

News of the Churches.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN ITEMS.

During the past month five were added to the church, all by confession and obedience; four of these are members of our Sunday school.

Our annual business meeting was held on the second Mouday in May. The reports of the officers were very encouraging. About \$1,300 00 were received and disbursed by the treasurer. A committee of the sisters expended about \$70.00 to aid the poor. The Sewing Circle expended \$75.00, with a balance of \$25.00 on hand. The Ladies Missionary Society have about \$600 00 to their credit in the Savings Bank. Over two thousand dollars was expended by the church for all purposes. Sixteen additions were reported during the year.

By the death of Sister Fisher, the church has lost an earnest and faithful member. Her life and character was such as to command the respect of all who were acquainted with her.

Bro. Capp preached at Lakeside, Kings Co., last evening.

LEONARDVILLE.

The election of officers in the Sunday-school at Leonardville, D. I., took place on Sunday, May 6th, and as the superintendent, Mr. George A. Welch, was about to resign his position which he had held for the past four years, the Sunday-school presented him with a very handsome "Teachers' Bible."

Miss Annie W. Wilson read the following address while Miss Lena Leonard presented the Bible.

"To our Superintendent:

Sir,—We, as members of this Sunday-school, offer our heartfelt thanks for the services rendered us during the past years; and present our regrets for the loss to us of one who has so faithfully discharged the duties of the office committed to his care. We also present this Bible, which we trust will be kindly accepted, as a token of our gratitude and good wishes."

Mr. Welch responded very suitably to the above, and upon the earnest entreaties of his friends, was constrained to again take the care of the Sunday-school.

Yours respectfully,
UNUM.

NOVA SCOTIA.

SCOTCH VILLAGE.

On the 22nd of April we had one addition to the church in this place that revived strange memories of the long ago. The young man was a great-grandson of Bro. Elisha Sanford, who was baptized by Elder Benjamin Howard, and in whose dwelling house he preached in this village just fifty years ago. His preaching created a wonderful excitement all around. Sometimes people would become angry and leave the house in which the services were being held. On one occasion while Bro. Howard was preaching in this village at the residence of the late Bro. Elisha Sanford, a man by the name of John Campbell became angry, and arose, bade the audience, *good night*, and supposing he was going out of the house, mistook the wrong door, and the consequence was, he fell into the cellar. At this strange occurrence, Mr. Howard, who was full of wit, remarked that "it was easier for a Campbell to fall down cellar than what it was to go through the eye of a needle." Bro. John Vaughan and Bro. Wm. Lockard are still living who were at that meeting fifty years ago.

Elder Howard was the first to preach a return to primitive order and practice in this county. His name is often spoken, and his work referred to. It was said by the old gentleman, Matthew White,

husband of Sister White, who died here a few weeks ago, just as he was dying, and the last words that he uttered, "Poor Howard, he did a great deal of good. He set the people to reading their Bibles."

Old Bro. Elisha Sanford has long since passed away to the better land. Bro. Howard is also gone and nearly all those to whom he preached fifty years ago. As I stepped forward to extend the hand of fellowship to our young Bro. Sanford, he being one of the fourth generation, all these scenes, in panoramic view passed before me in the glimmering light of thought. My prayer ascended to the God of Heaven that he might enjoy all that is beautiful in life, beautiful in death, and beautiful beyond the grave.

Lord's Day, April 29th, one more baptism took place at Woodville in the Herbert river, a promising son of Bro. Thos. Nelson, of Mosherville. We have now a goodly number of young men and young women who are walking in the path which leads to Heaven. The outlook is good and a steady growth of the church is expected.

Bro. R. E. Stevens, of Cornwallis, is now spending the summer with me, and I concluded to leave the county of Hants indefinitely. But as the time drew near the brethren and friends opposed my leaving, and I found the attachments formed had become so strong that I have promised to return in the near future and continue my labors with the church in this village and surrounding vicinity.

WEST GORE.

Bro. R. E. Stevens accompanied me to this place where I preached Lord's Day, May 6th. Change here is everywhere visible, so many leaving, especially for the United States. Madam Rumor says that even Elder John B. Wallace and family are anticipating leaving for California in the fall.

Bro. Donald McDougall, editor of the "Maritime Department" of the *Christian Leader*, who is a member of this church, is getting on admirably well with his editorial work. Few are more energetic and hopeful than Bro. McDougall. We expect he will devote his life to the preaching of the gospel as soon as he can make the necessary arrangements, and mature his plans sufficiently well. Our prayer is that God will abundantly bless him, and in every department of work crown his labors with abundant success. But in the midst of it all I wonder if he, too, "will seek verdant fields abroad?" When travelling in the Southern States I remember an amusing incident that in all probability the advice given is followed by a goodly number of persons. On one occasion a certain minister asked his colored servant where he thought he had better go and preach that day. Said he, "Massa, go where the most debil is." Not bad advice, to attack the stronghold of sin.

Bro. McDougall is also now Superintendent of the Sunday School which is an important auxiliary to the church, and has greatly helped in the past to develop the youth of the congregation.

HALIFAX.

A day was spent in this city, May 17th. I had a pleasant interview with Brethren Carson, Messervey, Cooke, Harding and Wallace. Brethren Messervey and Cooke are engaged taking a course in the U. B. College of Knoxville, Tennessee. So far in their examinations they have made very good percentage and I have no doubt but what Bro. Cooke will come out a full fledged preacher. He certainly has a bright future before him full of promise.

I was anxious to see Bro. Harding to make arrangements for his going to Hants Co., and remaining during my absence. He has decided to go and devote his life to the ministry of the Word. He will preach in Newport, Lord's Day, May 27th. He is very hopeful, and will, I trust, be enabled to

make life a grand success. May God bless him forever, is my earnest prayer.

We took up our abode in the city at the kind home of Bro. H. L. Wallace, at the Globe Hotel. I take pleasure in commanding this as a good place for our brethren and friends to go, who may visit this city. The accommodations here are good, and Br. Wallace is always willing to do everything to make it pleasant for his guests. In so doing he is well patronized and is doing already a prosperous business. This will be Bro. Tyler's home during his visit to Halifax.

PICTOU.

Bro. Stevens and I arrived here on the 18th inst. We left Halifax by rail in the morning and had a delightful ride, meandering around lakes and through forests and rocks, occasionally passing some fertile land dotted here and there with pleasant homes. The day was most beautiful and the quiet inland waters sparkled like crystals and diamonds.

On arriving we took up our abode at the elegant and hospitable home of Bro. David Fullerton. Here we were entertained in a right royal manner, and shall not soon forget the kindness we received at their hands. Bro. Fullerton has a large and interesting family, nearly all of them being members of the Christian church. This is certainly quite remarkable when we take into consideration the fact that we have no church organization in Pictou. It seems to me that an effort ought to be put forth to establish and build up one in this beautiful town. Bro. Fullerton remarked that if I would guarantee six intelligent men to meet together, he would furnish the church building in which to hold public services. I think this can easily be done. Bro. Fullerton has written for Bro. Ellmore, of Indiana, and he has promised, I believe, to come. Bro. E. is certainly well able for the undertaking. I am personally acquainted with him and rejoice that our brethren in Nova Scotia are becoming alive to the great need of more faithful preachers here in this province. Bro. Donald McDougall has also written to Bro. E. H. Henderson, of Missouri, to come, and when these mighty chieftains of the cross arrive there will doubtless be a great "shaking among the dry bones." Truth is certainly mighty and must prevail when faithfully plead. For my part, I believe that a good church can be raised up in any town, or city, if we can only have a good place in which to hold forth the *Word of Life*.

RIVER JOHN.

We arrived here Saturday evening, May 19th. We came on the stage coach from Pictou, and we were exceedingly wearied and fatigued, but reached our destination in safety.

Bro. Nowlan had been intending to write to us to come and help him, and it was considered that we had come in answer to prayer. We had heard that he was expecting us, and we availed ourselves of this opportunity to come here and help to put forth an extra effort to build up the church in this place. On every hand a warm, cordial welcome has been extended, and our meetings began Lord's Day morning with fair prospects of success.

The church here was organized the day the battle of Waterloo was fought in 1815. It is considered the oldest church of Disciples in the Maritime Provinces. It should, therefore, be one of the largest and most influential, but numerically it is by no means strong. The question may be asked, *What is the cause of this?* The reason is very obvious. We find everything pays as a rule in proportion to the amount of care and labor bestowed. Now, notwithstanding this church is nearly seventy-three years old it has only had a preacher to work among them continuously for about four years. Bro. T. H. Blokus was pastor for three years, and Bro. P.