

said, Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do. I went to the Word given by the Spirit of God for the answer. I did not look for Jesus to make to me a new revelation. I did not expect to know that I was accepted by any sensation of the flesh, nor by any impression made upon my spirit directly by the Spirit of God. I knew that Jesus invited me to come, and that He had promised to receive all who came. I saw the declaration of Paul, that He had become the author of eternal salvation to all them who obey Him. I dwelt upon the words of the Saviour: If you keep My commandments you shall abide in My love. I have tried to live for Him who died for me, and I have never, in the thirty-three years since I let Jesus into my heart, found Him an unwelcome guest. Now, dear friend, what will you do with Jesus? I beg of you to consider this question. Look to Jesus. Your happiness here and your happiness hereafter depend on your decision. J. A. GATES.

LeTete, February 17th, 1841.

WAS IT NECESSARY?

We open our New Testaments and read the story of the Christ, its every detail, His miraculous conception, wonderful birth, unselfish life, agonizing death on the cross and glorious resurrection from the grave, and we ask, Was all this really necessary? It is accepted as a truth that he who proves a benefactor to his fellow creatures has bettered the world by being in it. That Jesus Christ was a benefactor to the human race will not be denied by the most confirmed disbeliever in his divinity. All will admit that His name and life have extended a wider and more lasting influence for the good and well-being of the human family than has that of any other. While other good and great men have benefitted the world and their teachings been accepted as good, and by the good they have wrought proved that their living was necessary to the welfare of the persons taught or influenced by them, none have proved so fully by their life and teachings that the world had need of them as has Jesus Christ. That His life was pure is attested by the recorders of His actions. That His teachings are pure is attested by the holy lives of those who obey them. Then, as Jesus Christ lived and taught such an ideal life and encouraged and desired all men to follow His standard, and by men doing so we find the world made better, we therefore conclude that it was necessary for Christ to have lived, if for no other reason than the effect of His life and teachings upon the world. But it was necessary for Christ to have lived so that the law of God might be fulfilled. Man, by his disobedience to this law, had lost fellowship with God. Then only by a full and complete obedience on the part of man could he regain his lost favor. Jesus Christ took man's nature upon Himself and by obedience fulfilled God's law, thereby placing man on terms of nearer approach to God. We therefore see that it was necessary for Christ to have lived. We may ask, Was it necessary for Him to die? As the law of God required the shedding of blood before remission could be granted to man for his sins, it was necessary for him who stood between God and man to make reconciliation with blood. Under the Mosaic law no high priest could approach the mercy-seat of Jehovah without blood to make atonement for himself and the people. Jesus Christ had undertaken to fulfil the law, He must fulfil it in all things. He therefore made an offering of Himself, with His own blood satisfying the demand of justice and atoning for the sin of the world. It was therefore necessary that Jesus Christ should die that man might receive the benefit of the atonement made by His blood. Was it necessary He should rise from the dead? If Christ had not risen from the dead He would not have proved

that His life was more than the lives of other great men. Others had died and been buried, so also did Christ die and was buried. Christ arose from the dead, none other had or has done so; He alone of all the world's prophets that died rose again. In His resurrection is established His superiority over all the rest of those who have taught the world lessons of life and morality. If Christ had not risen from the dead His claim to the Sonship of God would have been false; all the prophets who prophesied concerning His resurrection would have been false. He would therefore have been guilty of falsehood and an impostor, and none would have believed in Him or His teachings. By His resurrection He proves that death does not end all; that there is a life beyond the grave. If He had not risen men would have said there is no life beyond the grave, and no matter what hopes some might entertain that there was, all would be uncertainty. They could not have sought to live righteous lives as death was the portion of the just as well as the unjust. They would have reasoned that as death was the only reward they might as well secure all the happiness possible in life for themselves, no matter who suffered. Selfishness, then, would be better than liberality and immorality, and vice would be as good as morality and righteousness. If Christ came to redeem man from the curse of the law, what proof would there be of man's redemption if Christ had not risen? None, whatever. His life and death would have been a failure without His resurrection. As His death was necessary to prove His humanity, so His resurrection was necessary to prove His divinity. With the resurrection of Christ the hopes of the past and future generations rested; had He failed, the centre of all hope had failed. Therefore, it was necessary that Christ should live on the earth to teach men purity of life; that He should die to fulfil God's law and make atonement for sinful man; and that He should rise from the dead to prove that death did not end all, and that by obedience to His teachings man might live forever. All was necessary, one is incomplete without the other. Thanks unto God, Christ has risen from the grave. His life has not been lived in vain. Millions rejoice in His life, death and resurrection from the dead. Without Him the world would be in darkness and doubt. Superstition and error, tyranny and despotism joined hand in hand would steep the earth in the gore of humanity. The froids of ruin and despair would seize hold on mortals in their misery. Woe and desolation, darkness and doom without one ray of light—one spark of hope—would overwhelm the world. H. B. S.

News of the Churches.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN.

The Young People's Meeting on Tuesday evening (Feb. 17th) was very interesting. The topic was "Helping the Brethren," Joshua i. 10, 18. Bro. T. H. Capp, leader. A large number of Scripture-texts bearing on the subject were read. Bro. Capp, in his closing remarks, said: "He had been asked if he would preach a farewell sermon Lord's day evening and he said no; he would not preach one, as he did not know that he could. He was going to leave the city next Monday night, and a fortnight hence he would be in Springfield, Mo., and although he could not be at these meetings in body he would be in spirit. He exhorted the young members to be in their places, whether preacher or no preacher, and to remember that when they joined the church they did not join themselves to the preacher, but they obeyed Christ, and Christ has promised to meet them there and be in their midst."

Our beloved pastor, T. H. Capp, has been granted

three months leave of absence, and he left on Monday evening, Feb. 23rd, for Springfield, Mo., via the C. P. R., where he will preach for the church in that place for that time. He has had the oversight of this church for nearly eleven years, and he has done much for the cause of Christ by presenting our plea, not only from the pulpit but from his personal talks with those whom he met in the common walks of life. In this community he was largely respected and had a good report of "them that are without." Through his efforts an Educational Fund was started, by which three young men received financial aid to educate them for the ministry—one of whom graduated last June and is now laboring in the provinces.

On Lord's day morning he preached from these words in the epistle of Jude, "earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered to the saints," and in the evening from Eccle. xii. 13: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter, Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man," to large audiences.

At the conclusion of the prayer-meeting on Lord's day evening the following resolution was read and presented to Bro. Capp:

Coburg St. Christian Church,
St. John, N. B.

To Elder T. H. Capp.

DEAR BROTHER,—

"Whereas, You are about to leave us for a new field of labor in the city of Springfield, Missouri; therefore

"Resolved, That we, officers and members and congregation of Coburg Street Christian Church, with whom you have for eleven years labored so earnestly and successfully for the cause of the Master and the good of the church generally, do hereby wish to express our esteem for you as a fellow laborer of love since you have been with us, and our regret at your departure from among us; and we also rejoice to know that not only among us as a church have you been held in esteem, but among those with whom you have mingled in this city and elsewhere you have always been held in the highest respect and esteem for your Christian work and conversation and fearless enunciation of the truth as it is in Jesus; and be it further

"Resolved, That we wish for yourself, Sister Capp and the little ones, every happiness and success for the future, and we feel that, as in the past, so you will in the future, labor for the advancement of Christ's kingdom here on earth.

"And now, dear brother, we commend you and yours to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them that are sanctified.

"Yours in the faith and on behalf of Coburg Street Christian Church."

W. A. BARNES, Clerk.

St. John, N. B., Feb. 22nd, 1891.

At the Baptist Ministers' Conference held on Monday, 16th February, a resolution was passed regretting the departure of Bro. Capp to another field of labor.

The Sunday-school anniversary was held on last Wednesday evening. Although the evening was very wet and disagreeable there was a large number present. Bro. G. F. Barnes presided at the organ and the following programme was rendered by the scholars of the Sunday-school.

PROGRAMME.

Song by school.....	Mabel Boyne.
Recitation.....	Miss L. Hoyt.
Solo.....	Nan Capp.
Recitation.....	Mabel Leary.
Solo.....	Maggie Barnes.
Recitation.....	Gracie Flaglor.
Solo.....	Edie Munford.
Recitation.....	Mr. A. G. Boyne.
Solo.....	Lena Leary.
Song by school.....	

SILVER COLLECTION.

Song by school.....	Maud McKinnon.
Solo.....	Theresa Capp.
Recitation.....	Martha Morton.
Solo.....	Mary Barnes.
Recitation.....	Nellie McKinnon.