

and Rev. Edwin Moore in two or three sentences, brought an interesting session to a close.

At night an immense congregation filled the Church with its seating capacity of twelve hundred, and the preacher of the evening, the Rev. Dr. Curtis stirred by the memories of a quarter of a century ago, when he ministered to this congregation, spoke as one whose heart was full of Christ and longed its glorious matter to declare.

Dr. Curtis based his remarks on the Book of Joshua, 24, 15: "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve."

He reviewed God's dealings with Israel and showed how far reaching for Israel and the world were the issues involved in that national crisis. Then turning the search light upon God's dealings with Grand Bank during the past century he brought home to the congregation how momentous were the issues now involved with their individual relationship with God, especially in its bearing upon the coming century. He pointed out the alternatives to the service of God, whether mammon worship or worldliness or selfishness, meant spiritual death, and resulted in a moral atmosphere wholly inimical to the development of the graces of the spirit in their own lives and injurious to the moral and spiritual welfare of the young people. He illustrated the meaning of christian service by what is known of the service of our brave soldiers to King and Empire on the field of battle, and made an urgent appeal for heroism and self-sacrifice in the service of God. In closing he reminded them that the decision was for eternity and pleaded with them to choose wisely. Hundreds remained to the after service conducted by the Rev. Charles Howse, President of the Conference, which proved to be a season of quickening and spiritual power.

#### THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

A very large congregation assembled on June 26th to hear addresses from old pastors and to witness the unveiling of memorial tablets to the memory of the Rev. Richard Knight, D.D., the pioneer of Grand Bank Methodism, and also to the late Rev. John Pratt, the only herald of the cross to fall at his post of duty during the

century of Methodist service.

Grand Bank has rarely witnessed such a sight as that concourse of loyal and devoted people. The Doxology of praise to the Trinity was followed by the National Anthem and the Invocation by Rev. F. R. Matthews, B.A., ex-President of Conference.

The Rev. Charles Whitemarsh, M. A., B.D., read the appropriate 8th Chapter of Deuteronomy. Then the congregation joined in singing: "Before Jehovah's Awful Throne," which was followed by a fervent and impassioned prayer by the Rev. A. A. Holmes, in keeping with the sanctities of the occasion. After the anthem by the choir, the President of Conference conducted the service. His remarks were brief but to the point. He manifested no desire to trespass on the time of others who were to tell of the achievements of the past. Their pastor had promoted four such centennial celebrations. Bonavista in 1910, in memory of Rev. William Ward, who was the first regularly stationed minister and who was drowned on his way to the District Meeting in 1812. Western Bay in 1911, in commemoration of Rev. Samuel McDowell who in 1811 visited that settlement and persuaded the people to go to the forest and bring out the frames for building churches at Western Bay and Ochre Pit Cove. He reminded St. John's that it was time to take steps for the celebration of their centennial by bringing it to the notice of the Conference who recommended the Quarterly Boards of the City to take action to that end and at Conference 1915 it was an accomplished fact, Governor Davidson unveiling a Tablet to the memory of the Rev. John Pickavant and the Rev. Dr. Bond delivering the Centennial Oration. Now had come Grand Bank's opportunity and they were to honor the Rev. Richard Knight, D.D., the pioneer Protestant Missionary to Fortune Bay with headquarters at Grand Bank, in eighteen hundred and sixteen.

Hymn 742 was sung as only a congregation of Newfoundland Methodists can sing when the Conference mingle their voices with the assembly. It was Charles Wesley's hymn to the old Watch Night tune, showing the triumphs of the Gospel.