

THE AMHERST REFLECTOR.

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AMHERST, N. S., Nov., 1899.

Editorials.

During Oct. our new pastor and his family have become settled among us. Pastor Bates has been heartily welcomed, and now that the formal "recognition" is past, he is finding his way unto our homes and is thus becoming more thoroughly acquainted with the people than any formal meeting would allow.

The "cut" of Rev. Mr. Bates which this issue contains is not an unkind one, and will be appreciated by all the sections of the church. Before long we trust every section will have an opportunity to see and hear him.

The article on the St. Martin's Convention was to have appeared in our Sept. number but was held over for want of space. It would have been in every sense more appropriate *then* but it will be helpful and interesting now.

Neither did we have space in our last issue for any reference to the General Convention and B. Y. P. U. gathering at Fredericton. Both were marked by extremely profitable sessions. The delegates felt the warmth of spirit which was so truly manifest. All our Conventions of 1899—the W. B. M. U., the B. Y. P. U. and *the* Convention of all—must have contributed in no small degree to the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom. As the delegates from each went to their respective home churches, new stimulus was assuredly carried to do larger and more efficient service for the Master. We ought to begin now,—if every one has not already begun, to labor, by cultivation of heart, by service, by gift,

to make the gatherings of 1900, the century year, by far the best of all our history. Now is the time to plan and work with this in view. The conventions next year should be the distributing centres of blessing from the accumulated prayers, labor and gifts of the entire membership of our denomination. Let each member of this church do his best!

The visit of Miss D'Eraser on the 18th of Sept. was sincerely appreciated. Her address was a treat from whatever side it might be viewed. Its literary tone was exceptionally pure and tasteful; the eloquence displayed is not ordinarily approached by our most fluent speakers; but beyond all this, the real purpose of the lecture, the insight into life in heathen India and the marvellous change wrought therein by the Gospel of the Son of God, was most truly helpful and stimulating. We have already seen results from her enthusiasm and the instruction our sister was so singularly able to give. Dr. D'Eraser has contributed a splendid service to the Maritime Baptists by her visits to the churches; for which, rendered as it was at her own expense, she has the deepest gratitude of many hearts. Our dear sister from across the seas is followed by earnest prayers from very many Christians in the home land to whom her words have been a benediction. But *how much* are we grateful? Let our increased contributions to the spread of the Knowledge of God answer *how much*!

The glory of the Christian life consists in service to others for Jesus' sake—voluntarily taking a humble place that another may thereby be uplifted. Our Lord pronounced John Baptist a man wonderfully great; "but he who is least in the Kingdom of God is greater than he."

To forget a wrong may be God's prerogative; but to forgive is man's privilege, yea, a necessity if he would be forgiven. Nothing indicates a high and noble character more truly than the forgiving spirit.

Rev. A. J. Vining, M. A., Supt. of Manitoba and North West Missions, presented the claims of the work here on the 22nd ult. Bro. Vining makes a strong plea in behalf of the cause so near his heart. He received about \$150 in Amherst.