

Querist's Column.

[All matter intended for this column should be addressed to E. C. Ford, Port Williams, Kings County, N. S. Questions touching the meaning of scriptures will be gladly received.]

Q.—How do you explain Isaiah xlv. 7? H. E. C.

A.—The prophet is here speaking of the "evil" of war and disaster, by which God sometimes punished the people. We are not to understand that God is in any sense the author of moral evil, for with such He cannot be tempted, "neither tempteth He any man." James i. 13.

Q.—Why was it that Michael, the archangel, when contending with the Devil about the body of Moses, dare not bring a railing accusation against him? H. E. C.

A.—This is confessedly a difficult passage to understand. But among the several attempts to explain it, which we have seen, perhaps the following is the most reasonable: When Moses was wanted at the transfiguration, Michael, the archangel, was sent for him. But the Devil still had the power of death, and disputed the right of the archangel to take the body of Moses. All the reply that he could make was, "The Lord rebuke thee," or, in other words, this judicial question will be settled when the Lord shall triumph over death "and destroy him that had the power of death, that is the Devil."

Q.—To what does the Apostle refer when he says: When that which is perfect is come? I. Cor. xiii. 10. H. E. C.

A.—Evidently to the state of eternal blessedness, when "that which is in part shall be done away." Now, we see through a glass darkly; but then, face to face. Now we know in part, but then shall we know even as also we are known." This is the state of perfection to which we all should aspire.

Q.—Was Judas present when the Lord's supper was instituted? H. E. C.

A.—From Matt. xxvi. 26-50 and Mark xiv. 22-26, we learn that the very last thing our Lord did at this feast of the passover was to institute what is afterwards known as the Lord's supper. Both of these inspired historians agree that when this was done, "they sang an hymn and went out into the Mount of Olives."

From John xiii. 18-30, we learn that while they yet lingered around the passover table, that Jesus predicts His betrayal by Judas, and points him out to the other disciples by giving him the "sop," which, when he had received, he went "immediately out." As soon then as "he was gone out" Jesus began to talk to His disciples concerning Himself. Verses 31-35. From the fact, then, that the very last act of our Lord on this occasion was to institute the Lord's supper, after which they sang an hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives; and also from the fact that Judas went out and left the company while they yet lingered around the table, it is very evident that he could not have been present when the Lord's supper was instituted.

News of the Churches.

St. JOHN, N. B.

The anniversary of our Sunday-school was held on Wednesday evening, February 17th. There was a large attendance. Bro. H. W. Stewart presided. The programme was an excellent one and thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was as follows: Chorus, by the school; recitations, Eddie Munford, Gracie Flaglor, Willie Gibson; solo, Martha Morton; recitations, Edith Hazelhurst, Ella Lowry, Elsie Blackadar, Evelyn Stockton; solo, Maggie S. Barnes; recitations, Bell Wilson, Winnie Flaglor; solo, Mabel Belyea; recitation, Wentie Wilson;

solo, Nellie McKinnon; recitation, Mary Bissett; chorus, by the school. Collection. Organ solo, Maud McKinnon; chorus, by the school; recitations, Mary E. Barnes, Nellie Flaglor, Zela Morton, Bertha W. Barnes; reading, Mabel Boyne; duett, the Misses Simpson; solo, Mr. Geo. Dishart; reading, Mr. J. Barry Allan; solo, Miss Hattie M. Clark; reading, Mr. Perry Stackhouse; chorus, by the school. After the programme had been concluded, the children were escorted to the Sunday-school room, where they were given a bountiful supply of refreshments, which were provided by the teachers and friends of the school. The silver collection amounted to \$15.00.

The brethren and sisters at Silver Falls have regular prayer-meetings every Friday evening. A few weeks ago some of our brethren made them a visit. There is a good interest manifested. A large number were present and took part in the meeting. We hope these visits will continue and that their numbers will increase, and in the near future we may have a church there.

CORNWALLIS, N. S.

Owing to the good condition of the weather and roads, and it may be to a greater degree of spirituality on the part of many, our regular meetings have been better attended during the early part of this winter than ever before in my recollection during a corresponding time of the year.

A few weeks ago some of the sisters, thinking a donation party at the parsonage would be next in order, appointed a night and made all the necessary preparation, but with the arrival of the evening came one of the big storms of the season, so that a few only availed themselves of the opportunity of realizing how good it makes one feel to make a little sacrifice, even in the face of a storm. However, a number came the next evening, and a still larger number a week or two later, altogether contributing to our preacher about sixty dollars in cash, besides other useful articles.

One by one, and sometimes in whole families, our members keep slipping away to some other part of the country, usually over the line into the neighboring Republic. This time it is one of our best and strongest young men, Bro. Rufus Jackson, clerk of this church and chairman of the Home Mission Board, who informs us that he expects to leave us soon.

As our memory runs back over the sixteen years we have been connected with this church, what a long list of names we can recall of those who have entered the ranks, and by their presence and earnest consecration in all good works have caused us to look to the future of our work here as being bright with promise, on account of their zeal and earnestness. But now, as we glance over the names of our working force, how many of those dear ones are missing?

Some have gone to lands far distant
And with strangers made their homes;
Some upon the world of waters
All their lives are forced to roam.

Some have gone from us forever,
Longer here they might not stay;
They have reached a fairer region
Far away, far away.

R. E. S.

Home Mission Notes.

Hazel Green, Ky., D. S. Coombs, 80 additions; Lexington, Mo., Martin and Easton, 252 additions; Parkdale, Ind., J. C. Ashley, 58 additions; Mt. Oreb, O., B. C. Black, 112 additions; Jefferson, Iowa, H. C. Patterson, 108 additions; Caldwell, Kan., Martin and Ridenour, 109 additions; Norman, Oklahoma, Jones and Douthit, 120 additions; Bethesda, Tenn., J. W. Rogers, 58 additions; Eureka, Ill., Hall and Huth, 187 additions. The above nine short meetings resulted in over one thousand additions. We hope and pray this wave

will roll eastward and that we will have a grand ingathering in our provinces.

We are now corresponding with some evangelists and hope to secure one before long. We act as promptly as possible, but we have had several long waits for answers and that is the reason we have not yet secured an evangelist. Sister McDougall's good example will, we hope, be followed by many in Hants Co. W. F. Leonard kindly remembers the fund.

East Ferry has asked us to send Bro. Devoc there to hold a meeting; we are now arranging for it.

The appeal from Gulliver's Cove should be answered. When you read this sit down and enclose \$1.00 or more to H. A. Devoc, Tiverton, N. S.

Personal work is necessary to succeed in bringing men and women to Christ. You may have good preachers, with worthy elders to assist them; you may have an efficient missionary board, with many earnest, consecrated helpers; you may have soul-stirring evangelists; but in order to do all that can be done every member of the church must exhibit Christ in their daily life and conversation. They must show Him in their talk, in their manner, in their eyes, in their hands and in all that they do; then shall others see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged, . . . .	..	\$170 67.
Southville—		
Per Elder Steele, . . . .	..	2 00
Maitland, Hants Co.—		
Mrs. D. S. McDougall, . . . .	..	1 00
St. John—		
Y. P. Mission Band, . . . .	..	1 55
W. F. Leonard, Montreal, . . . .	..	4 00
Westport—		
Per Miss Howard, . . . .	..	1 40
Per Miss Porter, . . . .	..	2 00
Milton, per Miss Freeman, . . . .	..	3 60
Cornwallis—		
Per Miss S. Ford, . . . .	..	5 70
Total . . . . .	..	\$191 92
		J. S. FLAGLOR,
St. John, N. B.		Secretary.

Foreign Mission Notes.

Knowing that the sisters in our provinces would like to know something more of the O. C. W. B. M. and its past history, the secretary wrote, asking a number of questions, and in reply received the following:

In June, 1887, about twelve sisters met in Guelph and organized the O. C. W. B. M. At the first anniversary of that meeting there were but eight auxiliaries; there are now twenty-three, with a membership of over 400.

Previous to organizing, there were a few sisters in several of the churches doing the same work in a quiet way. At first our efforts were confined to the weak churches in our own province. We then extended to Minedosa, Manitoba, where we established a mission church, sent a missionary, and are still supporting him with the aid of the church there. As a C. W. B. M., we have as yet done nothing for foreign work.

At our last convention, held in Toronto, we felt that the time had come when we should reach out helping hands to our poor down-trodden sisters in heathen lands, who never heard the name of Jesus, who are living such sad, hopeless lives, and daily going down to death and the grave without God and without a hope for the life beyond.

A call was made for pledges in order to raise a fund for sending out a missionary to some foreign land. In about twenty minutes there were \$145 00 pledged. The sisters entered into the work enthusiastically. A sister was appointed in each church to solicit aid in this home church. We have a fund from the children's work of \$183.00, drawing interest until we secure a suitable person to send to the foreign field. I hope someone may be found before long. If we could realize our responsibility, in view of all that the Gospel has done for us, and of all the comforts and privileges which we in this Christian land enjoy, we would surely rise to the need, remembering that God has made of