

"hear the word of the gospel and believe." We have —

3. The Holy Spirit as a comforter, abiding with us in his gracious promises, and known by the fruits of love, joy, peace, etc, which abide in the hearts of those who believe. In other words, where the Holy Spirit by the testimonies of the gospel has convinced the individual that Jesus is the Messiah, the Saviour of sinners, that faith leads to confession and obedience, or confession and baptism, and confession and baptism bring the heart to the promises that the Holy Spirit has given, and through the promises the Holy Spirit is ever present comforting those who rest upon them. If we read II. Peter i:4 we find that in the gospel "are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by them we might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

Now the confounding of these three distinct works of the Holy Spirit is certain to bring confusion and darkness, and, sooner or later, doubt, into any intelligent mind. It is the same as if a false view of the Holy Spirit was adopted; in fact, the false view that in conversion there is an operation of the Spirit independent of the word of God is the direct outgrowth of this confounding in one things that are entirely different. The tendency and natural fruit of such teaching is to disparage and discredit the word of God as a complete revelation of the will of God concerning man, and anything that does that is necessarily evil, and leads to skepticism. A man claiming to be the subject of the miraculous operation of the Spirit in this day, and that he has some higher evidence of his acceptance with God than he has of faith in his word, can do more to discredit the word of God than the skeptic. The difference between the claiming that the word of God without some additional power is a "dead letter," and the claiming that it is not the word of God at all is hardly perceptible to a clear thinker. Human words have power, even the word of a man of honor is sacred; and shall not the word of God, given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, be still more powerful and honorable? The man who says nay shall find at last that the words of Jesus "shall never pass away."—*Ch. Oracle.*

A GOSPEL OF HOPE AND CHEER. — Two widely separated sun-dials bear inscriptions which, brought into association, blend into a gospel of hope and cheer that well deserves to be believed and practiced. One of them stands beside the grave of Theodore Winthrop, New Haven, Conn., and bears the inscription: "I mark only the bright hours." The other stands upon the pier at Brighton, England, and on it is graven the hopeful line: "'Tis always morning somewhere in the world." All hours are bright hours to him who believes that God will be true to his word, and for the Christian the day-dawn is continuous. Every noon is the preparation for a brighter day, and every sunset its prelude.—*Christian Enquirer.*

News of the Churches.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN.

Since our last report we have had one addition by confession and baptism.

Bro. T. H. Capp was kindly remembered by his Bible class, and also by the members of the church, during the Christmas holidays.

Bro. W. H. Applegate, evangelist, preached at both services on last Lord's day to good houses. In the morning he took for his text II. Peter iii:18: "But grow in grace," and in the evening from Matt. 11 chap. 29th verse, "Learn of me." He left on Monday morning for Westport, N. S.

Bro. Sylvester Leonard, of Leonardville, spent last Lord's day with us. He intends taking a short course at the seminary at St. Martin's.

On New Year's morning we held our annual

prayer and social meeting. The day was all that could be desired. There were quite a number present, many taking part in the exercises. Bro. W. H. Applegate, the evangelist for the Provinces, was also present, and made appropriate remarks from the command of God to Moses, "Speak to the people that they go forward." We were all glad to see our brother Christie present, who has been confined to his home about three months through severe illness. W. A. B.

Our monthly Missionary Aid Society meeting took place the last Monday of the year, Christmas coming on our regular day. A very stormy afternoon made our number small, but we had a good time together, and our collection amounted to \$10.85.

We had two visitors among our small gathering, and if we let our mind run in the future, perhaps we can see one studying in our Bible Colleges for men's work, and the other studying to go with some of our missionaries to foreign fields to help fill some of the places that our friends in India now fill.

NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX.

Dear Christian.—It is sometimes since I have written you a letter, but as you have heard from others of the work in Halifax, I did not think it necessary to write. But seeing a notice in your last paper of Halifax having a preacher, and wishing it kept secret, I thought it right to correct such a statement.

Now, near brother, Halifax hasn't a preacher as yet, neither do we desire any secrecy about it. We have been corresponding with Bro. Robinson, of Pennsylvania, whom we expected to have been here by this time, but have not heard anything definite for several weeks. Therefore, we did not wish to publish abroad an uncertainty. But as soon as he arrives, or we know for certain, we shall only be pleased to inform your readers.

Since we have returned to Halifax we have been trying, to the best of our ability, to extend the Master's Kingdom, and we thank and bless his holy name that our labors have not been in vain. Since April last there has been three added to the Church by baptism, two young ladies, and the last a woman who formerly was a Roman Catholic, but had been brought out from them, and led to believe on the Son of God as her Saviour; but still she seemed to feel there was something more than faith alone needed, and having the way of God more perfectly expounded to her, she gladly came out before the world and confessed that dear Saviour with her mouth and was baptized by the authority of Jesus Christ, and now is very happy, and laboring very earnestly to bring her husband and others unto Christ. Our meetings have been for some time growing in interest and in numbers, although God in his Providence saw fit to remove one of our most useful members in the person of our late Brother, Edward Wallace, and at this season of the year, Brother Messervey's business calls him away so much of the time. We miss these dear brethren so very much, as there are so few male members in the church.

We thank God for sending Bro. Darst among us last summer, for he stirred up the missionary spirit in Halifax. Your Bro. in Christ,

Halifax, 18th December, 1890. HENRY CARSON.

TIVERTON.

We have nothing of special interest to report from this point. Preparation for Christmas seems to be the order of the day at present. Nevertheless we are not entirely neglectful of the preparation which we need daily in order to be fitted for a better life when Christmas here shall have been spent for the last time. Amid the joys and hopes of

life death is ever on our track, and we know not to whom this may be the last Christmas. Death has come to our own home within the year, and darling eyes that looked sparkling with delight upon childish treasures peculiar to Christmas morning have been closed in the sleep of death. We are not alone in bereavement. Many others have been called to mourn departed loved ones, among whom are Bro. Ruggles and family, of the Light Station. Their second daughter, Maggie K., recently died while staying with friends at Everitt, Mass. Much sympathy is felt for the bereaved family by all who know them.

Our meetings are good and well attended when the weather will permit. Prayer meeting are grand, and a good interest prevails in every department of our church work. Preparations are being vigorously made for building a tower and belfry to our meeting-house as soon as spring opens.

SOUTHVILLE.

We have visited this noble little church twice since our last report. We notice some sign of advancement upon each visit made to these brethren. They have lately painted their house outside and inside, and hung a new set of spring blinds to the windows, and upholstered the desk, upon which rests a hymn book and a beautiful Bible, on the covers of which is printed in large gold letters: *Church of Christ, Southville N. S.* They are a gift to the church from Elder James E. Barnes, of St. John, to whom the brethren at Southville feel truly grateful for his beautiful gift and token of interest in their welfare.

If Elder Stephen Steele and wife live to see New Year's eve they will have seen the *fiftieth* anniversary of their marriage; but of this we will write more particularly in our next. H. A. DeVoe.

Died.

Therio.—On the afternoon of November 19th a large number of persons assembled at the home of Mr. Tyleston Therio, East Ferry, Digby County, N. S., to pay their last tribute of respect to his departed mother, who died on the 16th ult., aged 88 years. The deceased was the widow of the late Luke Therio, and left two sons and three daughters. One of the latter is Sister Wesley Baker, of St. John, N. B. (West End). Funeral services were conducted by the writer. H. A. DeVoe.

McKay.—On the 28th of November, at New Glasgow, P. E. I., in her 16th year, Sister Hattie McKay. Her disease was consumption, which she bore with remarkable patience. She was baptized when Bro. H. Murray held a meeting at this place in the spring of 1889, and since then had walked as becometh the gospel, and in her Saviour's strength cheerfully met the last enemy. Bro. McKay's afflictions are very severe, having in less than a year buried his wife and three children; but what wipes away the briny tear is the well-grounded assurance that they are all present with the Lord. D. C.

Cook.—Suddenly at LeTete, of heart disease, on the 2nd inst., Mrs. Robert Cook, in the forty-eighth year of her age, leaving a husband and nine children to mourn her loss. Nine years ago she confessed her faith in Christ, and yielded herself in obedience to him. She will be much missed in the neighborhood where she resided. She was always ready to wait upon the sick. She loved to talk of Jesus and her future home with him. So they pass away one by one to the better land. May we who remain take warning, and prepare to meet our God. J. A. GATES.

McNichol.—At LeTete, of consumption of the bowels, on December 24th, Brother Cornelius McNichol, aged 47 years and seven months. Our brother has left a widow and four grown up children to mourn his loss. Brother McNichol was immersed about thirty-two years ago by Bro. G. Garrety. He has had his membership in the LeTete church during those years. Although not an active worker in the church he always showed that his sympathies were with God's people. He was much respected in the community, and a large company gathered at his funeral. May we meet him in the better land. J. A. G.