

replied that God sent such weather to try their faith. The Catholics are good neighbors and are kind to any sick person, no matter what his religious convictions are.

Being fond of fishing and hunting, and the waters abound with all kinds of fish, I need not say that I spent my leisure time by the water with rod and line in hand. The result was that I had a breakfast of fish every morning, with but one exception while at Tignish. Many American students come to Tignish, where they find comfortable homes, warm friends, and plenty of fish and game; and they spend their vacation in this genial climate.

On Wednesday morning, accompanied by a few friends, I left Tignish, after promising to return in about a month, and drove through a beautiful farming country to Alberton, a distance of nine miles. Here I spent a few hours, then boarded the express cars and arrived at Summerside about 6 P. M.

MURDOCH GUNN.

Summerside, P. E. Island, Canada.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN ITEMS.

CONRO ST. CHURCH.—Lord's day services at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M. Young People's Meeting, Tuesday evening at 8. General Prayer Meeting, Thursday evening at 8. Brethren visiting the city cordially welcomed. The Ladies' Sewing Society meets every Wednesday evening at 6.

Our delegates to the "Annual" returned home delighted with the meeting and much encouraged.

The sisters have organized a Missionary Aid Society, and have elected the following officers; President, Mrs. William Martin; Vice President, Mrs. James Ashley; Secretary, Mrs. Henry W. Barker; Treasurer, Mrs. M. Owen. The Society is well officered and will, we hope, give a good account of itself.

Bro. Capp starts to-day on a trip to Nova Scotia. Bro. M. B. Ryan, of Williamsport, Pa., will preach for us during his absence.

One addition during the month.

DEER ISLAND.

The weather during our Annual was delightful. The extreme heat experienced the two or three days just preceding the Meeting, caused some little anxiety as to what could be done on Lord's Day, should such weather continue. But on Saturday evening a slight rain with occasional showers through the night, made the Lord's Day just perfect for the large audiences then assembled.

Yes, it was a beautiful morning. The sun was shining brightly—the atmosphere clear and invigorating—yonder were the blue outlines of distant hills—and around us the sparkling waters of the Passamaquoddy Bay, creeping slowly and almost noiselessly into the coves and up the shores of the numerous islands that pierce its surface. And in these sheltered coves numerous sail-boats, so busy and life-like through the week, moved now only by the pulsations of the tide, were riding carelessly but safely at their moorings, with their sails snugly furled,—and a "solemn stillness" brooding over all, awakened within us holy reflections and from the very depths of our hearts to say—

"Welcome, sweet day of rest,
That saw the Lord arise;
Welcome to this reviving breast,
And these rejoicing eyes."

But a little later in the day, as the hour for worship drew nigh, and the people were emerging from their homes and wending their ways over the hills and along the roads to the place "where prayer was wont to be made," dotting the waters here and there were boats with their white sails and glistening oars, and here close into the shore gliding swiftly along, a steamer, all bearing worshippers to

the house of the Lord. And when the large audience raised its mighty voice in songs of praise, and a fervent prayer to the God of Heaven, that His richest blessing might attend us in all our deliberations, we all felt "it was good to be here," and could say with the Psalmist: "I had rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."

But as a notice of the meetings of the day are given elsewhere in this issue, nothing more need be said than that when the evening shadows of the day gathered around us, our souls were filled with holy emotions and a strong determination, that aided by God, we would be steadfast, unmovable, always bounding in the work of Lord.

Monday was indeed a busy day, reviewing the past and planning for the future. And although considerable work was done, about which there were marked differences of opinion as to the means and methods to be adopted,—yet the courtesy and the Christian spirit exhibited by each one participating in the discussions called forth the remark from one of our visitors—"I have never seen it on this wise before."

The dark clouds of fear that gathered and hovered around the brethren and friends of Leonardville in reference to being able to accommodate all the visitors, were soon dispelled, and in a short time were brought forth their possibilities in a marvelous manner that showed them to be equal to almost any emergency, and elicited from all, even themselves, a spirit of surprise.

BLACK'S HARBOR.

The cause of the Redeemer still prospers in our community. Last Sunday evening one young woman, confessing her love to God and faith in Christ as her Saviour, was, yesterday, buried with Him in the "Jordan" of baptism. And we trust others, who are "almost persuaded" will soon, like Mary, "choose that good part which shall not be taken away." Our desires and prayers are to live in a sacred nearness to our blessed Redeemer in order to enjoy His presence, claim His promises, and at last to hear the "Well done, enter into the joy of thy Lord."

P. D. NOWLAN.

Sept. 19, 1884.

BACK BAY AND LE TETE.

The churches in Back Bay and LeTete are maintaining the worship, but the interest is not so good as we could wish. We have from thirty to fifty in attendance at our social meetings and Bible readings, and from six to fifteen take part in these exercises. The audiences on Lord's days are good, especially in the evening.

I have resigned my care of the church in Back Bay, and I expect that Bro. P. D. Nowlan will be called to that field.

The Treasurer of the C. W. B. M., Mrs. J. A. Gates, has called a meeting and formed an Auxiliary Society in LeTete.

I expect to spend part of my time this year in Digby Co., N. S.

Bro. J. P. Nowlan is to leave us soon and take the school in Leonardville, where he will have a good opening for useful work in the Lord's cause. I would suppose he is just the man they need. He works for the general good of the community.

We have our timber for the frame and lumber to cover our new meeting-house in LeTete on the spot ready for work in a good way.

I expect to send you a good list of names for THE CHRISTIAN next month from LeTete.

J. A. GATES.

LeTete, Sept. 23.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

The following will be read with special interest by our P. E. I. brethren.

"We have a meeting in progress here. Bro. J. L. Parsons, of Rushville, Ind., is doing the preaching, and doing it well. One young man (a brother of the writer) was baptized last night.

Our audiences are large thus far. On Lord's day the house was full. I will report the progress of our meeting.

Our prayers are that the Lord may grant the church here a large increase for the praise of His glory."

Yours truly,

R. W. STEVENSON.

St. Thomas, Ont., Sept. 16th, 1884.

IS IT BEGGING?

"Our minister is always begging." When a pastor presents the claims of Home Missions, of the heathen, of colleges, or of orphan homes, and urges that liberal contributions be made for them, or for other worthy objects, he calls it "begging." When a man receives many gifts through his earnest pleas he is said to be a "good beggar." But is this begging? Should it be called begging? Is it right to use the word? Is it truth? Who is it that asks? The Lord, through His servants. Who are they that are asked? The Lord's husbandmen, His stewards. What is asked? Only that which belongs to the Lord, and which His stewards owe. Why is it asked? That the work of the Lord may be done. The householder prepared his vineyard and left it in the hands of the husbandmen. "And when the time of the fruit drew near he sent his servants to the husbandmen that they might receive the fruits of it."—Matt. xxi. 34. Was the Lord of the vineyard begging when he required the husbandmen to "render him the fruits in their season?" Were the servants of the householder begging when he asked for that which was due to them? "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof." Is the Lord a beggar, or were His servants, when they asked for their own? It is not begging. It is false. It should not be thus used. The words wrong ideas of the work of the pastor and of the act of giving. It keeps the Lord out of sight. It conceals His just claims. It degrades his servants and their work. It dishonours the holy-office of the ministry. It ignores the relation of Lord and Steward. It hides the obligations which grow out of this relation between God and man. It declares giving is not a duty to be discharged faithfully, freely, thankfully. Honor the Lord with thy substance; dishonour Him not with a beggar's dole.

COUNTERFEITS.

Did any of our young readers ever see a counterfeit dollar. Certainly; you no doubt have seen many such. Why was a gold dollar counterfeited? Because a sound dollar is worth counterfeiting. Just so, but was the good dollar blameable for being counterfeited? Of course not. It was not at all in fault in the matter. Did you ever see a piece of coarse brown paper counterfeited? Never! Why? Because it is not worth counterfeiting. Very good. But now, did you ever see a counterfeit Christian? Yes, many of them. Why were these counterfeits? For this same reason as in the other case—a real Christian is worth counterfeiting. If there were no real Christians could there be any counterfeits? Certainly not. It would be impossible to counterfeit that which did not exist. Well, then, did you ever see a counterfeit infidel? No, never! Why? Infidelity is not worth counterfeiting. It is like the coarse brown paper, no one esteems it as of sufficient value to be counterfeited.

How NOT TO SPEND TIME.—Spend your time in nothing which you know must be repented of.

Spend it in nothing which you could not review with a quiet conscience on your dying bed.

Spend it in nothing which you might not safely and properly be found doing, if death should surprise you in the act.