

no harvest—the season is so dry or so wet. They have said this before the green blades were more than three inches above the ground, and while there were yet three months before the harvest. Nevertheless when the reaping season came there was an abundant harvest. Through impatience we may load ourselves with trouble if we will. "Learn to labor and to wait." Many a man making great pretensions to foresight has pronounced the gospel a failure. In his opinion the heaven will not leave the whole lump; the little stone will not grow till it fills the whole earth. In his calculations he has overlooked two important factors—God and time. It is too soon to pass judgment. In patience let him possess his soul. Things which are counted as blessings are withheld, and God is deemed unkind. In a little while it will be seen that He knew best. Misfortunes come in battalions it may be, and those thus visited fail to remember that though seeming calamities, Joseph in time passed up to the second place in the kingdom of Egypt. Sickness comes to an individual, or sorrows enter a home. We ask why. Let time tell. Perhaps this is her answer: "For our light affliction which is but for a moment, worketh out for us a far more exceeding even an eternal weight of glory."

OPENING OF THE SOUTH LUBEC CHURCH-HOUSE.

A new house of worship was formally opened at South Lubec, Me., Lord's day, June 10. The building, with the ground, cost \$3,000. It is practically free from debt. The people did nobly in the erection of this place of public worship. Much thought was given to the enterprise, and on the part of some there was an unusual degree of self-denial. Bro. Harry Minnick deserves great credit for inaugurating and carrying forward to a successful completion this enterprise.

Bro. Minnick went to Lubec village in 1886, immediately after completing the course of study in the College of the Bible in Lexington, Ky. With the exception of about two years, he has remained in Lubec since he first went to the place. About two years were spent at Norfolk, Va., and as an evangelist in the Tidewater District of the same State. Two houses of worship have been erected under his supervision and guidance in the township of Lubec within two years. The first building cost, without the ground, \$6,500, and was dedicated December 25, 1892.

The beginning of the Disciples in this place was under the labors of Elder George Garraty, in 1861. He was an agent of the then American Christian Missionary Society. I picked up the following circular issued by Bro. Garraty at about the time indicated, in which the readers of the *Standard* may be interested. The statement of the position occupied by the Disciples in this circular is as follows:—

We, the undersigned, immersed believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, firmly believing that all party discord and division among the people of God is decidedly wrong, and the greatest preventative to the happiness of the saints and the conversion of the world to God, of any cause known to us; believing it to be the will of God, our heavenly Father, and the prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer, that all his people should be one, of one mind, striving together for the hope of the gospel; we, therefore, voluntarily proclaim to the world:

1. That we hear and adhere to the Lord Jesus Christ only as the head of the Church.

2. That we will take the New Testament only as our constitution, creed, or rule of faith and practice.

3. That we adopt the names only that are given to the Church of Christ in the New Testament, collectively or individually.

4. That we will use our influence to suppress all party discord and ill feeling among the people, and persuade as many as we can to unite upon the great apostolic plan, of the one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God the Father of all.

And may the heavenly blessing, of God the Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ rest upon our efforts. Amen.

The breaking out of the war interfered with the support of Evangelist Garraty, but certain prominent men, not Christians, such as Samuel Staples, David Pike, Hopley Reynolds and John C. Tolbert, agreed among themselves to give the preacher, of whom personally they were fond, financial support. The result was that they, with others, became Disciples of Christ. The men here named, with the exception of John C. Tolbert, have entered into rest, but the good work which they were instrumental under God in inaugurating, continues to this day with increasing prosperity and influence for good. It is no exaggeration to say that the Disciples of Christ in Lubec are in advance of all others in gaining and holding the attention and sympathy of the people. There is with this success a great responsibility which I think is duly appreciated by all concerned. Besides Disciples, they are in the village of Lubec, congregations of Baptists, Methodists and "Christians."

In the East there is some confusion in the public mind concerning Disciples and "Christians." The Century Dictionary characterizes the "Christians" of New England as "Unitarian Baptists." As a result of the general impression that the "Christians" have at least a leaning toward Unitarianism, the Disciples, supposed by many to be identical with the "Christian," are frequently under the necessity of repelling the charge of Unitarianism. I do not know how far the "Christians" deserve to be characterized as Unitarian Baptists; I only know this, that the Disciples of Christ do not furnish, never have furnished, any reason, not the slightest, for a suspicion on the part of the public of their being in sympathy with the Unitarians in their speculations concerning the nature of our Lord. The facts here stated may explain to some good brethren in the west and south why we in the east use the word "Disciple" rather than "Christian" almost entirely in speaking of our churches and work.

There are Disciples in the following towns and cities in New England: Lubec, South Lubec, East Machias, Princeton, Portland, Albion, Gardner, in the State of Maine; Boston, Haverhill, Swampscott, North Somerville, Everett, Worcester, Springfield, Canton in Massachusetts; West Rupert, West Pawlett, in Vermont; Manton, in Rhode Island; Danbury, Bridgeport, New Haven, in Connecticut. The aggregate membership is about 2,300. The Disciples in New Haven, Canton, and Springfield, are not organized. In the other places named are houses of worship as well as organizations. The two churches in Vermont have parsonages as well as houses of worship. In all these places, with the exception of Bridgeport and Portland, the Disciples manifest the unity of the Spirit in the preaching of the gospel to the destitute. The increase in our membership during the last year was twenty-three per cent.

In speaking of the erection of the house of worship in Lubec village, the house that was dedicated December 25, 1892, it ought to be said that for the successful completion of that enterprise, the Disciples owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. James Staples, who, after a conference with his noble Christian wife, determined to clear the church property of all financial encumbrance. This he modestly, but promptly, did. Mr. Staples has not seen his way clear to public acknowledgment of the Lordship of Jesus by entering into fellowship with his people. As a business man he has no superior in Lubec. His

integrity, honesty and honor, are unquestioned. His attendance at public worship is regular. His interest in the church is genuine; its prosperity gives him pleasure. Any reverse to the Disciples in Lubec would cause him to grieve. Mr. James Staples is a son of the loved and lamented Bro. Samuel Staples, who, twenty-three years ago this summer, was drowned off Cape Cod. Bro. Samuel Staples was, in his day, a tower of strength to the cause of Christ in all the East. His memory is precious.

Of the early Disciples in Lubec but few remain. Captain George W. McFadden and wife, and Sister Sarah Peavy, are the only remaining ones of whom, at this moment, I think, unless Mrs. James Staples should be included in the list. John C. Tolbert is still living, but does not reside at Lubec.—B. B. TYLER, in *Ch. Standard*.

THE ONTARIO ANNUAL.

The Disciples of Christ in Ontario and the Ontario Christian Women's Board of Missions held their annual convention at Hillsburg. About 150 delegates, representing a number of churches in Ontario, were present.

They assembled on Thursday afternoon, June 7th, and in the evening listened to a masterly and impressive address on the subject, "Beauty for Ashes," by W. J. Lhamon, pastor for the Church of Christ, Cecil Street, Toronto. It described the condition of man and all his institutions without Christ, and contrasted that with what life is and shall be with Christ.

The business session opened on Friday morning. The address of the president, H. Black, was full of hope and encouragement. J. A. Aikin read a minute report of 40 Sunday-schools, representing 2,606 members, many of which are supporting this home mission work, and strongly recommending teachers to lead the pupils, without delay, to trust Christ—to become in fact, disciples of Him.

There was a conference on "The Preacher and His Work," led by J. Lediard, of Owen Sound, urging that preachers among the Disciples should confer in Christian love with other preachers, and help to clear away the hindrances to Christian Union that exist in unwarranted tests of fellowship, that have been separating Christians. In discussing pastoral work, R. Moffett stated that the difference between a friendly and a pastoral visit by the preacher and his brethren was that the former made the people think a great deal of the preacher and not much of the Lord, while the latter made them think not so much of the preacher and a great deal more of the Lord.

P. Baker, pastor of the church at Everton, brought in a report of the Committee on Statistics, showing an increase in the past year in the number of preachers employed, congregations organized, conversions reported, and students preparing for the ministry, but a decrease in the receipts for home mission work (presumably on account of scarcity of money); but by the careful management of the board, and their generous personal support to the work, the Co-operation finances have not suffered to the same extent that other institutions have this year.

George Munro, of Hamilton, editor of the *Canadian Evangelist*, when giving the report to the Board of Managers of the Co-operation, read reports from six mission churches, supported by the Co-operation, showing that at these points a good number of people respond to the plain requirements of faith in and obedience to Christ as Saviour and Lord, without reference to long and involved declarations of faith and doctrine, not required of persons putting on Christ in any instance mentioned in the Scriptures. They admit persons to Christian baptism on the simple confession of faith in Christ, the Son of God, as Saviour and Lord.