

Chicago Letter.

Well, this has been a strange winter so far; spring-like days, summer showers, thunder and lightning, wild flowers blooming in the parks, La Grippe gripping people, the coal barons in despair, and the poor rejoicing around a hearth that needs no fire. What uniformity and yet what variety in the operations of nature! No room for prayer, says the objector, in a world governed by fixed laws; as well expect Niagara to flow up, as to expect God to send one drop of rain in answer to prayer. It is true that these laws are uniform in their actions when working alone, but it is equally true that they are susceptible of endless variations when working in combination with each other. If this were not the case the seasons would always be the same; the wind would be blowing to-day from the same quarter as a year ago to-day, and the apple blossoms would always open on the same day of the month. "The fact is," says J. S. Mill, "the course of nature has not been uniform, but infinitely various." Sir Charles Lyell says, "Any one who presumes to dogmatize respecting the absolute uniformity of the order of nature is rebuked by geological evidence of the changes which that order has already undergone." The fixedness of physical laws, therefore, does not necessarily exclude all answers to prayer for material favors. There will be "seed time and harvest, heat and cold, summer and winter, day and night while the earth remaineth," but in these there will be continuous variety.

"THE ANGELUS."

Meliet's world famous picture is now on exhibition in this city, and is attracting much attention. It is so small that the owner carries it in a roll under his arm. It is only 21 by 25 inches. It was sold by the artist for \$350; then it was sold for \$1,000; then for \$5,000. The present owner paid the marvellous price of \$110,000, or about \$210.00 a square inch.

THE CHICAGO UNIVERSITY

Subscription promises more and more to be a success. Three hundred thousand of the four made conditional by Mr. Rockefeller, has been secured in good pledges, and Mr. Marshall Field, a leading merchant of Chicago, and not a Baptist, has just donated ten acres of land, valued at \$100,000, as a site for the buildings. This gift he also makes conditional on the securing of the \$400,000. As the matter now stands we have \$600,000 promised by Mr. Rockefeller; \$300,000 in pledges, and \$100,000 in real estate conditional on the raising of \$100,000 more by next June. Surely this can and must be raised. Surely we have reason to praise God and take courage. Last week the owners of the old university began the work of tearing down the buildings. The grounds are to be sold off in lots for building purposes. A better fate than to have them passed into the hands of the Roman Catholics, as at one time it was feared it might.

HEAR AND THERE.

Many of our ministers have been suffering from the "Grippe." Dr. Henson was ill for several weeks and at one time it was feared the disease might prove fatal. He has so far recovered as to fill his pulpit last Sabbath. Several of the churches are holding special services, but so far with no marked results. The prevailing sickness has interfered with the attendance of the people. Mr. Moody is holding services in what is called "The Moody Church." His new building for the training of lay evangelists was dedicated a short time ago. The Centennial Baptist church has just dedicated what they call "The Church Chapel." The cost was \$12,000, and has all been paid. Mr. B. F. Jacobs is doing Sunday-school work in Boston. Mr. E. N. Blake of the Second church and one of the largest givers to the Seminary at Morgan Park, has removed to Boston.

WESTERN.

Church Organized.

Pursuant to an invitation from the brethren worshipping in Granville Ferry, to meet in council with them and take into consideration the advisability of organizing an independent church, the following brethren came together on the 21st ult., appointed by their respective churches, viz: Lower Granville—Rev. W. L. Parker, Dea. E. Armstrong, Bro. C. F. Armstrong; Digby—Rev. W. H. Richan, Bro. R. C. Cann; Hebron—Rev. A. Cohoon; Lawrence—Rev. J. T. Eaton, Deas. A. Dunn and M. C. Beals; Bridgeport—Rev. F. M. Young, Bro. Chas. Withers; Clements—Rev. J. L. Reid, Deas. Jas. Roop and Bro. George Purdy; Annapolis—Bros. Alex. Thomas and Thomas Whitman; Nictaux—Dea. W. A. Morse. From these Bro. Cohoon was chosen as moderator, and Bro. Young as clerk.

After hearing the reasons stated by some of the brethren why organization is desired, on motion it was unanimously resolved that the council advise the brethren and sisters to proceed with the organization of a church in Granville Ferry.

The church was therefore formally organized into the "Granville Ferry Baptist church," by subscribing to the articles of faith and practice, and appointing Bros. James Reid and Robert Delap as

deacons, and Bro. Jas. Reid as clerk and treasurer.

In the evening organization services were held as follows: Sermon, Rev. W. H. Richan, text, Matt. 5: 13-17; hand of welcome, Rev. J. L. Reid; charge to church, Rev. J. T. Eaton; ordaining prayer, Rev. W. L. Parker; charge to deacons, Rev. A. Cohoon.

The little church thus formed, with a membership of twenty-five, having what appears to be splendid material in it, and a neat little house of worship, is in the way of doing good work for the Master. Let Christians pray for its prosperity.

F. M. Young, Clerk.

Queens Co. Quarterly Meeting.

The Queens Co. Quarterly Meeting met with the Newcastle Creek Baptist church, commencing on Jan. 11. The following ministers were present: M. P. King, W. G. Corey, J. Coombes, W. McGregor, E. K. Ganong and R. Barton (lic), together with a goodly number of lay brethren.

The meeting opened at 2:30 p. m. with social exercises. A large number took part, and the presence of the Master was manifest. At the close of the social meeting the minutes of the last session were read and adopted, after which a number of the brethren reported from their respective churches. The reports were encouraging. The exercises in the evening were of a most interesting character, the subject under discussion being temperance. A deep interest was elicited and a growing desire manifested to enforce the "Sabbat Act" in the County of Queens.

The Quarterly sermon was preached Sabbath morning, to a large and attentive congregation, by Bro. M. P. King, from John 21: 15. The sermon was an exceptionally good one. "In the afternoon a paper was read by Bro. Corey, on 'The duty of the church to the pastor.'" On motion Bro. Corey was requested to send it to MESSENGER AND VISITOR for publication, and it will speak for itself. Sabbath evening was devoted to "Foreign Missions," and the meeting proved very interesting. Collections were taken amounting to sixteen dollars. The next session will be held in March, commencing on the second Saturday. As there were no invitations, the place of meeting was not settled, but due notice will be given in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. Any church, wishing to extend an invitation, may correspond with the President, Rev. M. P. King, or the Secretary, E. K. Ganong, Secy.

Religious Intelligence.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES.

PORT MEDWAY.—Bro. Baras has had La Grippe, and has been laid by for four weeks. The church is anxiously looking for a harvest, and asks the prayers of the brotherhood.

FAIRFIELD, St. John.—God is moving sinners to repentance at Fairfield. Recently, at one of our social meetings, some six arose and manifested a desire to find the Saviour. The Lord will carry on His glorious work until the day of Jesus Christ, to whom be all the praise.

L. R. COLWELL.

HARBOR, N. S.—We have held a few special meetings during the month. The interest has increased from the first. One has been received for baptism and more will probably seek an entrance to the church at our next conference meeting. One very encouraging feature of the work has been the return of a number of wanderers to their place in the church. Every week adds to our esteem for this truly noble people.

F. H. BEALA.

NEW ANNAN, N. S.—We have not had a pastor since the resignation of Bro. F. D. Davison last June, but through the kind providence of God, Bro. H. Y. Corey came to us and spent his Christmas vacation. He was with us three Sabbaths, and through the week of prayer had meetings every night; the presence of God was in the meetings and a good season was enjoyed. Bro. Corey is a man of good ability and is very earnest in the Master's work. He has returned to Wolfville to resume his studies, carrying with him the good wishes of the people in this section; and our prayer is that he may long enjoy health and strength to work for the Master.

J. A. W.

ST. MARY'S BAY, Digby.—I am glad to see by your paper that God is saving souls in many places. We have been holding meetings in one section of my church, and have had some very interesting meetings. A number are quite anxious. Many have requested an interest in the prayers of God's children. We hope they may soon be brought to rejoice in God's pardoning mercy. My field is very large. I have six regular preaching stations. I have to preach three times three Sabbaths in the month and twice on the fourth Sabbath, and attend a prayer-meeting in the evening. Two Sabbaths out of the month I drive twenty miles and preach three sermons each Sabbath. I fear I shall not be able to keep this up much longer, yet if the Master gives me strength, I shall be willing to spend it in His service.

J. W. BLAKENY.

BRIDGEWATER.—Some facts brought out at our recent annual business meeting may be of interest to the denomination. During the past year the church has raised for current expenses, including a few subscriptions not yet paid in, about \$690, which is an excess of expenditure for the year of about \$50. The total amount raised for benevolence was about \$200. And besides this there was paid in toward the new parsonage \$362, and nearly \$450 more are subscribed to be paid in during the coming year. Reckoning those subscriptions as all good, there remains a debt on the beautiful new building of only about \$175, and on five building lots purchased during the year, for which the church could already real-

ize more than twice the amount paid, of only \$73—in all about \$250. Is not this a pretty good financial showing for a church of only about 70 resident members?

C. R. B. DORSEY.

COLLINS.—Bro. J. W. S. Young has returned from Alfred, Maine, where he assisted Bro. A. Chipman for two weeks in special services, and is now laboring at Collins, Kings Co., N. B. Backsliders are being reclaimed, and the careless are being reached. He expected to baptize on Sabbath last.

BRUSSELS STREET.—In the letter of this church to Bro. Mellick, on releasing him from the pastorate on his making his resignation imperative, are the following interesting facts: "During the two years you were with us, the Holy Spirit made effectual the gospel preached by you with no uncertain sound to the salvation of thirty precious souls, and through your untiring labors some twenty seven who had no church home were added to our numbers by letter and experience. During the brief two years that you labored among us we learned to love you for your sterling Christian qualities and exceptional pastoral qualifications."

ST. JOHN CITY MISSION.—The regular meeting of the Baptist City Mission Board, was held in the Baptist Room, Domville building, on Tuesday evening. The missionary, Rev. A. E. Ingram reported a total of 43 religious services held by himself and his helpers during the month of January, and 70 family visits made. By unanimous vote the Rev. A. E. Ingram was elected a member of the Board. The following officers were elected: Chairman, Mr. J. R. Callahan; Treasurer, Mr. J. R. McLean; Secretary, Rev. A. E. Ingram. Mr. W. C. Cross reported for the building committee in reference to the new hall in Murray street, that the lease had been signed and the building would be ready for the public opening exercise about the first of March. The treasurer reported the finances in a healthy condition.

CHARLOTTETOWN.—We have been conducting a series of meetings for the last three weeks with splendid success. About twenty have professed to be interested by asking to be prayed for. Thirteen are now enjoying their new found hope. The above are all people of age. We held meetings on Friday afternoons for children. Over forty have signified their desire to be Christians. The work is deepening and broadening. My health, I am thankful to say, was never in my life better than it is now, although not quite as strong yet as I hope to be. I have been able to speak every night for the last three weeks, and twice on Sunday, and also to conduct a bible class. We expect to baptize next Sunday. Bro. Geo. Davies, one of our tried and true brethren, whose fame for generosity is in all the churches, is very ill. Correction. It was not \$30, as in last week's, but \$50 in gold that was found among the tokens of good-will to us during the holiday season.

J. A. GORDON.

GREAT VILLAGE.—A Mission Band was organized at Great Village, in March last, for the purpose of training the children in the condition and needs of the heathen, and the duty of paying into the Lord's treasury. Miss Ella Yull looks after the lessons on missions and the map exercises. (This Band is a school or mission). The fruits are already apparent. They have raised in the last nine months over \$64; and only 21 children to do it—all we have. They have undertaken the support and education of Saguana, a native child, in the boarding school, at Bobbili. They have in the hands of the Foreign Mission Board more than the amount required to support their boy until August next. The Band have given two instructive mission concerts, assisted by the church and the Spiritual mission school, the efforts of Miss Emma Chisholm, our efficient organist, whose study of music in Germany has greatly enhanced her usefulness as a musical leader. P. R. F.

DIGBY CO. MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE.—The Ministerial conference of Digby Co. convened at Smith's Cove on the 28th ult. for the purpose of discussing the work of the Baptists in the erection of their fine place of worship. The house and furnishing cost between \$5,000 and \$6,000, and it is free from debt. Having contributed so liberally of their substance, the brethren who assembled in the afternoon were prepared to enter into the spirit of an animated discussion upon the advantages and luxury of systematic benevolence. The discussion was opened by Rev. D. M. Simpson, who has taken pastoral charge of the Bear River church. The title system was strongly recommended and seemed to meet the approval of all. The sermon in the evening referred to the same subject, and was followed by addresses from several of the brethren. All the churches in the county are now supplied with pastors, and we trust that the winter harvest time will witness the bringing in of many sheaves. Sickens and inclement weather have interfered greatly with our special services.

W. H. RICHAN.

PERSONAL.

Bro. J. S. Gordon has been requested to lead the general teachers' bible class of Charlottetown, and has complied. He will make it a live class.

Bro. Howard, of Centerville, has been having a tussle with la grippe, and has got the better of it; but many of his people are still down with it.

Dr. Jos. McLeod, editor of the Religious Intelligencer, for 22 years pastor of the Fredericton F. C. Baptist church, has given his people notice that he will resign his pastoral charge the first of May. We do not understand how he has been able to bear the strain of the noble work so long.

Marriages.

PARKER-SHEARER.—At Rennetook, Jan. 14, by Rev. A. Freeman, John Parker, of Wentworth, to Bessie Shearer, of Rennetook.

ROSE-LANGILLE.—At Dalhousie, Dec. 30th, 1899, by Rev. S. Langille, Wm. C. Roop to Clara Langille, all of Springfield, Kings Co., N. S.

BRADLEY-SMITH.—At St. Croix, Annapolis Co., N. S., Jan. 20, by Rev. Josiah Webb, Capt. Richard Bradley, of St. John, to Emma Smith, of St. John.

KILLAM-ALLEN.—At Pleasant Valley, Yarmouth Co., Jan. 25, by Rev. E. P. Caldwell, George Killam of Pleasant Valley, to May Allen of Braill Lake.

MYERS-GILLIES.—At New Harbor, Jan. 17, by Rev. James Scott, Frederick L. Myers, of Cole Harbor, to Catherine M. Gillies of New Harbor, Guysboro Co., N. S.

CASHMAN-O'LEARY.—At White Rock, Kings Co., N. S., by Rev. M. P. Freeman, James Cashman, formerly of Maitland, Annapolis Co., to Mrs. Adelaide O'Leary, of White Rock.

DUNN-SMALL.—At the home of the bride's parents, Lawrence Station, Charlotte Co., Jan. 21, by Rev. F. S. Todd, Harrison Dunn to Hattie Small, both of Lawrence Station.

SHAW-SKINNER.—At the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Mary E. Skinner, Berwick, Jan. 24, by Rev. J. Murray, Carl A. Shaw to Annie Laura, only daughter of the late Thomas Skinner, Esq., of Hantsport.

CHARLIE-NEELY.—At the residence of the bride's mother, Brooklyn, Annapolis Co., Jan. 22nd, by Rev. E. E. Locke, Edward B. Christie of River Hebert, Cumberland Co., to Lalia J., daughter of the late Parker Neely.

Deaths.

FENTON.—At Country Harbor, Jan. 28, Elizabeth Fenton, aged 79 years, relict of the late Jacob Fenton.

SHARP.—At the residence of her sister, Mrs. Silas Lockhart, Apohaqui, Kings Co., N. B., Jan. 28, Mrs. Sarah Sharp, widow of the late Samuel Sharp, in the 78th year of her age.

CURRY.—Suddenly, at Boston, Mass., Jan. 21, Arthur D. Curry, in the 22nd year of his age, youngest son of the late Rev. J. M. Curry, of Hillsboro, N. B. The remains were brought to Pettaquamscutt, N. B., for burial.

MCLEAN.—At St. John, N. B., Jan. 20, Annie, eldest daughter of the late Hector McLean, aged 55 years. The burial took place at Cumberland Point, Queens Co., after a funeral service at the home-stead by the Rev. J. Coombes.

STEPHEN.—At West Head, Jan. 9, Alice, beloved daughter of George Stephen, aged 21 years. She was a member of the Lockeport Baptist church, and as such adorned her profession by a calm trust in Jesus. Her lingering illness was borne with a patient resignation to the divine will, and her end was peaceful and triumphant. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

SHEPARD.—At South side Cow Bay, Cape Breton, January 15th, Seth Shepard, in the 61st year of his age, leaving three sons and two daughters to mourn their loss and battle the journey of life alone, his mother having died some six years ago. Bro. Shepard was a member of the Homeville Baptist church, and a faithful follower of Christ, in whose strength he fully trusted, and found true happiness in a dying hour.

LANGLEY.—Knocked overboard from Schr. Keira, Jan. 8, on passage from St. John to Halifax, Abner, eldest son of James and Eliza Langley, aged 22 years. He was a young man of good promise, and was well reported of by his associates even in life. This crushing blow, falling so soon after the accident in October, by which a younger son was snatched from their embraces, has almost unseated the bereaved parents. May the Master's promise to Paul, "My grace is sufficient for thee," be fully verified to them.

MACMILLAN.—At Isaac's Harbor, Jan. 8, of typhoid pneumonia, Mary Macmillan, aged 72 years. She made the wait-ling upon the sick her life's work. Typhus fever broke out in her sister's household, and she boldly ventured in to assist. She told her pastor on her way that she placed her case in God's hands and went forward. The deadly disease seized her as its victim, and she died at her post. Like a wise virgin she had oil in her vessel with her lamp, and was ready to go into the marriage.

PERRY.—At Port Maitland, N. S., Jan. 14th, Mrs. Caroline Perry, widow of the late Jacob Perry, and daughter of Harvey Cann, Esq., in the 65th year of her age. She leaves an aged mother, one daughter, and a large number of relatives. May the God of all comfort sustain them in this hour of bereavement. Many years ago our sister put her trust in Jesus, and united with the Baptist church at Beaver River. She has now entered that "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens."

SALTER.—At Boston, Jan. 14, of pneumonia, and buried at Scotch Village, the 23rd, Silas M. Salter, aged 30 years, son of Robert Salter, of Mosherville. He united with the Baptist church at Ellershouse, while quite young, and was constant in the attendance at the house of God in Boston, where he has made a residence for the last eight years. This is the second of our young men who have died abroad within a few months, and have been brought back to make a grave with their fathers. The friends mourn not as those who have no hope.

EATON.—At Lower Canada, Cornwallis, Dec. 23, very suddenly, Henry Allen Eaton, aged 72 years. Bro. Eaton was baptized by Rev. A. S. Hunt, into the fellowship of the church at Canard. He ever adorned his profession. He was a man of few words, but his words could always be trusted. He was universally esteemed for his integrity and uprightness. He leaves a widow and seven children to mourn the loss of a most kind and faithful husband and father. His neighbors feel deeply their loss in parting. Mrs. W. B. Bogue, now in India, is the daughter of Mr. Eaton. The tidings of her father's death will be very unexpected to her.

BURGESS.—At Newport, after a few days illness, Phillips Burgess, aged 74 years. Mr. Burgess was stricken on the cars as he was returning home from a visit to his daughter in St. John, and his son, Rev. C. Burgess, in Piquet. He has been a professed follower of the Lord Jesus for upwards of 46 years, was baptized by Rev. Wm. Porter, in March, 1843, and of late years has been a much respected member of the Newport Baptist church. He was a genial man, kind and helpful always, and most loved by those who knew him best. It could be clearly seen for some time that he was fast ripening for the final harvest. His son, above mentioned, writes: "When visiting at my home he several times had my children sing a piece called, 'In the Valley,' and was evidently enjoying the love of God, and the gift of rest and glory not far hence; I have great comfort concerning my father." Truly there is great cause for comfort in the death of the righteous!

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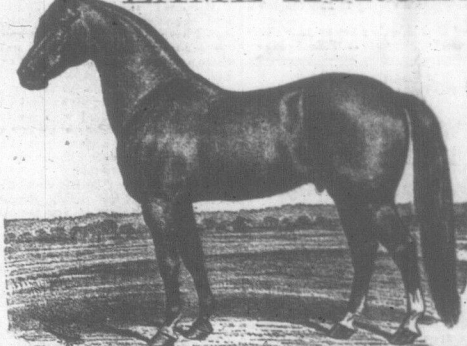
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