village, N. S.

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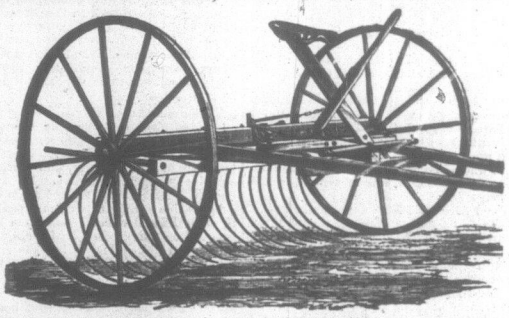

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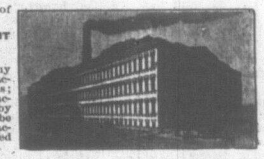

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