

THE PRIZE OF OUR HIGH CALLING.

Many think only of the conscious felicities to be enjoyed in the heavenly world; the fellowships to be renewed, and the absolute removal of all irritating evils such as belong to the present life. But while these, doubtless, will enter into that eternal bliss, they will not constitute the full prize of our high calling. That prize is nothing less than absolute perfection of character—character formed after the infinite pattern. We are to be like our blessed Lord. He gave to truth supreme exaltation when He was upon earth. We will be able in the heavenly world to follow Him perfectly in this respect. While here He accepted the will of the Father without hesitation. In Heaven our souls will exult in the divine will, according to Christ's standard. He passed through this life with an utter abandonment of self. We will know what this is when we gain our prize. He loved souls for their own sakes, regardless of their blindness and their sin. We will be raised to the same blissful condition. There is a distinction to be made between the completeness of our salvation and the completeness of our characters, fashioned according to Christ's image. The former we may all enjoy in this life. "Create in me a clean heart, O, God," is the scriptural prayer that every sincere soul may offer. Abundant provision has been made to fulfil in us this desire. But perfection of character is yet to come. This probationary life, rightly understood, has this in view. Its tears and its disappointments are the light afflictions that "work for us" an eternal weight of glory.

L. M. N.

Deer Island, Sept. 22d, 1887.

News of the Churches.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

SAINT JOHN.

Bro. Capp has returned from P. E. Island much improved in health. During his absence Brethren Emery and Minnick ministered for us.

Bro. H. A. DeVoe preached for us for the first time last Lord's day. His discourse was much appreciated by all. We look for grand results from Bro. D.'s preaching in the future. He deserves the encouragement of all our brethren.

Our young people will visit Waterloo Street Free Baptist Young People's Meeting next Monday evening. We have already received a visit from them and had a very interesting and profitable time.

BACK BAY.

I feel it my duty to report through THE CHRISTIAN a hasty visit made among the brethren and friends of Charlotte Co., N. B.; and although my stay was necessarily limited, yet nevertheless I visited upwards of fifty homes, where, as usual, I was heartily welcomed.

I find the church in Back Bay still alive and continuing to uphold the worship of our heavenly Father with a zeal worthy of such true-hearted Christians as are to be found in this community.

In LeTang I find a very fine Sunday-school, as also in Black's Harbor, which bespeaks much credit to the people in those communities. Financially I find the people in quite a prosperous condition, for which blessing, no doubt, they feel thankful to the Giver of all good. And I must also say that before leaving this people, in order to resume my work in River John, they gave me a loving token of their kindness and good wishes for my welfare by presenting the proceeds of a picnic and pie social, made at Back Bay and LeTang, amounting to about forty dollars. And my prayer will be that Providence may continue to bless and prosper so kind a people.

P. D. NOWLAN.

I arrived at this interesting and picturesque spot in our Province during the month of September, and found a fine house of worship, surrounded by people who seem eager to hear the ever new, yet old, old story of Jesus and His love.

I here met our esteemed brother and fellow-laborer, P. D. Nowlin, who was spending a week or two among his many friends in these parts, prior to returning to his field of labor at River John, N. S., having come to St. John to attend the Annual Meeting lately held with the Coburg Street Church.

Before he left for his home we held five meetings together, all of which were well attended and interesting.

There is room enough in Back Bay and vicinity to keep some earnest Christian worker very busy. They have no regular preacher since Bro. Nowlin left last spring. While here he has become so deeply seated in the hearts of the people (judging by what we saw and heard for ourselves) that we believe could he see his way clear to again labor among them, that a great and good work might be done in the name of the Lord and many souls gathered into His kingdom.

We visited many families in Back Bay, LeTang and Black's Harbor, and were kindly received wherever we went. At Black's Harbor we found our good and faithful Bro. Jarvis Johnson in poor health, but improving daily. Here we found a very neat and handsome little house of worship, which is a great credit to the few brethren in this vicinity.

In Back Bay we made our home with Elder John Cook and family, and were made to feel ourselves very much at home, too. This good brother has ever proved himself a faithful soldier of the cross, has endured many and severe family afflictions, has overcome many trials and difficulties in the divine life, yet in his old age he stands firmly to his trust, and seems strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

H. A. DeVoe.

NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX.

We have to report that we are still plodding onward, meeting every Lord's day and once through the week. Since arriving home from the Annual we have been trying to inspire the minds and hearts of the brethren here with more love and energy in the good work. Speaking personally, I can say that I have been very much strengthened and refreshed, and that in a time when I very much needed it, by meeting with so many of the brethren. And the desire of my heart is that I will not soon lose the influence of those meetings nor forget the very many valuable lessons learned; but that in the future be more earnest in the work of the Master, more determined to use whatever ability God has given me in His service. It has been the desire of my heart for years to do public work for the Master, and that desire has been renewed and made to burn more brightly since my visit to St. John. I am, however, quite willing to leave the matter in the hands of Him with whom we have to do, and work in whatever sphere or station I may be placed, feeling sure that He will do all things well.

Words cannot express the feeling I have for the kind way in which the brethren and sisters in St. John treated us. It is beyond our expression. I cannot close without remarking that I am indebted to some of the brethren and sisters from different churches for kind companionship in my spare time, more especially some of the brethren at Tiverton; the only regret I have is that our acquaintance had to come to such an abrupt termination. But we hope to see them all at another Annual, and trust the coming winter may be a prosperous one with us here and that we may have the pleasure of making

encouraging reports from time to time. May the Lord bestow upon the churches in the Province His richest blessings that at our next meeting we shall all come, bringing in some sheaves.

WM. HARDING.

SHUBENACADIE.

Yes, that axe has been ground, and the work of building a church house at Shubenacadie, or more properly speaking, at Mill Village, has not stopped there. Nor does it appear as if the brethren of that place intend to stop until they have a house of worship of their own. It is the intention to finish the outside this season, which work is nearly performed. The work of furnishing and seating will occupy the winter months. It does not take any one of very far seeing to predict that in a few months or a year at most we will have a neat place of worship, free from debt, in Shubenacadie.

We would not forget our good sisters in the work. Their zeal and untiring energy, together with their encouragement, have greatly helped us in forwarding the work, to say nothing of the money they have, from time to time, placed in the hands of the committee.

We sincerely trust that this house will stand, not only as a house to worship God in, but also as a humble monument of the efforts of the faithful few who are trying to push forward the good cause, the greatest of causes, even the cause of our dear Saviour. That it may be so is the wish of one who is deeply interested in the cause at that place.

COXBY.

CORNWALLIS.

We are glad to be able to report two additions by baptism since our return from the Annual. One of these was my son Frank, and the other a promising young man in whom we all feel an interest. There are yet others, we think, who are not far from the kingdom. Our prayer-meeting last night was very interesting; indeed, all our meetings are encouraging. We are very thankful for what we have seen and hopeful for the future.

E. C. FORD.

Port Williams, Sept. 28, 1887.

HALIFAX CHURCH FUND.

We are trying hard to raise funds to build a meeting-house; and all monies received by me for this purpose—I wish to credit through THE CHRISTIAN. I have written 200 letters (have some 700 more to write) to the brethren, asking them only for ten cents each—and hope the appeal will not be in vain. Up to Oct. 1st, have received the following:

W J Messervey,	\$50 00	Mrs Henry Harding,	25
TS K Freeman,	10	Elder E C Ford,	10
G J Hiseler,	10	Mrs E C Ford,	10
J B Prince,	15	Miss Susie Ford,	10
Henry J Borge,	10	Frank Ford,	10
Harris Wallace,	10	Miss Carrie Parsons,	10
H Alberta Wallace,	10	Mrs James Donaldson,	25
A A Hiseler,	10	Daniel McLean,	10
Geo Davidson,	10	Mrs D McLean,	10
T D Cooke,	10	Laura McLean,	10
H M Rood,	10	Cassie McLean,	10
H E Cooke,	10	Geo McLean,	10
Mrs J A Harvie,	30	Sadie McLean,	10
Mrs W Reid,	10	Lena McLean,	10
Mrs T S K Freeman,	35	Bessie McLean,	10
Mrs H F Worrall (col. by A Craig),	10 00	Malcolm McLean,	10
Mrs O M Packard (col. by E Wallace),	2 00	Eaton McLean,	10
Mrs M M Berry (col. by H E Cooke),	2 00	Scotty McLean,	10
Capt Robert Reid,	25	Mr & Mrs Jas Stephens,	25
Renold Fultz,	25	Mr & Mrs David Stevens,	20
Mrs Chas Weeks (col. by Mrs Wisdom),	1 00	Mr & Mrs F W Stevens,	20
		Geo Wellner,	10
		Mr & Mrs J J Ullman,	20
		Capt Edward Gillie,	25
		Total,.....	\$70 70

W. J. MESSERVEY.

Married.

BLONUS-ROBERTSON.—At Canning, Kings Co., N. S., at the home of the bride's father, by E. C. Ford, Arthur Blonus, brother of T. H. Blonus, and Miss Mary Robertson, all of Cornwallis, N. S.