

far distant when others, who are almost persuaded, will make glad their own, as well as our hearts, and even bring joy in the presence of the angels of God over their "new birth from sin."

With few exceptions, the people in this village seem to be united in the work of the Lord. Our meetings, in general, are well attended, especially the evening services, and very many of the brethren and sisters are at their places, ready to assist, by their earnest prayers and warm-hearted exhortations, in holding up the crucified Redeemer before a sinful world. And I would suggest also that they have not forgotten their preacher's financial wants, as only a few days since I was kindly handed the contents of a "basket donation," as an evident token of their kindness. And I trust the great Giver of all good will help us to live and love as brethren until we meet above the toils of life in your haven of eternal blessedness.

April 18th, 1887.

P. D. NOWLAN.

LETETE.

I am happy to say that the church still lives and is walking in the commandments of the Lord. Our Lord's day meetings are well attended—a goodly number still come together to commemorate the sufferings and death of our blessed Lord.

The young people's meeting is well attended, and I am pleased to say that many of the young converts are growing in grace and in the knowledge of their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We have had one addition to the little band recently. A young man made the good confession and was buried with his Lord in baptism, and has joined the little band to work for his Master.

The prayer-meeting is well attended and the interest good.

Through the cold blasts of winter Bro. Dick has ever been found at his post with his little army in the Sunday-school. He has a good school, and as the spring opens we are looking for a better interest.

For all these things we thank God and take courage.

April 6th, 1887.

A. W. RIDGOUT.

LEONARDVILLE.

Dear Christian:—We again send you a few lines. It may be that some of your readers would like to know how we are progressing at Leonardville. Through the unflinching efforts of the brothers and sisters (for the past year), our meetings have been kept up, made interesting, and, I trust, profitable. We have on Tuesday evening a young people's meeting, Thursday the general prayer-meeting, beside our meetings on Sunday.

Having no preacher with us, we sometimes feel discouraged, but Bros. Capp and Murray have come for a short time to encourage and cheer us on the way, and, I trust, to win souls for Christ, although as yet there have been no additions.

I saw by the last CHRISTIAN, a report of several of the missionary societies, and perhaps it would be well to make a few remarks about the society here. At the close of 1886, the treasurer reported \$48 56 on hand. At the opening of 1887 we met and elected new officers, which resulted as follows: Annie L. Webb, President; Mrs. Thomas Doughty, Vice-President; Mrs. Charles Conloy, Treasurer; Mrs. George Welch, Secretary; Nellie Conloy, Assistant Secretary. We hold our private meetings the first Monday of each month, and spend an hour in singing, prayer, reciting and reading. We have a public meeting quarterly, at the close of which a collection is taken. We hope at the close of 1887 to report a larger sum than that of 1886. It is my prayer that God's richest blessing may rest upon each of His servants, as they endeavour to do good.

L.

NOVA SCOTIA.

WESTPORT.

Dear Christian:—On Lord's day morning, Apr. 17, we gathered together to listen to a discourse from Bro. E. C. Ford, taken from 3rd verse of Jude. As this was the last Lord's day he expected to be with us before taking his departure for Cornwallis, both he and the church began to feel the sorrow that takes place when mutual friends are called upon to separate, to meet perhaps no more on the active side of life. This gave an added solemnity to the service, and our dear Bro. could scarce keep back the falling tears, as he earnestly exhorted us to contend for the faith once delivered to the saints.

In the afternoon we met in the Sunday-school, and as Bro. and Sister Ford have always taken a great interest in this branch of the Christian Church, the school, to show the high appreciation in which they held their efforts to advance their condition, presented them with the following address:

To our Beloved Pastor and Family,—

As you are about leaving this church, which has been your home for the last fifteen years, to mix again in new scenes, and find a new field for the Master's work, we feel that it will only voice the minds and thoughts of all to say, *we shall miss you*. It has been with great satisfaction that we have observed the great interest that you have ever taken in the Sunday-school. Our sorrows have been your sorrows, our trials your trials, and our successes yours. Although at times its outlook seemed dark, you have always kept us pushing onward and upward, until now we feel that its success, in a great measure, has been owing to the great interest you have ever taken in its welfare. We also feel assured that it has been the means of bringing many of us to study God's Word, and to realize that *His Word is truth*. While we deeply regret the parting asunder of so many ties, we trust that in the new field of labour your sphere of usefulness may be widened, and what we feel as a loss may ultimately be the gain of those with whom you are associated. As you take your leave from us we would pray that the God of love and peace may go with you and bless you, and when life's journey to us all is o'er, may pastor, teachers and scholars meet in one unbroken band in that world of light and beauty where no partings and farewells are said.

Yours affectionately, on behalf of the teachers and scholars of the Sunday-school of the Church of Christ at Westport, April 17th, 1887.

JOHN PETERS,

Superintendent.

GEORGE BOWERS,

Librarian.

In acknowledging the address, Bro. Ford tried to express his thanks, but his heart was so full that he asked the school to excuse his making any lengthy remarks; that he had ever tried to do all he could for them, and that he and his family had always found it a duty incumbent on them to work for the advancement of the Sunday-school.

In the evening Bro. Ford spoke to a large audience from Acts xx. 32. "And now brethren I commend you to God, etc."

Feelingly and tenderly he commended us to God, and enjoined upon us never to lose sight of the duties of the Christian life, to faithfully pursue the Word of life, and to ever strive for that inheritance which is given to the sanctified.

After the preaching, the church remained to break the loaf, at the close of which Brother and Sister Ford concluded to remain until Thursday, before taking their departure. On Wednesday evening our regular social prayer-meeting, and the last time that Brother and Sister Ford were to meet with us, the church and friends came together and many warm-hearted testimonies were given by the brothers and sisters. At the close a farewell address was read by Brother John Peters to Brother Ford, as follows:

To Brother E. C. Ford,—

It is with feelings of deep regret that we are called upon to say adieu to yourself and family. In the many years that you have gone in and out

before us, and ministered unto us, there has been a unity of feeling seldom ever witnessed between a pastor and church. To-night we can hardly realize that many of us are listening, perchance, to your voice for the last time, and it is impossible for us to express in words our heartfelt sorrow in the presence of our great loss. To many of us who have been called upon to mourn the loss of loved ones, you have been a sympathizing friend in our hours of trouble, and have tried to point us away beyond the narrow bounds of this life to a better and brighter home with Christ. Many of us who have heard from you the words of eternal life have been brought into the Church of Christ to become co-workers with each other in the service of the Master; and although some of us have not kept our first love, we are persuaded that it has not been for want of faithful instruction on your part. In your new field of labor we trust you will be received by the strong arms of Christian brotherhood, and be the means of bringing many to the light and liberty of the gospel. You have our prayers for your success, and if in the future you should at any time revisit these scenes of your many labors, you will ever find from your many friends a hearty welcome. Finally, Brother, farewell; may the arms of a loving Saviour be ever around you to shield and guard you to the end of life; may your partner and children, whose loss we equally deplore, be spared to you till the close of the journey, and when at last you are gathered like a ripe sheaf into the storehouse of the Lord, may the many to whom you have broken the Word of Life, be as stars in the crown of thy rejoicing, and all meet at last around the throne of God in heaven, where nothing will mar the peace of the child of God.

Signed on behalf of the Church of Christ worshipping at Westport, Wednesday evening, April 20th, 1887.

E. R. BAILY,  
WM. HOWARD,  
CHAS. McDORMAND,

E. A. PAYSON,  
JOHN PETERS,  
Elders.

Deacons.

All hearts seemed full at the thought of the separation, and as Brother Ford rose to reply many wet eyes attested to the strength of their affection for him. On Thursday he and Sister Ford called and bid their many friends good-bye and departed for Tiverton, where they expect to remain over next Lord's day. In closing my remarks I would say that the church as yet hardly realizes the absence of Brother Ford and family, and what it will be to them. Brother Ford felt it his duty to go to Cornwallis, thinking that perhaps his time could be more profitably employed in a more extended field of labor. A kind friend, a good neighbor and a sincere Christian. Mrs. Ford and Susie will be greatly missed in the community, and the Sunday-school will hardly know how to do without them.

Yours truly,

B.

Westport, April 23th, 1887.

TIVERTON.

The following address to Elder E. C. Ford and wife, on behalf of the "Christian Church," at Tiverton, on the termination of their labors among them, as their preacher.

Dear Brother and Sister Ford:

The elders of the church at Tiverton, Long Island, wish to intimate to you their high appreciation of the work which you have done, whilst among us as our preacher, for the past fifteen years. When you came here, you found us weak, as a church, and partially indifferent to the cause which we espoused; and you leave us greatly encouraged, stimulated, and strengthened.

In your labors, you have had to encounter many difficulties, and some of them of a very trying nature, which can only be understood from practical experience. You have overcome many of them, with credit to yourself, and with the promise of great good to the ever blessed cause, which you have labored so hard to promote. You came among us as a stranger, and you will leave our shores with the kindest wishes of many warm friends. The elders consider the result of your labors here most satisfactory, and only have to regret that we have not been able to render you that remuneration which we in our hearts would gladly have given.

And now, dear Brother and Sister, on behalf of the church, we tender you our heartfelt thanks for your labors in our interest, and our best wishes for your welfare.

JOHN A. SMITH,  
THOMAS OSSINGER.

Evidence.