

## From the Churches.

### DENOMINATIONAL FUNDS.

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

The Treasurer for New Brunswick is Rev. J. W. Manning, D.D., St. John, N. B., and the Treasurer for P. E. Island is Mr. A. W. Stevens, Charlottetown.

All contributions from churches and individuals in New Brunswick should be sent to Dr. Manning, and all such contributions P. E. Island to Mr. Stevens.

SACKVILLE, N. B.—During last quarter our church subscribed and paid over \$1,300. The Finance Committee report all bills paid. Baptized nine, three others are awaiting the ordinance. Planned for meetings to begin this evening, but weather seems unfavorable. Still we trust him who knows the plans, hopes and prospects.

Yours very truly,

G. H. McLATCHY.

MARGAREE, C. B.—Rev. A. E. Ingram has received and accepted an unanimous call to the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Margaree, C. B., and has entered upon his work there. Margaree is a very compact field, they have a very fine new church edifice nearly completed, and Brother Ingram enters upon his work with enthusiasm and hopefulness in the power of the Lord and the co-operation of the church. Correspondents will please note the change of address.

MONCTON, P. E. I.—A very promising young man was baptized in the waters of the Georgetown harbor on Sunday Dec. 20th. He received the bond of fellowship at the service which followed.

Dec. 21st, a company assembled at the parsonage and enriched us by a gift of \$43.75, and they did us a lot of good by the expression of good will. Thanks.

F. D. DAVIDSON

PENNSFIELD.—The Christmas trees of Pennsfield and Beaver Harbor bore upon their loaded boughs to old and young alike. Parents remembered their children and children their parents. The pastor was not forgotten. Pennsfield's Xmas tree bore him a box of silver while Beaver Harbor remembered him in something else, for which the contributors will accept my hearty thanks. Our work is succeeding in the churches very well. The Lord is with us. We hope to report baptisms in the near future.

T. M. MUNRO.

MURRAY RIVER, P. E. I.—I have been laboring here now for two months, and we feel somewhat encouraged. I expect some to unite with us soon. We have adopted the weekly offering system for raising money for church work. Rev. G. R. White of Charlottetown gave us a fine lecture last Tuesday evening. It was much appreciated. We are trying to raise money to pay off our indebtedness on the meeting house. It was so late when I settled here that I could not bring my family, but they will join me in the early spring. I expect to hold special meetings at different points all winter, and we are looking for great blessing according to the promise.

Jan. 2nd, 1904.

D. W. CRANDALL.

FIRST MONCTON, N. B.—On Lord's Day, Jan. 1st, at the close of the morning service Pastor D. Hutchinson baptized four happy young believers. At our business meeting, in December the church voted to give Pastor Hutchinson an assistant. For some time the matter had been under consideration. The financial question seemed to stand in the way of doing what all felt ought to be done. However the church rose to the occasion in its December meeting and voted in favor of an assistant. The church also did the gracious thing in deciding that in securing an assistant, there was to be no reduction in the salary of Pastor Hutchinson. The outlook is encouraging.

DOACHTOWN, N. B.—New Year's eve brought gladness to the members of the Sunday school as they were entertained in Swin's hall by the workers of the church, there were games, music, speeches and refreshments. Then it was made the occasion of surprising our organist, Miss Minnie Swin, when she was presented with a very nice ring. Our faithful Superintendent was made the recipient of a pair of gold boned glasses but the greatest surprise was when the pastor and his wife were presented with a purse of money

and a valuable black fur sleigh robe, accompanied by a beautifully worded address, speaking kind words of appreciation. We wish to thank our many friends and pray that they may have a Happy New Year.

C. P. WILSON.

HANTSFORD, N. S.—The Christmas season has been one not only of joy but of sorrow with us. In the first three weeks of Dec. we laid away four of our number. "They rest from their labors and their works do follow them." Wednesday before Christmas day our vestry was well filled, and from the Christmas tree over 150 were made happy. The pastor and wife were remembered and presented with a beautiful hall lamp, and in the days that followed many gifts found their way to the parsonage for all of which they desire to express their appreciation. Since last writing the church held their donation and the pastor was made richer by money and goods. Our Bro. J. W. Churchill has added greatly to the convenience of pastor and people by placing in the audience room a handsome rosewood eight day clock. We are engaged in special services and expect to see the church greatly quickened which cannot fail to result in an ingathering of souls. Brethren pray for us.

ERNEST QUICK.

KENTVILLE, N. S.—The work here is progressing favorably. The pastor on Dec. 20 completed the presentation of a series of Sunday evening sermons on the subject, "What the religion of Christ can do for the young man." The series was well received and good audiences greeted the speaker. Several have been received into the fellowship of the church lately by letter and some are awaiting baptism. The Sunday school under the earnest leadership of Mr. W. E. Porter is in good condition. On the Wednesday following Christmas the school had a public service for the purpose of receiving gifts from the children and their parents for distribution to the needy. About five barrels of provisions, candies, toys, clothing, etc., were donated. The enthusiasm was general and the children seemed better pleased than if they had come to receive gifts. The Christmas season brought forth from the church an expression of good will to the pastor in the form of a fine set of Hasting's Bible dictionary, worth \$24, than which nothing could have been more appreciated and acceptable. Mrs. Day was also kindly remembered with a small sum of money. These gifts form another link in the chain of love and confidence which binds pastor and people.

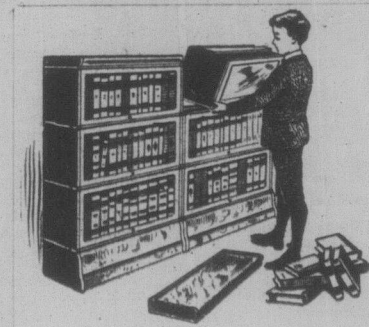
PORT HAWKESBURY.—A little over a year ago the writer became pastor of the church here. It is with feelings of deep gratitude to God we record his mercies to us. All departments of our work have been regularly and faithfully sustained, and a good degree of interest has been manifest, but the joy of ingathering has not been ours. We are hoping and praying for a revival of pure religion in the coming year, and we ask your readers to join us in this prayer. Our relations with the people have been most harmonious and tokens of their regard have found their way to the parsonage; especially at the Christmas season, when among other useful articles, we were the recipients of a purse of money from our people. May the Giver of all good abundantly bless all who thus contributed to their pastor's comfort. Through a new grouping of the H. M. Board the Mabou church, formerly connected with Margaree, is now united with the Port Hawkesbury church, taking one-fourth of the pastor's time. It is hoped that this arrangement will better serve the interests of the churches concerned. Our church at Mabou is small, but the few are faithful. May showers of blessings descend upon all our churches this year.

E. A. McPHEE.

POWNEY, P. E. I.—Have been holding special services on my large field for several weeks in which Rev. A. F. Baker, General Missionary of the H. M. Board rendered most valuable assistance. Meetings were held at Eldon, Grand View, Heatherdale Uigg, Hazelbrook and Alexandra. In each place deep interest was manifested and much good done. Eighteen persons were baptized upon profession of faith in Christ and united with the churches as follows: four with the Belast church, five with the Uigg church, nine with the Hazelbrook church. A number of others professed to have trusted in Christ during these services. Some of these will unite with us in the near future. Others will join churches of different denominations. Brother Baker's earnest words will long be

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St. John, N. B.

remembered. I have now entered upon the fourth month of the eighth year of my pastorate on this field. These have been busy years. Several faithful members have been called to their reward, others have moved away. The churches are small and the membership scattered over a wide area of country. We have however a faithful band of brothers and sisters in each place who are seeking to advance the kingdom of their Lord at home and in the lands beyond. All their words and deeds have been helpful to their pastor. Harmony prevails in our midst. The long felt need in this field is a parsonage. We trust that this will soon be met.

J. C. SPURR.

CHESTER BASIN, N. S.—Some time has passed since anything has been written from this church and while we cannot report any addition to our number, yet our condition as a church is not altogether unfavorable. Financially, the church is on a better footing than it has been for a number of years. In less than two years since the parsonage was begun, the treasurer has received \$800 towards the cost of construction, and we are looking forward hopefully to the time when the pastors house shall be entirely free from debt. For this purpose about \$300 are yet needed. During the past year the church has also raised a sufficient amount to meet current expenses for church support. Besides the pastor and his wife since coming to the parsonage have received nothing but kindness. Many gifts for our home have been presented during the past three months and last evening a number of the friends came each bringing suspicious looking parcels, taking us altogether by surprise. We highly appreciate all this kindness from the brethren and sisters and friends of Chester Basin. What we need now most of all is a genuine revival of religion and for this we pray and work. Pray for us.

M. B. WHITMAN.

FIRST ST. MARTIN'S.—During Christmas week I had the joy of distributing some \$40 worth of provisions, etc., among a few needy families. The response to my personal appeal for help towards such a worthy object was both general and generous. On New Year's Eve our Sunday School had its Christmas tree. On that occasion I presented our esteemed superintendent, Deacon A. W. Fowles, with a copy of Peloubet's Notes on behalf of the Teachers and Bible Class. It was but a slight token of the great esteem and affection in which he is held. Later in the evening the superintendent presented, on behalf of the teachers and officers, Mrs. Townsend with a handsome banquet lamp and a box of choice handkerchiefs, and the Pastor with a beautifully bound copy of Holman's Teachers Bible. We greatly appreciate these expressions of good-will. Our West Quaco

Sunday School, while doing excellent work under the faithful leadership of Deacon J. S. Titus held its treat on the previous Tuesday. On the first Sunday morning of the year I preached on our motto for 1904, selected for me by our aged Deacon, J. D. Bradshaw. The text is found in Matthew 5:16. I regarded it as a definition of the Christian life, which is (1) a social life, ("before men"); (2) a bright life ("light"); (3) a beneficent life ("good works"); and (4) a soul-purifying life ("glorify your Father").

C. W. TOWNSEND.

MILTON BAPTIST CHURCH, YARMOUTH.—Not having trespassed upon any of your space in the "News from the Churches" column for ten years, except to report baptisms, I hope you will forgive me if I now take a little more than my share. You have seen from Dr. J. H. Saunders' last article anent the work in Yarmouth county, that we in the north end of the town of Yarmouth have lately been having some interesting times. He has told you about the burning of the mortgage on the 8th of December, 1903, and of most of the good things that were said on that occasion; but he said nothing of the important part he performed. Dr. Saunders was asked, as a former pastor, and as a father of the Baptist ministry in the county, and also as one who has our history at his fingers' ends, to give the address of the occasion and for it to be reminiscent in character. We expected something good from him, but Dr. Saunders went far beyond his own record, which is saying a great deal, by giving us a sketch of our own history, which was in every sense a masterpiece. It would be a treat to denunciation to read it in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. I am sure our people would be glad to have it published so as to have it treasured as part of the record of the occasion. Dec. 23rd our annual Sunday school Christmas tree took place, all the members of the school were remembered. The pastor and his household were also very generously remembered. Our school is looking up. We have a good staff of teachers. We lost a splendid superintendent in the removal of F. L. Shaffner to Middleton nearly two years ago. Principal J. Logan Trash of the South end public school came among us at that time, and he has filled the office ever since with great credit to himself, and to the utmost satisfaction of the school. Last evening (Jan. 6th) our annual business meeting was held. The church has a new experience, such as it never had before in all its history. It ended 1903 without a cent of indebtedness, and with a few dollars on hand to begin the present year with. The receipts and payments for this year, amounted to over \$1400. This is a good showing for a resident membership of 74. Of course, we were very materially helped in the town and other parts of the country and the United States. For all help received, the church feels very grateful indeed. Our prayers and efforts henceforth shall be for the salvation of souls.

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