

From the Churches.

Denominational Funds.

Fifteen thousand dollars wanted from the churches of Nova Scotia during the present Convention year. All contributions, whether by divisions according to the scale, or for any one of the seven objects, should be sent to A. Cohoon, Treasurer, Wolfville, N.S. Envelopes for gathering these funds can be obtained free on application to A. Cohoon, Wolfville, N.S.

SUSSEX, N. B.—We have been holding special services at Penobscia. Three have been received for baptism. I expect to baptize on the last Sunday in this month. Yesterday we had Rev. Mr. Snell with us all day. He preached a very fine sermon in the evening on Prayer. After the sermon I baptized in the presence of a very large congregation, two candidates, James Friars and Leander Palmer. The last named is a boy of fifteen years, son of Mr. Samuel Palmer, and grandson of Deacon Palmer of Dorchester. Mr. Samuel Palmer and family came to our town last summer. He and wife joined our church and went to work for Christ. Their hearts were made happy yesterday when they saw their only son, a boy of beautiful Christian life, follow his Saviour. Our work here is very encouraging.

W. CAMP.

JEDDOR, N. S.—I see by the year book, which came to hand last week, that in the statistical report of the N. S. Central Association found on pp. 136-137, that the east Jeddore church reports members 94, but according to the church book should be 161. There should be quite a reduction made on that number but it has not yet been done. From the same church there is no money reported altho' there was considerable raised. There should also be two received by baptism reported. Why the clerk should have been so negligent I cannot say. The report from the Sunday School is also altogether too bare. C. S. STEARNS.

KENTVILLE, N. S.—We are by no means without encouragement. During the autumn two have been received into fellowship by letter and one by baptism, while several others are confessing Jesus in our meetings who will be seeking baptism in near future. Then the church and congregation have made free-will offerings to the amount of \$240 toward liquidation of debt on church property, and \$70 toward western missions, represented by Bro. Vining. Besides this our Union is endeavoring to raise \$20 to go toward providing a teacher for Sister Blackadar when she arrives in India. B. N. NOBLES.

BEAVER HARBOR, N. B.—We have been favored of late with two special gatherings in our church at the Harbor. The first was the Charlotte County Conference, which met with us on the 21st of last month. The Oak Bay and St. Stephen pastors did the preaching, which was highly appreciated by all. The Secretary of the Conference, Pastor Lavers, of St. George, was also present and added much interest to the sessions by his fatherly appearance and kind addresses. The next gathering was that of the parish Sunday School Association. The field secretary, Rev. Mr. Lucas, was present and gave us a good deal to think about and remember.

Pastor Lavers, of St. George, was also present and invited to a seat in the Association and to participate in the work, which he did. We enjoyed a good season in both of these meetings and hope that good was done. As a church we are succeeding fairly well. Our congregations are fine and attentive. The Sunday School is prospering under the able management of its superintendent, Elias Bates. We are practically remembering the benevolent claims of the denomination. The Penfield church stands about the same in the matters of benevolent work and prayers. A collection will be taken for the Ministers' Annuity Association in both of these churches Christmas evening.

T. M. MUNRO.

District Meeting.

The Cape Breton District Meeting met with the church at Little Glace Bay, Dec. 5th and 6th. Bright, fine weather on both those days added to the success of the meetings. The first session, Tuesday morning, began with a devotional meeting led by Rev. M. A. McLean, chairman of the district. After this came enrolment of delegates, and then the reports from the churches.

Glac Bay reported no special interest during the quarter, but the church was holding her own, evening congregations growing, and include a good many not adherents of the church, and the attention and interest at these services very marked.

Sydney reported that the church property—including the house of worship and the parsonage—was now free of debt. Large missionary collections during the quarter. A great chance for work, on account of the many people coming to the town. Lack of sociability and spirituality among the members. Sabbath school growing.

Port Morien had very few members left in the town. House of worship somewhat out of repair, and no services held.

Homeville reported services well attended, but a good many of the young people having left the place, the B. Y. P. U. had been given up. Sunday school well attended. This church and others also lacking in sociability. Rev. Mr. Stearns had been laboring on this field for several weeks.

Mira is not troubled by the young people leaving. They have done better financially than ever before, and the members are earnest and true. Sunday school in good condition, and gave \$14 recently to Grand Ligne Mission.

North Sydney reports prosperity in material things. The church building has recently been repaired and renovated, painted inside and out, and the pews upholstered. Sunday services well attended. The Sunday school is making a special effort in the line of Home Department work. There were no delegates or reports from the other churches.

The Tuesday afternoon meeting was in the hands of the Woman's Missionary Aid Society, and presided over by Mrs. Beattie, leader of that work in the District. Reports were heard from the different Societies and papers read. One by Miss Martell, showing how the motto of the

Societies—"Workers together with Him," might be worked out in the prayer meeting, Sunday school, Aid Society, and other ways, was specially helpful.

Tuesday evening there was a missionary meeting, addressed by Rev. Mr. Stearns. Short addresses along the same line were given by Rev. M. A. McLean, and Rev. A. J. Vincent.

Wednesday morning session began with a devotional service, led by Rev. T. Beattie. Mr. Vincent then addressed the meeting on the effects produced by the Holy Spirit in the life; these effects being, clearer revelation of Jesus Christ; more marked separation from the world; power for testimony; boldness in action; and clearer revelation of God's Word. Wednesday afternoon Mr. McLean gave a very helpful paper on Bible Study, its mission and method. Discussion followed. Wednesday evening was given up to the subject of Temperance, addresses being given by Pastors Beattie, McLean, and Vincent. Though Glac Bay has many patrons of the saloon among its citizens, the audience of Wednesday evening amply evidenced the fact that there are not a few whose influence is against the saloon. The addresses were received with marked appreciation, and the speakers were tendered a vote of thanks by the audience.

This session marked the close of a very encouraging and helpful series. We meet again in March. Place of meeting not yet definitely known. S. H. Secy.

Winter Turned into Summer.

Our hearts were made very happy last Saturday when there came to me a beautiful and costly fur-lined coat. It was a Christmas gift from Mr. C. T. White of Sussex. It is the most elegant one I have ever seen. With it winter is turned into summer so far as Jack Frost is concerned. Our hearts are full of gratitude for this generous and costly present. We are not the only ones made happy by this noble hearted and good man. May God abundantly bless him in our prayer. We write these lines hoping that other pastors may be made happy this winter along the same line, either by some generous soul or by the church the pastor serves. God bless these noble hearted souls wherever they are found. W. CAMP.

Sussex, N. B., Dec. 18th.

A Note of Thanks.

MR. EDITOR.—Permit me through the MESSENGER AND VISITOR to express my hearty appreciation of the thoughtfulness of the good friends who wrote us such kind and sympathetic letters during Mrs. Keirstead's protracted illness. It was a great comfort to Mrs. Keirstead to know that she was remembered so kindly by our friends and that prayer was being offered in so many homes and churches for her recovery. I wish also to express my gratitude to the many who have written me equally kind and sympathetic letters since the death of my dear wife and child.

J. W. KEIRSTEAD.

Grand View, P. E. I., Dec. 18th.

Contributions to Annuity Fund.

Westchester church, \$50; Mrs. Peter McInt, \$2; Bass River church, \$1.30. The above received from A. Cohoon. First Yarmouth church by C. W. Saunders, \$7.78; Mrs. Cunningham by Mr. Dickets, \$2; Canard church by Rev. R. E. Rand, \$10.19; Rev. W. I. Parker, \$2; A. V. Pineo, executor of the estate of the late Mrs. James Morse of Wolfville, \$10; Mrs. G. P. Payant, \$10; C. H. Harrington, \$300; Hon. T. R. Black, executor of the estate of the late Nelson Forrest, \$500 for the Minister's Relief and Aid Fund.

It will be seen by the above acknowledgements that friends have remembered the funds for the support of ministers, their widows and children in their wills. This is encouraging and the thanks of the Board is hereby extended to the executors of these estates for their prompt payment of the sums. It also appears that others are remembering this most important benevolence while they live. This is most gratifying. They too have the thanks of the denomination for their contribution. Will the clerks of the churches and the ministers have the matter of collections brought at once before their churches. But a small amount has as yet come in. Please act promptly.

E. M. SAUNDERS, Sec'y-Treas.

Halifax Dec. 21st.

Cash on Forward Movement.

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