

THE BERWICK CAMP GROUND.

BY REV. F. H. W. PICKLES. Eight years ago a number of persons deeply interested in the advancement of the cause of God, conceived the idea of holding open air services at some central point in the valley of Annapolis. After due consideration they fixed upon a magnificent hemlock grove, about twenty acres in extent, in close proximity to Berwick station. Arrangements were made and meetings held for a week in the month of July. So largely attended and so successful in their results were the services, that a company was formed and the land purchased that it might be held for camping purposes as long as desirable. In clearing away underbrush and leveling the ground a great deal of the labor has been gratuitous, but a large amount of work was absolutely necessary, for which cash had to be paid. Seats, preachers' stand, boarding-house and other buildings, wells, &c., in addition to the price of the land, involved a heavy outlay which completely exhausted the amounts paid in for shares sold, and compelled the company to hire the balance of the money. If all the shares had been sold, matters would have been in a different position. The interest on this money, with the current expenses of each year, exceeded the sums raised by collections and subscriptions, and the association has found itself in the unenviable condition of bills to pay and nothing to pay them with. Although doing all their work without fee or reward, and giving as others gave at the different services, they were compelled to put their hands in their pockets and advance the amounts necessary. Were it not for the conscientious conviction that the cause is of God, they would ere this have given up the responsibility, sold the land and saved themselves the anxiety, toil and expense to which they were subjected. The blessing of God which has rested upon them, the successes which have attended the services held in the sanctifying of believers and the conversion of souls, have enabled them to hold fast the beginning of their confidence until now, and believing there is even a brighter prospect for usefulness, the Association at its last meeting devised and unanimously adopted a scheme which, if successful, will widen the personal interest felt in the camp-ground, and place it on such a footing that its future is ensured. The substance of the scheme is the formation of a Joint Stock Company with a capital of \$2500, divided into 500 shares worth \$5 each. Those who have been shareholders in the present company to be allowed eight shares in the new for each share held by them in the old company. As the shares are worth \$5 each, they thus give one-fifth for the benefit of the cause. When a sufficient number of shares are taken, say 250, the President of the C. M. Association will call a meeting of those who have subscribed, for the dissolution of the old and the organization of the new Association. If, as is hoped, the whole number of shares be taken up readily, it is proposed only to call for one-half the amount subscribed, the balance of the shares being left indefinitely. If the purpose of the old Association be carried out, to fence the ground and ask a small admittance fee, the probabilities are that the receipts will meet all the expenditures and after a few years leave a balance in favor of the Association, to be appropriated as it may seem best—perhaps to the assistance of the new fund to be formed in aid of our young men who are compelled to become supernumeraries, with a very limited amount of allowances. One hundred and thirty-six shares, including those to be held by the members of the present Association, have already been disposed of. It is very desirable that the whole be taken up at an early date, so that a meeting can be called before winter. Easily reached from any point in the counties of Halifax, Hants, Annapolis and Yarmouth, there should be no difficulty in securing a shareholder for each share. No difficulty is found in securing the sale of shares in a gold mine even at exorbitant figures, with all the risks to be run of losing the lead or the complete failure of the mine. In this investment there is no risk run, the promises of God are sure, the lead will never be lost, the work will never fail, the more workers are put into this field, the greater results. Instead of exhausting as the years pass away, the yields will grow larger and richer. There are several points which it is desirable should be presented, but as our article has grown to greater length than we intended, they must be reserved for another time. The scheme is presented for consideration, any information will be gladly given, and names of those desirous of aiding in carrying on God's work by taking shares in the new company as gladly received.

Correspondence.

Mr. Allison College, Sackville, N.B., Aug. 9th, 1880. DEAR MR. EDITOR:—The enclosed letter from an old student, a member of the Newfoundland Conference, though not intended for publication, contains intelligence which many will be glad to receive. Two years ago the Newfoundland Conference resolved to send a missionary to Red Bay, on the coast of Labrador, to reside there. As the position involved much hardship, especially in the being cut off from all communication with friends or society, except such as the frost-bound shores of Labrador might itself afford, for at least six months of the year, the appointment was reserved for volunteers. Bro. Bowell had just completed two years' training at Sackville, and was just about to be ordained and married. He offered his services, and was accepted. His labours have been crowned with a good measure of success. The sympathy and prayers of our people should go out

towards this brother and the partner of his toils. That sympathy, too, should take some practical form. The Sabbath School children of St. John's, Newfoundland are largely responsible for Bro. Bowell's maintenance—indeed, without their aid the working of the Mission would be wholly impracticable. Might not the S. S. children of these adjoining Conferences, without trenching upon their ordinary contributions to the Mission Fund, make a special effort to procure a boat for this Mission? In so doing they would help both those far off, and those near at hand, for many people from the shores of Nova Scotia go down to fish at Labrador during the summer months, and are benefitted by the labours of our missionary there.

Yours, very truly, CHAS. STEWART.

BOARD "Plover," July 22, 1880.

REV. C. STEWART, D.D. My Dear Sir:—Never before have I attempted to write on shipboard, and I rather expect now to make a sorry affair of it, but I must do this or not write you for nearly a month. You will be sorry to hear that I was not able to get to District or Conference this spring. For months I was looking forward to meeting my brethren, and I assure you I was very much disappointed when days and weeks passed and there was no opportunity of leaving. At length on the 27th ult. (Sabbath) a lumber vessel called in at Red Bay for me, having heard that I wanted a passage. Next day we left. Had a very agreeable time south, but personal and circuit business kept me busy during the three weeks I have been from home. I have had only one service free. Last Sabbath afternoon had a good time at Sabbath school Missionary Meeting.

We have had a very severe winter. For weeks the glass would scarce go above zero at all, generally from 5, 10, 15, to 25 degrees below zero in Red Bay, while at the Light House I heard it was as low as 30 and 32 degrees. We had great quantities of snow, but this was an advantage, as the ravines were well filled up and we could travel better.

Though the cold was so excessive, by being careful I was not hindered from doing my work pretty regularly. I would be ten or twelve days in Red Bay (home) and about same time away visiting other settlements. The winter work in Red Bay is very pleasant. A fair congregation—nearly sixty members,—fine class leaders, two of whom led the services in my absence; regular Sabbath and week-night services, which are always well attended. In winter, in every place, I have had to preach in the dwelling-houses. Except in Red Bay this answers very well, as the people are few, but there it is a great inconvenience. However, we are preparing to put up a School-Chapel, which we hope to use this winter.

In the summer we have a small church in Red Bay, which is very useful, though at times it is too small. In all other places we use the houses of the people or the stores of the merchants. Last summer I visited thirteen places where I had not been before, and in some of them had large numbers—as many as two hundred in some places. Though I have thus tried to extend our labours, there are several hundred miles of coast along which the fishermen scatter seeking for fish, and where we certainly ought to follow them. This summer Bro. Peters spends about six weeks in that work. I trust he will be successful, but I know he will have considerable difficulty in getting from place to place without a boat. We need a boat. The Episcopal missionary going down now in this steamer for the summer is taking a boat with him. He has been there before and knows what he needs. I would like to get some encouragement from the General Board to get one built. Could have one ready for sea for \$200.

On this mission I suffer from lack of regularity in reading and study. Am not long enough at home to work systematically, and when away it is only on a stormy day I can get a few hours for reading. I am grateful for the benefits derived from Sackville life, and trust that the seed sown there will bear more abundant fruit should I ever be planted in a suitable soil. Have met Mr. Lewis. Am delighted with him. My wife and little one were quite well when I left. Expect to get home to-morrow sometime. Bro. Lewis mentions several who enquire for me. Please remember me to old friends. Excuse this as I am half sick, and the steamer shakes fearfully. Yours, &c., J. P. BOWELL.

THE LAY MINISTRY.

MR. EDITOR.—In my former communication I intimated that the dividing up of circuits into small stations was productive of evil in many ways, but chiefly, because it dispensed with the valuable services of the lay preachers. In proof of the assertion that the lay branch of the ministry is valuable and cannot be dispensed with, we ask, what is it that has made the Methodist Church a praise in the earth? Coming into the field later than any other, what is it which has enabled her to outstrip many, and come abreast with the oldest and most influential Churches in the land? Some will say that her success is attributable to the fact that she proclaims from her pulpits and platforms a free and full salvation as the privilege of every repenting and believing soul. But how were the people to hear this good news without a preacher, and how were they to preach unless they be sent? And it is just here where the secret of the unexampled success of the Methodist Church lies, and which has given her the advantage over every other ecclesiastical organization. Being poor in pocket and unable to em-

ploy a large number of paid agents commensurate with the pressing necessities of the world, and believing in the Scriptural mandate, "Let him that heareth say come," our fathers seized hold upon the piety and talents of the church, and organized a noble band of volunteers who, Sabbath after Sabbath, according to their ability, lifted up the standard of the cross in full view of their perishing fellow-men, and with tears and entreaties persuaded them to be reconciled to God.

It is said that the preaching power of all the Methodist Churches in England is put down at 38,000 preachers, of whom 3,600 are ordained, and the remaining 34,400 lay preachers.

In view of this fact, no wonder that the Methodist Church has been, and is, a Missionary Church. But she could have done but little for the heathen world had it not been for her large and effective body of laymen who, to a very great extent, cultivated the field at home. This has enabled her to use the money which otherwise would have been required to sustain the ministry at home, directly for the conversion of the of the heathen, and for assisting infant churches in nominal Christian lands. Let even a portion of those 34,000 lay preachers withdraw from the work, and few missionaries could be spared for the foreign field, the supply for the home work would be limited, and what money could be raised would be required to meet the pressing necessities of the population at home.

We, in these Provinces, cannot rightly estimate our indebtedness to the lay ministry of England and Ireland. Our fathers were drilled in their ranks, and from their ranks came to this country and laid the foundation of what is now called "The Methodist Church of Canada," which can be prosperous only so far as it is true to the genius of Methodism.

By all means then let us have our circuits and our lay preachers.

Yours truly, OBSERVER. P. E. Island, August, 1880.

MR. EDITOR.—Bro. Nicolson's letter or article on Parsonage Aid and Church Extension in the Nova Scotia Conference, certainly presents matters of great interest to the work of our poor circuits and mission stations.

Some of us of the New Brunswick Conference, praying and working under great difficulty, building parsonages and churches, would rejoice if such help could be given us as a loan payable in instalments with one per cent. interest. I know that we have a Parsonage Aid Fund in the N. B. Conference; but will some brother, having full knowledge of all the Methodist funds thereon, inform us whether there is any fund from which similar help can be obtained for church building on poor circuits? If no such fund at present exists, how can such best be formed?

Yours, INQUIRER.

THE STRUGGLE FOR GENTILITY.

In all our great cities the rush for mental labour and sedentary pursuits, with the view to avoid manual toil, is tremendous. At whatever cost of self-abasement, the glittering bauble of gentility is sought for by American-born young men, so that it may be said, "He is only a mechanic!" They forget or have never been taught, that the greatest men of the age have sprung from the workingmen. Eventual success in early life is a question of brains, not position. Let those in search of clerkships and other similar situations remember this great truth. Why should the badge of serfdom be assumed by those who choose to work where they are not really needed, in preference to where they are? By such a course nobility of soul is sacrificed, and a recompense at starvation rates is accepted, in order that the sniveling mendicant may have the world say that he is engaged in a respectable vocation—one that exempts him from manual labour. Shame on such a false standard of public opinion!

The trouble is that more persons insist upon living by commercial pursuits, literature, or in some other way that involves but little manual effort, that can possibly find employment. They can only find it by taking it from some one else. Many succumb to the worst forms of vice under the pressure of absolute want. They run into temptation, and make that temptation an excuse for pauperism and crime. Let the young men of this land get an education if they possibly can, but by all means let them learn a trade.—Central Advocate.

It is sometimes mentioned by sceptics to the reproach of Christianity that its professors are chiefly women. A Western preacher was tauntingly asked by an ungodly scoffer, why it is that most Christians are women. "I will ask you a question," said the minister, "and if you will answer it I will answer you. I was recently at the State penitentiary, where I saw hundreds of men, very few women. If you can tell me why there was this great inequality between the male and female convicts, I will tell you why the professors of Christianity are largely females." The reply was a jest of the scoffer, a triumphant vindication of female character, and a strong proof of the benign influence of Christianity.—Religious Herald.

Passionate reproofs are like medicines given scalding hot; the patient cannot take them. If we wish to do good to those we rebuke, we should labor for meekness of wisdom, and use soft words for hard arguments.—Dodd.

WIT AND WISDOM.

We meet a great many warm friends during the heated term.

The most fatal grapeshot come from the bottle.

In this great theatre of life, it is permitted to God and the angels to be spectators, but all men must be actors.

Longfellow says that "Sunday is the golden clasp that binds together the volume of the week."

An ounce of keep-your-mouth-shut is better than a pound of explanation after you have said it.

If a man really wants to know how little importance he is, let him go with his wife to the dress-maker's.

Many calumnies are injurious even after they are refuted. Like the Spanish flies, they sting when alive and blister when dead.

When it comes to pass that a politician who gains a vote by whisky, thereby loses two from the sober class of citizens, there will be a genuine political reformation.

Happiness is a shy nymph, and if you chase her you will never catch her. But just go quietly on and do your duty, and she will come to you.

O Conscience! Conscience! man's most faithful friend!

Him canst thou comfort, ease, relieve, defend; But if he will thy friendly checks forego, Thou art, O woe for me, his deadliest foe! —Crahe.

Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, the lecturer, says that the big fires which cook our breakfasts cook the women who stand over the stoves, and that there is a waste of wood and a waste of women.

Did you ever notice that the man who grows the loudest about paying \$7 for a \$4 smoking cap at the church fair is the man who most complacently and willingly pays twenty cents for a cigar with three cents worth of tobacco in it?

Coleridge, when a young man, was lecturing to a critical audience, and was violently hissed on account of some of his novel propositions, but nothing daunted retorted: "When a cold stream of truth is poured on red hot prejudices no wonder they hiss."

The English language is wonderful for its aptness of expression. When a number of men and women get together and look at each other from the sides of a room, that's called a sociable. When a hungry crowd calls upon a poor minister and eats him out of house and home, that's called a donation party.

It's funny when you ask a man to advertise he generally declines with the statement that nobody will see it. But advertise some little caper of his in the news column gratis, he gets indignant over the certainty that everybody will see it. At least, that is what a veteran newspaper man says.

Carlyle once asked a question of a butcher, who ignored what the great man said, and went on talking to a trader about quarters and hides and weight on the hoof. A gentleman stepped up to the butcher and said: "It is Thomas Carlyle who is talking to you." "And confound him," said he, "doesn't he see that I am talking to a butcher?"

A Scotch preacher being sent to officiate one Sunday at a country parish, was accommodated at night in the manse, in a very diminutive closet, instead of the usual best bedroom appropriated to strangers. "Is this the bed-room?" he said, starting back in amazement. "Deed, ay, sir, this is the prophet's chamber." "It maun be for the minor prophets, then," was the reply.

There is a story that a wealthy lady once complained to a physician that she had noticed that the ragged and dirty children in the poor quarters of the city were generally in robust health, while her own children, well clothed and kept scrupulously clean, were sickly. "Madam," said the physician, "the reason is that your children are clean on the outside, but the poor children, living on a frugal diet, are clean on the inside."

Joe King was sick in a boarding-house, and had got his mind made up for some nice chicken broth. The order went down to the kitchen, and the broth came up weak, flat and insipid. The sick man was subsequently relating his disappointment to a friend, who said, "they just let a chicken wade through it." "If they did," said Joe faintly, "it had on stilts." He recovered.

Sydney Smith, after Macaulay's return from the East, remarked to a friend who had been speaking of the noted conversationalist: "Yes, he is certainly more agreeable since his return from India. His enemies might perhaps have said before, (though I never did so,) that he talked rather too much; but now he has occasional flashes of silence, that make his conversation perfectly delightful!"

Bishop Kavanaugh, in his peculiarly suggestive remarks on the use of tobacco by preachers, made to the class for admission on trial at the late North Mississippi Conference, said: "I was advised to use tobacco to keep down the tendency to corpulency; but when I tried it was so mean that I concluded that I would rather carry my flesh than the tobacco." Many of the preachers smiled, and some looked a little uneasy.

Brown went home tired out from cares of business and attention to creditors, and sat on the stoop to rest and smoke. His wife, laboring under the idea that she ought to do something to entertain him, seated herself at his side, and, in a wifely, cheering way, told him that there was no sugar in the house, that John Henry had got to have a new pair of shoes, and that the baby had broken the mirror. Brown got up and took a walk around the block, and his wife complains that he doesn't seem to care for her company as he used to before they were married.

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The remarks here contained by VEGETINE have induced many physicians and apothecaries whom we know, to prescribe and use it in their own families. In fact, VEGETINE is the best remedy yet discovered for the above diseases, and is the only reliable BLOOD PURIFIER yet placed before the public.

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Boston, Mass. Mr. H. R. STEVENS:—My only object in giving you this testimonial is to spread valuable information. Having been badly afflicted with Salt Rheum, and the whole surface of my skin being covered with pimples and eruptions, many of which caused me great pain and annoyance, and knowing it to be a blood disease, I took many of the advertised blood preparations, among which were any quantity of sarsaparilla, without obtaining any benefit until I commenced taking the VEGETINE, and before I had completed the first bottle I saw that I had got the right medicine. Consequently I followed it until I had taken seven bottles, when I was pronounced a well man, and my skin is smooth and entirely free from pimples and eruptions. I have enjoyed so good health before, and I attribute it all to the use of VEGETINE. To benefit those afflicted with Rheumatism, I will make mention also of the VEGETINE's wonderful power of curing me of this acute complaint, of which I have suffered so intensely. C. H. TUCKER, Pas. Agt. Mich. C. R. R., 99 Washington Street, Boston.

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JULY AND AUGUST for cutting timber, durable. The growth well high over, and to be until the green them, the greater thereby withdrawn seasoning is rapid mid summer, insect to attack the wood, point with some kind hickory, etc.

BIRDS.—As a game which go alone are ers (the hawk except work is concerned under the same rule, boy, two boys is half is no boy at all, or a blackbird falls in his furrow he is d. But when you see there is evil deterring birds, after the climb the trees, god such as woodpecker, snickers, nut-cracker, a word all birds the.

SODA IN COOKING in the Country G things, no preparation into human food, common, is the soul and any person in in any form in the commits a great hereof said, no stomach free from receptacle of soda. This is a positive tradition. There any form. Eggs, sufficient for light, and as a luxury.

TO RENDER C PROOF.—A sanitary gan, Dr. Kedzie, Health, said that be prevented from of borax in the of to each pint of has been added. injurious effect upon wearier, and is so to use it. It was that muslin an inflammable good borax starch, out with a blaze. If underclothing, a ing of children, a great number of ig would be ex Kedzie said he ed days some shrew recipe, mix starch as asbestos "star catching name, profit, and get rich could just as well save the profit.

ANGER FROM in the German of all who have to do of using the pocket away any foam for a horse which ma their clothes.

writer states, an ing from an obst remedies were p visit to the bath the patient no g the officer became with great pain i set in, and ulting ing, he died with ers. Inquiries w found that some ill he had order ed was suffering Neither the gro soldiers who h have been attack sequently it is e who died may n into his system t kerchief to wipe s mouth or nose of form.