

MEMOIR OF G. W. FISHER, ESQ.

BY REV. D. O. PARKER.

As a small token of affection, and as a duty to a valuable citizen I beg to put on record this humble tribute to his memory. Mr. Fisher was born in 1820, near his late residence in Somerset, and was a connecting link between the pioneer settlers and the living present. In early life he was an attentive hearer of bible truths as preached by the late Rev. Wm. Chipman, and from intimate acquaintance with him acquired business habits of remarkable readiness and precision. In the confidence of the public he moved over a large circle, and filled offices of trust with fidelity and honor. He was ever foremost in the interest of education, temperance, and all the industrial and agricultural enterprises of our land. Fluent in address, ready and chaste with his pen. Like others he was subject to the frailties of weak mortality, yet his Christian life as a whole was exemplary. His religion was neither sectarian nor latitudinarian, but the conservatism of the bible. He was a member of the Wesleyan Society, but his creed was no human formula of belief. He received as readily the pure Bible-genes of Calvin as the choice gold of Wesley. He measured all systems of belief by the Bible, and received and rejected all human dogmas, however venerable with age, or cherished in the affections of millions, according to the dictates of his own enlightened conscience. He planted himself upon the Bible, and would rather all the greatest names of earth should perish, than cherish for a moment one sentiment that would reflect discredit upon the Book of books. But the one point which I wish to emphasize is, his long and untiring devotion in the Sabbath School.

The first Sabbath School in Western Cornwallis was organized in May 1825, in a log school-house, where the village of Berwick now stands. Mr. Fisher, then in his sixth year, was one of the original scholars of that school, and often graphically portrayed to the third and fourth generation, the rise and progress of the many schools emanating from it. In a poem, "Scenes of the Past," he once wrote the many fond memories that gathered about the old log school-house,—

Though cares roll on and troubles come,  
And age with chilling blast,  
Be eighteen hundred and twenty-five,  
A "green spot in the past."

From then to the close of life he claimed an active, yet pleasant home in the Sabbath-schools, and for many years officiated as Superintendent. A teacher and superintendent in the Union school of Somerset, he closed his work with the harness on. Many now even in distant lands fondly cherish his memory. An old pupil in California, on hearing of his death, writes that she spent a sleepless night, but felt that another guardian angel was hovering round. A few years since he met a woman at the Berwick R. R. station, who had been absent some time, teaching in an American college, and who is now a devoted missionary in China. She there assured him that as her teacher, God had made him instrumental in inspiring her with lofty purposes, in leading her to Christ, and in moulding and directing her future life. In a letter under date 1881, addressed to this distant missionary sister, he wrote so feelingly that I cannot be more faithful to his memory than in an extract, let him speak for himself. Aside from his connection with this review of a faithful teacher's life, it is worthy in its own merits of a permanent record, and I need not apologize for its length. He writes: "I have been striving since my seventeenth year, as Sabbath-school teacher, to win for the Master, and to save from the errors of this sin-stricken world, such as would hear from my lips the story of Jesus and His love, with how much success, God only knows; but if only one soul is bettered through my influence, it is to the glory of my Redeemer, and I am thankful. Your remarks to me like 'bold water to a thirsty soul,' and only those who are engaged in the pursuit of Christian knowledge for themselves, and in its impartation to others, can know the deep depression of spirit that sometimes, like the ocean's waves, sweep over us. Mine was the picture of a wasted life, myself the central figure, and beautiful material in wreckage and ruin scattered all around making desolation more desolate. Your remarks concerning our just associations as scholars and teachers in S. S. life awake a sense of the most pleasing associations of past life, and revived the assurance in my own mind, that my noble efforts, under the blessing of the Great Teacher, had encouraged one at least to trust, to study and to pray. You will allow me to say dear sister, that the brief, very brief, consolation we had at the station in Berwick gave consolation and strength to rise above my fears, and press forward in the good old way, teaching the story of Jesus and His love, and to night, although three score years of my poor, fruitless life for good have passed I can say, all the dearest reminiscences are connected with Sabbath School work, and to day I would rather be a door-keeper in the house of God than dwell in the tents of wickedness." It is true I see but little of the fruit of all my labours for the Master, but that is no reason for discouragement.

I am not the harvester but the sower. I have the unwavering conviction that I am sowing precious seed, and am encouraged to know that some will fall upon good ground and bear fruit, some thirty, some sixty, and some an hundred fold. What shall the harvest be? Be glory to God and a finished salvation to man. I frequently turn up the map of Palestine when preparing my Sabbath School lessons, and sometimes, may, often find the city of Jerusalem, peopled, in its streets, as it was when Jesus walked before the proud and aristocratic Pharisees who listened to his teaching with malice aforethought in their hearts and contempt in all their manners, yet afraid to open a controversy with the poor untutored Galilean, lest the people should see their confusion in his answers. I notice with heartfelt satisfaction the innovations his teaching made on the established customs of their worship, the enlargement of the common people's liberties and last, not least, the prominence he gave the children, allowing them even to shout Hosannas in the temple, and not a Pharisee to lead the choir. Angels heralded the advent of Jesus to earth, child-song his ministry to man. For this we teach, as far as in us lies, the Sunday School to sing. If the Divine placed such a value upon song, we should never cease to sing. His advent to earth was announced in song, his ministry was begun with song, and when the supper was ended, and His public ministry was closed, they sang a hymn and went out.

Constitutionally gifted with a genial nature, and always buoyant with cheerfulness, he never appeared to grow old. During his last brief sickness he suffered much. A little before his death, with my hand pressed in his, the last words I heard him speak were, "it is just as I would like to have it, asleep in Jesus." And so he fell asleep on the 30th of May, 1884. His funeral was on the ensuing Sabbath. A procession a mile long followed his remains to the Berwick cemetery. Venerable old men from distant parts of the county were there to pay their tribute of respect. The Rev. Mr. Johnson and Rev. E. O. Read, pastors of the Wesleyan and Baptist churches in Berwick, together conducted the funeral solemnities. This was befitting a neighbour, teacher and brother, everywhere respected, esteemed and beloved.—From the Christian Messenger, by request.

CHRIST'S MINISTRY.—Mark 1: 14-28.

HON. JUDGE YOUNG.

None of the Evangelists tell the whole history of Christ's early life—each selects the events to suit his own divine purpose. The circumstances omitted by Mark, that occupy between the 13th and 14th verse of this chapter, are set forth in the first five chapters of St. John's Gospel.

During the greater part of the first year of our Lord's ministry, he had been in Judea; now he was in Galilee, and remained there for nearly eighteen months.

Palestine was divided into four Provinces: Perea on the east, Judea, Samaria and Galilee on the west. Galilee was the most northern, and had an area of sixty by thirty miles. In Christ's time it was fertile and populous. It was after John's imprisonment, that Jesus came thither to preach the Kingdom of God. 1st. He came preaching. A preacher is a Herald—a Messenger, a Bearer of good tidings. Christ was the Divine Preacher, "Never man spake like this man." John 7:46. He preached pardon, peace, holiness, present salvation, and eternal blessedness. The way to obtain these graces, was simple as laid down in his first text: "Repent ye, and believe the Gospel." v. 15. 1st. To repent—2nd. to believe. The elements of repentance are conviction of sin, with grief and hatred of our faults, and with full and hearty turning from them to God. It is to feel the burden of sin, and not only to desire to flee from the wrath to come, but also to confess sin, to forsake sin, and to make restitution; thus turning back to God forever. All, all by His Spirit's aid. "Without Me, ye can do nothing." John 15: 5. See also Phil. 2: 12, 13.

The elements of belief, (or faith, trust, reliance, confidence,) are, 1st. to trust in the Lord's promised readiness, willingness and power to save us, and 2nd. to accept Him now. "Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." 2nd Cor. 6: 2. It is just to take God at his word, now and forever!

2nd. Christ was eager to have men hear and receive His message. He went after men, and preached anywhere and everywhere, to save them. 3rd. He called others to assist Him, in His work.—Simon and Andrew, James and John: the twelve, the seventy, &c.

4th. He performed miracles. John 3: 2. He went about doing good, and manifested His power, to win their trust and love.

Reader you have often heard this message. Have you received it? Are you saved? If not now, when do you mean to accept Him? Tomorrow may be too late!

Charlottetown, May 1884.

THE NORTH-WEST.

In a letter to the Charlottetown Examiner, the Rev. W. W. Colpitts, says:

From all parts of the Northwest come the tidings that a yield above the average may fairly be anticipated. Of wheat more has been sown than ever before, and the large grain-dealing firms are putting up many additional elevators, and business all along the line is quickening. The reaction from the "boom" is nearly or quite over, and the commerce of the country is now regarded in a fairly healthy state. Having now had a year's experience in the country, and having travelled over a considerable portion of Southern Manitoba, I think I have some idea of how it compares with the eastern Provinces. And I give it as my opinion that we have no where such rich soil as lies abundantly around us here, neither encumbered with sticks, stumps, or stones. The water is not as good as is generally found east. The climate is on the whole to be preferred here; a little colder perhaps in winter, some warmer in summer, but much drier in the season when rain is not needed; no long drizzles in the autumn. To the young man commencing life, or to the man with a large family, anxious to have them settle near him, this country has advantages that I know not of east. Grain or stock-raising can both be pursued with exceptional advantages here. I was staying last night at the house of a man, who has been six years in the country. He has now in addition to a fair crop of grain in prospect, a hundred head of horn cattle, sixteen horses, ten large hogs, some sheep, and pigs that I did not count; and I think when he arrived here, he had little or no capital. In winter time he feeds about a load of hay per day, this hay he cuts from the prairie all around him, to obtain which he never spends an hour's labor, until he arrives on the spot with his mowing machine. And his time for making hay, will last from the last week in July, till the frost kills it in autumn. To judge of the quality of this hay, one has only to look at the stock sleek and fat. In the evening some thirty oxen from a neighboring farm joined this herd, and getting the smell of a lately slaughtered bullock's hide, such a roaring, running to and fro with tails erect—pawing of the ground, with an occasional light by way of variety—has not been seen, I judge, since the buffalo disappeared, from these plains. To give you some idea of the rapidity with which vegetation matures here, let me give you an instance occurring in my own neighbor's garden. Having some spare ground, on the 6th of July he planted some potatoes. I saw them on the 7th of August and several of them were in blossom. I have in my own garden lettuce that in three weeks from the time when its largest leaf was not much bigger than a willow leaf, it was headed up like a variety of cabbage, and this where I do not know there ever was a forkful of manure.

Yet, after all, if a man is comfortably settled in P. E. Island, and contented, I am not the one to advise him to break up old associations and come to this new country. But if he feels that he must leave to have wider verge and scope, I know of no better place where he can do better than here, and I have seen the best of North America.

A LINGUIST.

Mr. Howard Vincent, who has lately quitted the office of Director of Criminal Investigations at Scotland Yard, London, which he filled so ably for six years and more, entered the army in his youth, and remained there for many years. During the latter part of his military career, he visited each year a new foreign country, and mastered its language. Thus in 1869 he spent his furlough in Italy in 1870 in Germany, in 1871 in Australia, in 1872 in Russia, and in 1875 in Turkey. Some idea of his energy and application may be gathered from the manner in which he set to work to learn Russian. On his arrival in the country he advertised for a Russian family where he could be received, versed in the language, and allowed to study Russian to his heart's content. He employed four tutors, each with a different system, with whom he studied eleven hours a day. In six weeks he was able to converse in Russian with fluency. These acquirements led to his selection by the Daily Telegraph as special war correspondent with the army in the Danube during the Russo-Turkish war of 1877. He was engaged at the highest salary probably ever paid to an English press correspondent, the rate being fixed at \$20,000 a year. Unfortunately, however, he was not allowed to earn it for many weeks, for the Grand Duke Nicholas forbade his crossing the Danube; and he returned to England to narrate his experience in seven columns of The Daily Telegraph, one of the longest letters ever published in a single issue of that journal.

LETTERS.—The Boston Watchman raises the question as to the ownership of private letters. Does the writer of a private letter, or the receiver, have the best claim to possession? The question seems to be an unsettled one. "Nevertheless," says the Watchman, "some eminent men have made the destruction of private letters a matter of conscience.

Sydney Smith was applied to for letters of Sir James Mackintosh, and replied that he always burned private letters, and had none to give. Dr. Thomas Arnold, Archbishop Whately, and Lord Macaulay had the same habit. Macaulay's preservation of a letter from Mr. Gladstone is noted by his biographer as the only known exception to his practice in this respect. Most letter writers happily have no occasion to trouble themselves with the measure of their rights, and may safely mail their letters with no thought beyond their immediate destination. A meeting of London lawyers, it is reported, has discussed the subject, and voted that in their judgment the rule of law should be reversed, and the receiver of a letter declared the owner of it."

BREVITIES.

Avoid circumlocution in language. Words like cannon balls, should go straight to their mark.

The more able a man is, if he makes ill-use of his abilities, the more dangerous will he be to the commonwealth.

A little girl in a London Sunday school being asked why God made the flowers, replied, "Please, ma'am, I suppose for patterns for artificial ones."

Neglect no woman merely because she is plain looking; for beauty is to woman what salt-petre is to beef—it gives it an appearance, but imparts to it no relish.

There is a young woman over in Maine that kisses her pug dog plump in the mouth, but falls in a dead faint at seeing her father dip his own knife in the butter dish.

To protect one's self against the storms of life, marriage with a good woman is a harbor in the tempest; but with a bad woman it proves a temptress in the harbor.

Says the Union Signal: "In the window of a Cincinnati saloon is a stuffed rattlesnake coiled upon a whisky jug and wreathed in flowers. The proprietor evidently has a correct view of the fitness of things."

A little girl of seven exhibited much disquiet at hearing of a new exploring expedition. When asked why she should care about it she said: "If they discover any more countries they will add to the geography I have to study. There are countries enough in it now."

Minister: "Well, John, I've nae doot frae your long experience ye cood occupy the poopit for an aternue yersel," should an emergency occur." Beadle: "Hoota, ay, sir; there's nae difficulty in that; but then, where in the hael parish wad ye git onybody qualified to act as beadle?"

There still remain thoughts which cannot be accounted for—thoughts that come like a flash. They are not children of the mind, born in weakness, to be slowly reared to strength. They come not from long meditation, being brooded over while the lamp burned low. They are uninvited visitors.

Alas! how few of nature's faces are left to gladden us with their beauty! The carols, and sorrowings, and hangings of the world change them as they change hearts; and it is only when those passions sleep and have lost their hold forever, that the troubled clouds pass off and leave heaven's surface clear.

"Do you like the squash pie, Alfred?" asked a young wife of her husband a few days after marriage. "Well, it is pretty good, but—" "But what?" I suppose you started to say that it isn't as good as that which your mother makes." "Well, yes, I did intend to say that but—" "Well, Alfred, your mother made that pie and sent it to me."

A small boy not so well versed in Scripture as he should have been, being asked, "If your father and mother forsake you, who will take you up?" answered, "the police." Fathers and mothers who don't know or care where their boys spend their spare time would do well to remember this.

"When I was young," said Mrs. Yeast "the principle used to be to spend as you go." "We, isn't it just the same now?" inquired Mr. Crimso-beak. "Bless you no"; replied the old lady, throwing down the paper in which she had been reading of a recent bank defalcation: "the principle used to be bank people seems to be to spend before you go."—Yonkers Statesman.

Tell a boy that he is a dunce, and he will soon be one. Tell a girl that she is fretful and disagreeable; she will soon be such. Helping, and not hindering, is what humanity needs. A half-drunken man went into a temperance meeting in Chicago which was led by women. He signed the pledge. The next morning, as he was about to drink, he found the pledge-card in his pocket. "Did I sign that last night?" he said, reading his name. "Well, if Mrs. R. thinks I can keep it, I can," and kept it for nearly ten years.

Complain as we may.

About our lot in life, we cannot deny that many are exempt of their position from the common lot of pain and suffering. The highest, as well as the most humble, must be even on the alert to take advantage of such means as will relieve when pain makes relief a necessity to our comfort. By a letter from "Government House, Ottawa," asking for a supply of Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor, we are reminded of two things; first that corns are universal, and secondly that Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor is recognized by all classes as the most certain, painless, and non-poisonous remedy, for corns. Beware of these articles just as good, and use only Putnam's Extractor.

The first almanac was printed by George Von Furbach in 1460.

Crumbs of Comfort for the Children: "Nelson's Cherokee Vermifuge."

Glass windows were first introduced into England in the eighth century.

AN EX-ALDERMAN TRIED IT. Ex-Alderman Taylor of Toronto tried Haysard's Yellow Oil for Rheumatism. It cured him after all other remedies had failed.

One concern in Philadelphia rolled out 840,000 of old tin cans lately in two months. They are used for covering trunks, and in various other ways.

A NEW SUIT. Faded articles of all kinds restored to their original beauty by Diamond Dyes. Perfect and simple. 10c. at all druggists. Well, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt.

It is thought that in the botanical garden of St. Louis, there are living specimens of all the plants mentioned in the Bible.

THE USES TO WHICH MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER IS PUT, may, without exaggeration, be said to be universal.

In refined and cultivated society it is recognized as the most refreshing and agreeable of perfumes for the handkerchief, the toilet, and the bath.

The first complete sewing machine was patented by Elias Howe, Jr., in 1846.

We say to those who are sceptical as to the hair-producing qualities of "Minard's Liniment" that in every case where the hair has fallen by disease, and by using six bottles of "Minard's Liniment" on the head will not produce a good growth of hair, or where one bottle will not remove dandruff and stop the hair from falling out we will furnish the Liniment free.

The first steam engine on this continent was brought from England in 1763.

A SAD NEGLECT. Neglecting a constipated condition of the bowels is sure to bring ill health and great suffering. Burdock Blood Bitters regulate the bowels in a natural manner, purifying the blood and promote a healthy action of the stomach, liver, kidneys and Bowels.

The Supreme Court of California has recently decided that an apartment which has a partition running half-way to the ceiling is a room according to the legal sense of the word.

The blighting effects of impure blood are sad to behold in those we meet day by day. This ought not and need not be so. Parsons' Purgative Pills make new rich blood; taken one a night for twelve weeks will change the blood in the entire system.

The largest room in the world under one roof and unbroken by pillars, is at St. Petersburg. It is 620 feet long by 150 in breadth. Twenty thousand wax tapers are required to light it.

FICKERS WON'T LIE. The figures showing the enormous yearly sales of Kidney-Wort, demonstrate its value as a medicine beyond dispute. It is a purely vegetable compound of certain roots, leaves and berries known to have special value in Kidney troubles. Combined with these are remedies acting directly on the Liver and Bowels. It is because of this combined action that Kidney-Wort has proved such an unequalled remedy in all diseases of these organs.

A gentleman in a neighboring town who had suffered two years with chronic diarrhoea and was so reduced that he could not walk, was cured and restored to sound health by Johnson's Anodyne Liniment. This Liniment is worth its weight in gold.

It is not to be forgotten that whatever we have of magnetic-electric light in all its various applications, is due to Faraday's discoveries.

A CURE FOR CHOLERA MORBUS. A positive cure for this dangerous complaint, and for all acute or chronic forms of Bowel Complaint incident to Summer and Fall, is found in Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry; to be procured from any druggist.

A Korean woman has no name; she is always somebody's daughter, sister, wife or mother. Their independent individual existence is not recognized even by name.

REST AND COMFORT TO THE SUFFERING.—"Brown's Household Panacea" has no equal for relieving pain, both internal and external. It cures Pain in the side, Back or Bowels. Sore Throat, Rheumatism, Tooth-ache, Lumbago and any kind of a Pain or Ache. "It will most surely quicken the Blood and Heal, as its acting power is wonderful." "Brown's Household Panacea" being acknowledged as the great Pain Reliever, and of double the strength of any other Balm or Liniment in the world, should be in every family handy for use when wanted, "as it really is the best remedy in the world for Cramps in the Stomach, and Pains and Aches of all kinds," and is for sale by all druggists at 25 cents a bottle.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you distressed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of cutting teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP FOR CHILDREN TEething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it. It cures dysentery and diarrhoea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children Teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female nurses and physicians in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price 25 cents per bottle.

Let not the sufferer still think Catarrh can not be cured, And that the ills which now he bears must always be endured: Although no remedy for it there hitherto has been, A certain cure at last is found in GRAHAM'S CATARRHINE.

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