

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I.

CENTRAL CHURCH.

The church is at present without a pastor and is consequently in a somewhat unsettled condition. As stated elsewhere, Bro. Manifold left on the third of January.

On January 8th Bro. Crawford preached at both services, and on the following Lord's day an interesting social meeting was held in the morning, and Bro. A. N. Simpson, of Lot 48, preached in the evening.

On the morning of the 22nd the brethren again met to break bread, and spent an hour in social prayer and praise. At three o'clock Bro. Simpson again favored us with a sermon.

The prayer meeting and Sunday-school are fairly well attended, and the interest well maintained.

Bro. R. W. Stevenson and wife and Bro. A. N. Simpson were present and took part in the prayer meeting on Wednesday, the 18th of January.

H. W.

On January 3rd, 1899, the members of the Central church, with a number of visiting members and friends, met at 4 p. m. to bid farewell to Bro. Geo. Manifold, who has resigned the pastorate of that church to re-enter Kentucky University and complete his senior year in the "Arts" course, preparatory to entering the mission field in Japan early next year, under the auspices of the American Christian Foreign Missionary Society.

Bro. John F. Baker presided at the meeting and made a very appropriate address, referring to our brother who had labored so faithfully for the cause in Charlottetown for two and one-half years, and to the high esteem in which he is held by the brotherhood and the public at large. He dwelt at some length on the fact that Bro. Manifold would be "our missionary," in a special sense, leaving, as he does, with the full endorsement of the church on P. E. Island.

Bro. D. Crawford, who was present, addressed the meeting as follows: "Our meeting to-night is one of sadness, and yet we sorrow not without feelings of mingling joy. We meet to bid Bro. Manifold a long farewell. We may never meet each other again on the shore of time, but the blessed hope of meeting at Jesus' feet disarms all sorrow and kindles lasting joy.

"When first I saw our brother I regarded him as a warm-hearted Christian, and all I have known of him since has but deepened my first impressions. His letters, his private intercourse, as well as his labors in the gospel, have convinced me of his deep anxiety for the glory of God and the salvation of men, and we seldom find a man so willing to make sacrifice for the cause of Christ.

"I am sorry for the church losing one so willing to do so much for them, a church which, in turn, has sacrificed so nobly to sustain him. May a kind Father graciously remember both him and them.

"The comforting thought that our brother leaves us with the full intention of meeting the privations of a life among the heathen, to tell them of the Son of Man who came to seek and to save that which was lost, fills the parting with a blessed hope of meeting him and the converts God shall give him where partings shall be unknown."

Bro. A. N. Simpson, of Cross Roads, Lot 48, who was also present, spoke at considerable length of his acquaintance with Bro. Manifold, since 1893, when they first met as college classmates in Kentucky. He testified to the close friendship that has ever since existed between them, and spoke of mission work and the crying need of greater activity along that line. He felt hopeful of the future, and felt sure that God will bless the labors of our brother, who has decided to leave our shores to bear the glad message of the Christ to a distant land.

A presentation from the Sunday-school was accompanied with the following address:

To Mr. George Manifold:

"Our beloved pastor and Sunday-school superintendent, as you are about to leave us, we, the members of the Bible school, wish to convey to you some expression of our esteem and our deep sense of loss at your departure.

"Your unwavering faith and devotion have endeared you to us all, and the recollection of the years spent in earnest co-labor for Christ and his

church we ever be among our most tender memories, and will be to us an incentive to seek to live more 'that unfallen life of the spirit,' and to stand fast for 'the truth wherewith God hath made us free.'

"With grateful hearts we think of your many acts of kindness and self-sacrifice for the welfare of the school while as superintendent you labored with us.

"And now, dear brother, as you leave us to complete the preparation for your life work of carrying the 'glad message' to those who know not the true and living God, our good wishes and earnest prayers will be with you wherever it may please God to send you.

"In God's good providence we pray that many happy years of blessed labor in his service may yet be yours; that in you the promise may be fulfilled, 'They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.'

"Now in our farewell words we desire you to feel that our sympathy and love are too deep for words, and while we cherish the hope of at some future time meeting with you face to face, and of hearing your familiar voice, we have the full assurance that if we are but faithful unto death we shall meet where 'congregations ne'er break up and Sabbaths have no end.'

"By the small token accompanying this we attempt to give a more tangible—although very inadequate—expression of our appreciation.

"Again let us assure you of the heartfelt sympathy and prayers of this little band, which will attend you in your future work, and commending you to the loving, tender care of our Heavenly Father we breathe our Mizpah benediction, 'The Lord keep watch between us, and cause his face to shine upon us' while we are absent one from the other. Amen."

Signed on behalf of the Bible school of the Charlottetown Central Christian Church this third day of January, 1899.

[Signed] MAGGIE KENNEDY,
AGNES WILLIAMS,
HANNAH STEWART,
LEONARD MACKAY,
J. HARRY WILLIAMS.

The following resolutions were read by Bro. D. Crawford and passed by the unanimous voice of the assemblage:

Whereas, Bro. Geo. Manifold has offered himself to the executive board of the American Foreign Christian Missionary Society as a missionary to Japan, with encouraging prospects of being accepted and sent, and is now about to leave our shores for that purpose;

Therefore resolved by the members of this church, that the brethren met with us feel deep sorrow at parting with a friend so helpful and so self-sacrificing for the glory of God, the benefit of the church and the salvation of the lost. His faithful preaching, both to the church and to those who are without, we will long and affectionately remember;

Further resolved, That with our grief at parting with one so much beloved is mingled the joyful hope of our brother's success in leading the dying heathen to the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world, and that we will plead earnestly with our Father for his success in a work so grand.

Bro. Manifold very suitably replied, and thanked the brethren for their many expressions of regard and ever-ready help and sympathy. He felt very grateful for the many acts of kindness and timely words of advice he had received from our Bro. Crawford, whom he should never cease to love and remember.

The meeting was one to be long remembered by those who were present; every heart was solemnized at the thought of parting, but cheered and comforted by hope and faith in the Father, to whose kind care our brother is commended. At the close the audience rose and sang "God be with you till we meet again," and was dismissed with prayer and benediction by Bro. A. N. Simpson.

At eight o'clock Bro. Manifold spoke at the union prayer meeting in the Baptist church, and bade farewell to the ministers and the people of Charlottetown, and on leaving the church was presented by the pastors of the various denominations with an elegant dressing case, evidencing the high esteem in which he was held by his ministerial brethren.

Quite a large number of friends assembled at the depot to witness his departure amid general handshaking and good-byes.

Book Reviews.

TEN LESSONS IN HOW TO READ, HOW TO UNDERSTAND, AND HOW TO REMEMBER THE BIBLE. Ashley S. Johnson. LL. D. 134 pages. By Printed on good paper. Price, \$1 00.

The importance of Bible study cannot be over-estimated. If we are to grow in grace we must grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour. Much of this knowledge is derived from Christian living, but it is all obtained in the first instance from careful consideration of God's Word. We need to ponder on the Bible more, and, perhaps, on books concerning the Bible less. But hints on how to read and understand this book may at times aid us to increase our knowledge therein.

The scriptures are seldom studied in a rational manner. Unbelievers do not treat them with respect. Believers frequently misunderstand the purpose for which they are written. This arises from a failure to realize that they contain a complete expression of God's will concerning us. Many hold, also, that the greater portion of scripture can only be received through supernatural means.

If we are free from these two errors, and are willing to approach this all-important study with unbiased minds, we are prepared to profit by practical suggestions thereon.

The writer discusses the plan and purposes of the Bible; shows that its truth must be apprehended through the natural exercise of our minds; gives general rules and hints for memorizing, and particular instructions for perusing the word. Humility, reverence, obedience and purity of heart are laid down as necessary to a true insight to scripture. We must walk in the Spirit, for "the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God . . . because they are spiritually discerned."

We need all the help we can get along the line pursued in this work. Any true mode of acquiring and retaining scriptural knowledge must prove of great value to us. The author gives many valuable hints. All Bible students should have the book.

JOHNSON'S SPEECHES. 163 pages: paper. Price, 30 cents.

These are five speeches delivered by Ashley S. Johnson in a debate with H. C. Hemstead on Differences of Religious Belief Between the Baptists and Disciples of Christ. Each contestant affirms, "The church with which I stand identified is apostolic in doctrine and practice."

One would like to have both sides of the case. That we have not, is not the fault of Bro. Johnson, however. He wished to print the debate jointly with the Baptists, but that body would not consent.

The debate was held in 1891, so that we may expect the discussion to be largely upon present day disagreements between the two bodies.

The time of the setting up of the kingdom is an issue which was forced early in the debate by our representative, who realized that a correct conception of it is necessary in order to fully understand the conditions of pardon its settlement is necessary. The design of baptism, doctrine of election, Bible names and creeds, are considered.

Our cause seems to have been ably defended. The speeches furnish us with many arguments on the subjects discussed. We should be thankful that these differences are being removed, even if slowly. It is our duty, however, to keep ourselves as well versed in these themes as possible. This book will prove quite valuable in this respect.

O. B. STOCKFORD.