

"A SHELTER IN THE TIME OF STORM."

What would you think of the man who would remain out in the severest cold and storm till he was frozen to death, when he could have a comfortable, welcome shelter and friends awaiting to greet him? Would you not decide that he must be either a foolish or an insane person? And now, dear friend, if you are not sincerely loving and serving the Lord of glory, are you not in a far greater degree unwise and shortsighted? With what can the value of your soul be estimated? The whole world and all its riches are but as a drop to the ocean in comparison therewith. Your precious soul is famishing, freezing, for the warm, happy comforts that only can be enjoyed by coming into Christ and remaining united to Him as your Living Head. O do not count yourself unworthy of eternal life by neglecting so great salvation.

What would the wicked not have given when the flood came upon them to have had the opportunity of then entering the ark? But it was too late. All perished in the terrible deluge. So at the great judgment day. What will you not be willing to give up, or obey, that you may be welcomed into heaven? Then do not longer spurn His loving offer to become your shelter from the storm, your safe hiding place from every ill for time and eternity. I entreat you, as time is so short, not to delay one moment; but with the earnestness that a drowning man grasps at a straw, lay hold on eternal life. This is the test of a wise and well-balanced mind.

O, come to the blood cleansing fountain,
Poor sinner, 'tis opened for thee;
Drink deep of the life-giving water,
And the King in His beauty you'll see.
Woodville, Feb. 15, '93. M. E. GATES.

THE CHURCH IN HALIFAX.

Was there ever a church meeting in a rented hall that attained great and permanent success in such quarters? The probabilities are that few such can be found. The members may be growing in grace and knowledge and thus becoming better fitted to enjoy the glories beyond; but the church has a duty to the world, it is to seek to save the lost, and without coming in contact with them it cannot fulfil its mission. It is almost impossible to induce a large number of non-Christians to attend religious meetings in a hall. And even should they come, it is no easy matter to persuade them to join the church. The body that worships in such a place is always regarded as of no special importance. There are no evidences of permanency, and thoughtful people who otherwise would come in and work with the church are kept back.

When the church in Halifax decided to build a house of its own, it showed its wisdom. It is not quite a year since the subject was calmly considered. Bro. Hiram Wallace visited them and he urged the importance of the step. Then Bro. H. Murray spent about two months with them, and he got the church to do something definite. He urged them on. And at last talk was transformed into action and two lots were purchased. A start was thus made; and then having begun to build, they carried on the work to completion. During the progress of the enterprise they had the benefit of the wise counsel of Bro. E. C. Ford, he having visited them on several occasions. The house has now been set apart for divine service. An account of the opening will be found in another column. It remains for the writer to say something about the house.

In the last issue of THE CHRISTIAN you have an accurate representation of the building. It is situated on North street and is in a portion of the city that is rapidly building up, and by a good class of people. No locality in the city would give greater prospects for rapid and substantial growth.

The house is the only place of worship in that vicinity.

It cost, including the lots, about \$1500, and the wonder with many is how it could be built so cheaply. It is furnished with pews finished with ash and arranged in semi-circles. The seating capacity is about 320. It is lighted by electricity, having ten incandescent lights. Two base burners give all the heat that is required. The platform is large and is supplied with new furniture, consisting of three suitable chairs and a cheap, but attractive, stand. The baptistry is just behind the pulpit, and in the spring is to be connected with the water system of the city. Two dressing rooms can be opened out when required. When not needed they can be neatly folded against the wall. The aim throughout has been to supply the house with all needed conveniences, and at the same time to practise the most rigid economy. That they have succeeded in both directions no one acquainted with the facts will be disposed to deny.

In building this house the brethren in Halifax have combined faith and works. They are few in number—not more than fifty, but they were willing to do all in their power to provide themselves with a church home. They have done splendidly. Their willingness to give up to, if not beyond, their ability should commend them to the brotherhood as worthy of generous and prompt assistance. They appealed to their brethren in faith, and it was not in vain. Many contributions have been received and acknowledged. But more are needed. The church is most anxious to make a complete success of this work. They have gone too far to think of going back. They are determined to sacrifice more for the sake of the cause of Christ in the capital city of Nova Scotia. But when they have done all that is in their power the final success of the work will not be assured unless their brethren come to their aid. Shall the work in Halifax prove a failure? Not if a loyal and consecrated brotherhood supports the struggling band. Without this support failure is not improbable. But it is too late now to sound a retreat; and we trust that the many who have not as yet contributed to this work will seize upon this opportunity to secure for themselves the blessing that comes from giving.

Have there been failures in Halifax in the past? Yes; that is freely admitted. But the brethren there now were not responsible for them. The causes of past failures do not now exist. This is the first time the church has had a chance to impress Halifax as it should be impressed with the grandeur of our plea for "the restoration of primitive Christianity in its doctrines, its ordinances and its fruits." The church is united in the bonds of peace. There is an unvarying desire to subordinate all to the cause of Christ. The older members have the support of the younger ones, and the younger ones are encouraged by their elders. The work is now to be pushed. Special services are to be held for several weeks. Then an effort is to be made to secure a man to give all his time to the work of building up the cause in the city. This is needed. And if the church succeeds in getting a worker, it will not be long till they will be self-supporting, and then they will gladly pay back to a generous brotherhood by giving to those who, like themselves, may be in need.

THE EDUCATIONAL FUND.**RECEIPTS.**

C. H. Devos, Salem, Indiana,	\$10 00
Samuel Nelson, Boston, Mass., ..	50
	\$10 50

HENRY W. STEWART,

Treasurer.

St. John, N. B., Feb. 27, '93.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

Brother and Sister John Houston, of North Rustico, P. E. I., celebrated the anniversary of their golden wedding on the second day of the new year. We, as well as a number of friends at a distance, were prevented from attending by the storm which prevailed, but those nearer came with seven children and their partners and thirty-eight grand children, making in all seventy guests, one daughter being in the States.

Valuable presents were received, and besides a sumptuous feast the evening was most agreeably spent in conversation, speeches, recitations and music.

Not a few of our readers from the provinces and the States may remember when visiting the beautiful shore of North Rustico how cordially they were entertained by Brother and Sister Houston at the comfortable homestead.

News of the Churches.**ST. JOHN, N. B.**

February has been a cold, stormy month and many have been kept from the meetings through colds and sickness. The last Sunday in the month the attendance at the Portland Sunday-school was the largest yet—fifty-three. It was the first real fine morning since the school was opened. Our two schools that day showed 182 in attendance and \$7 50 collected. New scholars continue to come to both schools; so we are encouraged in the work of teaching the young the truth as it is in Jesus.

Bro. and Sister G. Maston came from Boston here on a sad errand—to bury their only child, a fine boy,—who was only sick a few days. May they be consoled by the promises of the Saviour.

At the urgent request of the church in Halifax, Bro. Stewart went there to open their new house of worship. He remained over two Lord's days. Bro. H. E. Cooke came here to keep up the interest in our Portland work and in our coming quarterly. He had good audiences and the best of attention while in Coburg Street. In Portland the number out was small on account of a heavy storm and not being advertised. Bro. Cooke has the thanks of the people for coming as he did at such short notice and showing such a willingness to alter his plans and comply with the wishes of the churches in St. John and Halifax.

Bro. Stewart, on his return, preached in Portland Sunday afternoon to a crowded house—the most of whom had never heard one of our preachers. To say they were pleased and edified does not fully express all that we heard said about his sermon.

Last Sunday was a busy day with many of us—at 9.30 Sunday-school in Portland; at 11 Bro. Stewart preached; at 12 the Lord's supper; at 3.30 Sunday-school in Coburg street; at 3.15 Sunday-school foreign mission meeting; at 4 Bro. Stewart preached in Portland; at 7 in Coburg street; and at 8 the regular prayer-meeting. One brother said: "Talk about home mission work, we are doing it now, and I don't know an where where there is better prospects of success."

We start our quarterly the first Sunday in March. We are working and praying for a successful meeting. We hope all "who are striving for the faith once for all delivered to the saints" will offer up special prayers for God's blessing on our work.

The annual Sunday-school Festival of the Coburg Street Sunday-school was held Wednesday evening, March 1st, and was considered the most successful and enjoyable of any yet held. Additional interest was added by having members of the North End Sunday-school uniting with them. About two hundred children took part in the exercises and singing. The church was crowded with friends of the school. The exercises consisted of readings, recitations, solos, duets, trios, and choruses. After the exercises the children were provided with refreshments in the Sunday-school room. The collection amounted to \$20.00.