

son, three persons going forward in obedience to the command of Christ and putting him on in his own appointed way, after which the meeting closed with prayer and benediction and the people separated, many of them, we trust, to meet again in annual convention, on the Friday before the second Lord's day in July, 1899, to a place to be yet appointed.

On account of ill health, Bro. D. Crawford was unable to be present at the annual meeting and his presence was much missed by all to whom he had become so familiar and so much endeared.

The following expression of sympathy on behalf of the churches assembled, speaks for itself:

P. E. I., July 11th, 1898.

DEAR BROTHER CRAWFORD,—

We, your brothers and sisters in Christ, assembled in the annual meeting with the church at Montague, missing your familiar presence and wise counsel, desire to express our high appreciation of your faithful labors in the work of the gospel and your constant, untiring, unselfish devotion to the cause of Christ, and also to express our sincere regrets because of your enforced absence from our midst.

Our earnest prayers to God our Heavenly Father are that you may soon recover your usual health, and we cherish the hope that many years of your useful labors among us may be enjoyed.

HOWARD MURRAY, } Committee
GEORGE MANIFOLD. }

P. E. I. ASSOCIATION.

July 8 to 11 was the time. The first meeting was on Friday evening, when Bro. Manifold, of Charlottetown, gave us a sermon that was much greater than the congregation. It should have been delivered on Sunday instead of Friday. Saturday evening Bro. Stevens, of Pictou, N. S., gave us a very practical, pointed, forcible sermon on "Faith and Courage." At ten o'clock Lord's Day morning, Bro. Emery led the prayer meeting. At eleven o'clock, in the absence of Bro. Crawford, the writer spoke on "What Constitutes a Christian?" The weather was all that could be desired, the rain on Saturday having laid the dust and giving us fine roads. The crowds of people were immense. We counted about a hundred teams. These, with many who came on foot from the village, increased the number beyond the capacity of the house. It was a scene that lent inspiration to the soul to see so many tillers of the soil, who live so close to the warm heart of nature that their own hearts were drawn nearer to God. At the close of the morning discourse two responded to the invitation of the gospel.

At 3 o'clock Bro. Emery and Bro. McDonald of East Point presided at the Lord's table. Truly our "hearts burned within us" as we looked upon and partook of the emblematic loaf and cup of our blessed Lord—a foretaste of the more blessed feast above—"the Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love."

The house at 7 o'clock was again crowded, even more than in the morning, if such could be possible. Bro. Simpson presented the subject of the "Two Wills." We were all much pleased with Bro. Simpson, both as a preacher and a man. It is not true in his case "that it spoils a man to make a preacher." We heartily congratulate the Southport and East Point churches in securing his labors.

The business meeting began at 9 o'clock Monday morning and continued till dinner time. We were agreeably surprised in seeing so many at this meeting. Bro. Emery was re-elected Moderator, and Bro. Williams elected Secretary. Reports were read from the churches, reporting forty-seven baptisms and the loss of eleven, giving a net increase of thirty-six during the year. A resolution was passed, after a few remarks—some of which were wise and some otherwise—that the money now in the hands of the association should be given to the Mission Board of the Maritime Provinces to be spent in the mission work on the Island. A committee was chosen to formulate resolutions of our appreciation of Bro. Crawford's long, useful and consecrated life, and our regrets that he could not be present. Bro. Rufus Stevenson, the Alexander of the occasion, made an earnest appeal that there might be a greater effort to advance the cause of Christ on the island, showing that the obligations to work and pray and pay were pregnant with the weight of eternal meaning and responsibility, and that there has never been the time when it was so terrible and fearful and cruel for Christians to sleep, that the blood of crushed lives were crying out in the agony of their souls for help. A resolution was carried to have the association in Summerside next year.

A meeting at 3 o'clock by the young people; and it was a very interesting meeting; all hands were more than pleased. The papers, the readings, the remarks and the songs, and especially the solos, were all grand. Miss Stewart's paper on "Let Your Light Shine" was very appropriate and interesting. Miss Williams' paper on the Sunday-school was an up-to-date paper, and just what was needed. Hattie Crawford's reading was fine and beautifully rendered. The young people here are abreast of the times in talent and efficiency. If they continue to improve their talents, and carry out the push and spirit of that meeting, and receive due encouragement from the churches, it will be safe to predict a much greater work on this island than we have ever seen.

Bro. Wellington Murray, of Fredericton, P. E. I., spoke at seven o'clock. His subject was "Can we trust God?" Then Bro. Stevenson followed with some stirring remarks; then another confession—a young man from River John, a son of Sister Carruthers; then followed the baptism of the three happy souls. Thus ended the Association of 1898—a very pleasant, profitable meeting. The absence of Bro. Crawford, Bro. Henry Stewart, and Bro. E. C. Ford, who were on the programme, was greatly regretted. However, we feel assured that the meeting was a success, and has given the cause on the island an impetus that will tell for good throughout the year.

The kindness and hospitality of the Montague brethren were all that could be wished and more than ought to be expected. The home of Bro. and Sister Stevenson were well filled with sixteen or twenty visitors, and Sister Stevenson knew just how to make them feel at home. Bro. and Sister Stevenson and their daughter are in the hearts of their brethren, not only of Montague, but of all the churches, and the success of the meeting is largely due to their unstinted, untiring and earnest efforts.

The opportunities for doing a grand work on this island are knocking loudly at their doors. The great question before them is, Will they open the doors and bring about a feast of love and joy in the salvation of precious souls?

H. MURRAY.

HANTS COUNTY MEETING.

Our meeting of the churches of Hants County, as previously announced, was held at West Gore, beginning Saturday June 25, and closing Monday evening following. Bros. W. and H. Murray did the preaching. All the churches were represented. The attendance was good. We had good preaching, and everyone seemed pleased with the meeting, several saying it was most as good as an annual meeting. Two obeyed the gospel. The interest of our work in the county was the subject of a long session on Monday. To have more preachers in the field, seemed to be the desire of all, and some resolutions were passed looking to that end. Since then Wm. Murray has been preaching in Newport Lord's days, to increasing audiences. Our meetings at West Gore are quite good since summer has come, and to help us several of our young people, who have been away teaching or studying, are again with us, and the church work, mission band, and young peoples meeting will move on with increasing interest. The Sunday School, under the management of Bro. J. McDougall, is well attended, and is taking a thorough drill in one of the books of the New Testament. Bro. George Wallace has, for several years, superintended the Bible School in Rawdon, and though wishing to be excused this year, he has consented to continue, and is conducting a useful school. We have preaching there twice each month. The church at Nine Mile River is located in a community where a good hearing has never yet been reached. It is made up of a small number of disciples who are steadfast, and persevering. They are keeping up a Sunday School in summer, and supporting preaching once every two weeks. May they see the day when our plea will be better understood in that community.

HIRAM WALLACE.

West Gore, N. S., July 18.

Correspondence.

DEER ISLAND LETTER.

For several years I wrote to the readers of THE CHRISTIAN under the heading, "West Gore Letter." I now hope to have something to say, for a little while, under the heading of this letter.

After our protracted meeting I went home for a few days rest. At the unanimous request of the brethren I have returned to continue the work.

The brethren have been making efforts to buy a house for a parsonage, but so far without success; and there is not a suitable house to rent in the whole district. The only thing that seems possible now is to build a house. Anyhow, I have decided to stay here until the annual meeting. After the meeting I may be open for meetings or to engage with a church where I can locate my family.

The work on the Island seems in a fairly prosperous condition. Since the last report three have received the right hand of fellowship, and two have been baptised in Lord's Cove.

At Leonardville the outlook is promising, although the work is harder; but with a