

THE REFLECTOR.

MOTTO FOR '99.—"Occupy till I come."

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No. 5

Service of Recognition to Rev. W. E. Bates, B. A.

On Monday evening, Oct. 9th, an interesting service was held in our Auditorium to formally welcome the new Pastor, Rev. Mr. Bates. On the platform besides the chairman, the Acting Pastor, were: Revs., Dr. Steele, W. E. Bates, B. A., D. McGrew, J. L. Batty, E. O. Read, E. E. Daley, B. A., B. F. Patterson and Deacon G. W. Christie.

Rev. Mr. Patterson, Assistant Baptist Pastor at Sackville read the Scripture and Rev Mr. Read, a visiting Baptist Minister offered prayer.

The chairman briefly stated the object of the meeting and in connection with his remarks read a testimonial to the value of the service rendered by Mr. Bates in Halifax, written for the Halifax Baptist Ministers' Conference by Rev. A. C. Chute, M. A., B. D., of the first Church in Halifax City. "REFLECTOR" readers will want to have this in this connection:

Halifax, N. S., Oct. 3rd, 1899

Rev. W. E. Bates,

Amherst, N. S.,

My Dear Brother:

At a recent meeting of the Baptist Ministers' Conference, of Halifax and Dartmouth, I was appointed to convey to you some expression of the feeling which exists here at your departure from among us. And this service I the more gladly render because of the very cordial relations which have existed between you and myself ever since your coming to Halifax as a stranger.

We sincerely regret your going because you have always shown the deepest interest in everything pertaining to our denominational affairs in this city and in these Provinces, and also to the advancement of God's cause in general. You have ever been ready to give assistance in any and every way possible, and the assistance which you have given has been of great value. A brother indeed have we found you to be—loyal, earnest and efficient. We rejoice in the work you were permitted to do at "The Tabernacle," in the large congregations with which you were greeted from first to last, and

we feel assured that there will come hereafter a good harvest from your faithful sowing. We thank the Lord that in His Providence you were led in this direction, and we much regret that now you have gone from us.

But we are glad that you have not removed to any great distance, and that you are now upon a very important field in our Convention. The prayers of your brethren here are offered for the Master's favor to attend you abundantly in your labors at Amherst. May you find there, in the people of your charge, a very true and devoted people, who earnestly co-operate with you in your ministry of love.

And while we convey these words of appreciation and kind feeling to yourself, we desire also to express our warmest good wishes for Mrs. Bates and your dear children. In your own person, in your domestic life, in all your Church relations, in every part of your responsible and busy career, may you have, in great fulness, the blessing of God which makes rich indeed.

With esteem and affection,
I remain, my dear brother,
On behalf of the Baptist Ministers
of Halifax and Dartmouth,
Fraternally Yours,

A. C. Chute.

Deacon Christie was then called upon to present the address of welcome from the Amherst Baptist Church, which he did in a most pleasing manner. The address was as follows:

Dear Bro.,

It is with pleasure that I present to you a hearty welcome on behalf of the Church of which you are now the pastor.

You will be welcomed to the Christian work of the town, and to our Denominational work in the wide extent of the interests thus represented; but it is my privilege to assure you of the cordial reception which we as a church delight to accord to you and your family. We welcome you to the most intimate, responsible and unique relationship which Jesus Himself instituted when he appointed undershepherds over the sheep of his pasture.