

THE HOME MISSION JOURNAL

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WHOLE No. 93

A Proposition.

We have been asked by quite a large number of our subscribers to make the "HOME MISSION JOURNAL" a weekly paper instead of a bi-monthly as it is now and always has been, and our reply to this request is as follows: If one thousand or more of our present subscribers will agree to pay 75 cents a year for it and have it come to them once every week we will begin to issue it once every week from the first of Jan., 1903, and we give from now until the first of December next for all who are willing to accept this proposal to signify the same by sending us a postal card stating that they will continue to take the paper on these terms after Jan. next. Any subscribers whose year ends any time between now and January and who will accept this new offer will please in making payment for the past, add 25 cents to the 50.00 pay for it for the remainder of this year.

We hope all our present subscribers will continue the paper to the close of December next and then begin the new year by taking it every week at 75 cents a year.

No money need be sent in for the new year until Jan. 1903. As we will want to see if one thousand at least will agree to take the paper on the above terms. If there is not that many we shall continue it as heretofore twice a month at 50 cents a year.

THE MANAGER.

The Incalculable Resources.

The family of the Herods is closely connected with the fortunes of the Gospel. Herod the Great, the founder of the family, ordered the massacre of the innocents at Bethlehem, from which Jesus only escaped by a divine warning given to Joseph. His son, Herod Antipas, put John the Baptist to death; and one of his grandsons, Herod Agrippa I., put to death the Apostle James, while before his great-grandson, Herod Agrippa II., the Apostle Paul made his memorable defence.

We see the infant Christian church thrown into consternation and almost despair by the execution of James and the imprisonment of Peter. Thus far the company of believers have only had to contend with the religious persecution of the Sanhedrin and the prejudices of the Pharisees. None of the Jewish authorities represented the civil power. There was a fixed limit to what they could do. But when Herod, the representative of Roman power, and one of the most influential princes of his time with Caesar, put one apostle to death and imprisoned another it looked as if the end of the church might have come.

It is interesting to note how Luke emphasizes the hopelessness of Peter's deliverance. The murder of James throws its dark shadow over the probable fate of Peter. The unnecessarily heavy guard emphasizes the determination of Herod that he should not escape. The last night before Herod would present Peter to the mob had come. The members of that little band realized that they had only one resource—and that was—prayer. When we set before ourselves these circumstances we can appreciate the meaning of Luke's statement. "But prayer was made earnestly of the church unto God for him."

And in this conflict between state and church, in which every possible advantage appeared to be on the side of the state, we see the apostle delivered; the church's strong opponent, Herod, visited with the divine judgment, and the church saved. Indeed, from the contest the church emerged with greater vitality. The section closes with the statement. "But the word of God grew and multiplied."

Is there not in this suggestion for all time? The peculiar power of the church does not reside in meeting the world with the weapons of the world, but in the incalculable divine resources. That is the real and vast asset of believing souls. God is not shut up to the sequences of events dependent upon human volitions. He can at any time introduce into the current of events new forces arising from a new center. No matter how oppressive and vigilant the watch, the angel may reverse all human calculations, and God's judgment strike the arch enemy himself.

The Christian needs always to keep before his mind a higher and larger doctrine than the popular one that God's providence for His church is to be seen chiefly in human interpretations of the drift of human policies. God has infinite resources which man cannot forecast, but upon which man may confidently rely for the accomplishment of His purposes.

The Western Association.

At this season of the year when all nature is clothed in richest beauty the associations are held and afford our people a fine opportunity for intercourse, and enjoyment. Perhaps none had a more desirable location than the western, which met this year with the Rockland church at Coldstream, just at the junction of the Becaguinic and Coldstream waters. This section is one of the richest agricultural districts of the province, with hills and valleys in pleasing variety of landscape, affording a magnificent view to the traveler who makes his way some five miles east of Harland to the locality named.

Promptly at 2.30 p. m. on Friday, 27th inst., the association opened with devotional exercises conducted by Bro. A. H. Hayward. Officers were then chosen for the ensuing year as follows:

Moderator, Rev. Geo. Howard
Clerk, Rev. B. S. Freeman
Assistant Clerk, Rev. R. W. Demmings
Treasurer, Deacon S. Estabrooks

After appointing committees on arrangements and nominations the session adjourned until evening.

At eight o'clock Rev. W. R. Robinson preached, and this service was followed by social exercises. On Saturday the weather was again somewhat unfavorable, notwithstanding a goodly number assembled and took part in the deliberations. The H. M. Report came up for discussion, occupying a considerable part of the time. It was accepted with slight amendments, and a resolution passed requesting the board to re-enter St. Francis and Grand Falls as soon as possible. Much regret was expressed that the state of the funds compelled contraction rather than expansion in the home operations of the body.

Several other matters then came up for consideration. A resolution was passed requesting the Upper Newcastle church to withdraw fellowship from N. P. Gross and also that the Association no longer regard him as a Baptist minister. Rev. W. E. McIntyre presented a copy of the proposed bill for the holding of church property, which after some discussion was indorsed by the association.

Saturday evening was given to addresses on Education by Revs. W. E. McIntyre and E. M. Kierstead, D. D., followed by an appeal from Bro. R. J. Colpitts in behalf of the *Messenger and Visitor*. Dr. Kierstead's address was brilliant and profound, holding the undivided attention of the audience for more than an hour. It was indeed a rare treat.

On Sabbath the sun rose in a clear sky, and a cool, but delightful day followed. At 9.30 devotional exercises were held making a suitable preparation for the services of the day. Deacon A. W. Estabrooks conducted the Sabbath school at 10 o'clock, and at the close addresses were given by Mrs. Manning and Revs. Geo. Howard and J. A. Cahill. At the preaching service following Rev. J. A. Cahill read Isaiah LIV., and Dr. Manning offered prayer. The associational sermon was preached by Rev. J. H. Mc-

Donald from Isaiah LIV., 2-5, the subject being that chosen by William Carey over one hundred years ago. The discourse was a fitting and eloquent treatment of the missionary theme, and was listened to with closest attention. Rev. J. A. Cahill offered the concluding prayer.

At 3 p. m. a missionary service was held, at which Rev. J. W. Manning D. D. spoke on Foreign Missions and Rev. A. H. Hayward, the general missionary, on Home Missions. An open-air meeting was also held, addressed by Revs. J. A. Cahill, W. E. McIntyre, E. M. Kierstead and J. H. McDonald.

The evening service was opened with a masterly sermon by Dr. Kierstead from Romans VIII, 28. A social service followed in which many took part. Monday again proved fine as the Sabbath had been. The business of the Association began at 9 o'clock and continued through the forenoon. A resolution was adopted that instead of the standing committees for next year a committee on programme be appointed to prepare the order of business, greatly varying the present methods.

Adjournment took place at noon.

Church News.

A young lady was baptized PRINCE STREET, and received into the fellow-BAPTIST CHURCH, ship of this church on Sunday, June 22nd.

W. N. HUTCHINS.

TRURO, N. S.

I have just entered my fifth FAIRFIELD, N. B. year with this church.

From the first month until now my salary has been paid ahead and supplemented with frequent donations. Last Lord's Day, after enjoying a good Sunday School under Superintendent W. R. Floyd, we repaired to the river where Bro. Robert Floyd was baptized. Then followed our annual Roll Call, Reception of Candidate, Sermon and Communion. In the afternoon we had our Sunday School at Sullivan's Hall and sermon. In the evening a sermon and social service. The congregations throughout the day were good. Some of our members came twenty-five miles to attend Roll Call. The Master, as ever, honored us with his presence in all the services.

R. M. BYNON.

2ND AND 3RD
ELGIN.

I came to the former part of this field four years ago last March and engaged in special work for four months. I then engaged as pastor so at the end of the present month I shall have labored 4 years, four months during that time 68 have been baptized and quite a number by letter added. I baptized four in Second Moncton during the same time. We have built a parsonage for the comfort of God's servants. I have engaged for the fifth year. May many blessings crown the labors of God's dear people with whom I labor.

I. N. THORNE.

Fumble Hints to Close With.

Give God credit for all you have been and done, for all you are and hope to be.

A man may be titled, but not entitled to it.

Don't think humility to be a want of self-respect.

Humility is mostly unconscious of itself. A man may know he is humble and be glad, yet never proud of it.

A Christian has no right to call a priest "Father." 9 v.