

pend entirely on their orange culture, but to go more into the cultivation of vegetables, etc.

After a few days we found some brethren about three miles distant from here, and we went out and I spoke to them in the school-house. I found that these brethren were not coming together to remember the Lord except when a preacher comes along; this is an evil to-day that is growing among the Disciples of Christ. We visit these brethren occasionally and render them all the help in our power.

We were permitted to attend a missionary meeting of the Christians held at North Lake Weir, some ten miles distant from here, and formed the acquaintance of Bro. Streater and Bro. Roulhac, Evangelists; also Bro. Pendleton, of Bethany College. We enjoyed a pleasant visit among these brethren, and they seemed glad to meet us. I expect to visit the brethren at Oxford, next Lord's-day, and speak to them.

The friends are quite anxious that we should locate in Florida, but as my health has not improved much, we think of returning to Nova Scotia for the summer at least, and hope to see many of our dear friends again.

Your brother in the hope of eternal life.

HENRY CARSON.

South Lake Weir, Marion Co., Florida,
April 15, 1886

FROM JACKSONVILLE.

DEAR CHRISTIAN.—My first year with the brethren of this city is closing. At a business meeting of the church recently held the writer was unanimously and enthusiastically called to continue his labors with the church here, and feeling that a continuation of the present line of work and thought gave prospects of excellent work for another year, the invitation to remain has been accepted. Other fields are inviting, and it may be that commensurate with the labor expended, other fields might give greater success; but it is, in our opinion, a great mistake for a preacher to leave a field of labor just when, by an acquaintance with his surroundings, he is best able to accomplish much work.

Jacksonville being a health resort affords an excellent opportunity of meeting and becoming acquainted with brethren from other places. Our brethren from many of our Northern and Western States have been well represented in our city during the past winter. Scarcely a Lord's-day has passed that we have not had some preaching brother in attendance, and upon more than one occasion several. Among those who have visited us, have been, of the ministry, Bros. Pendleton, Hopkins, Richardson, Brown, Harding, Mullins, Sewell, Hickock, Taylor, Flowers, Roulhac, Shepherd, Manire and Tout, while many other prominent brethren from our churches throughout Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and the north and west have, from time to time, dropped in upon us, and by their substantial cheer have gladdened our hearts and strengthened our ties of Christian love and affection. After some delay and no little trouble, we have now secured for our new house of worship one of the most eligible lots in the city, corner of Pine and Beaver streets, and will in a short time, we trust, be able to occupy our new ground. The writer has preached three times every Lord's-day and taken active part in two Sunday-schools, besides much extra preaching during the year. In all we have had about forty additions. As the heated season approaches most of our city churches make arrangements to close their doors for about two months. This we as a church did not do last summer; but it may be that a short vacation will be taken this summer by the writer to visit friends and escape the torrid heat of a Florida midsummer. Florida summers are a little enervating, especially that portion of the day from 11 to 2 o'clock, but yet sun-strokes are unknown here; and it is a question whether our summers are more subject to extreme heated seasons than latitudes much farther north. It is not the extreme heat, but the constant and unremitting, unending summer that sometimes makes one

feel that a change for a few weeks would be enjoyable.

I would like, Mr. Editor, at some future time to send to you, for the delectation of your young readers, a few extracts from my diary, written during a short camping expedition to the extreme southern portion of this State, far below civilization, in the vicinity of old Lake Okeechobee, in the weird, wild, and game-stocked vicinity of the everglades, where bear, panther, wild-cat, deer and other denizens of a Floridian forest roam undisturbed and at will; while sea and sky teem with fish and fowl of every description and every hue; and where the Seminole Indian, driven by the onward sweep of our irresistible civilization, sulkily chafes under the restraint of his ever-narrowing environments, and with a lowering countenance and deep-drawn guttural groan, sighs as to his memory rushes the thoughts of the past when, under the leadership of his beloved Osceola, he scoured the wilds of his peninsula home; or, after the heat of the chase, reclined under the inviting shade of the primeval forest.

Your brother,

T. H. BLEND.

Jacksonville, Florida, April, 1886.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN ITEMS.

COBURG ST. CHURCH.—Lord's day services at 11 A. M., and 7 P. M. Sunday-school at 2.15 P. M. Young People's Meeting, Tuesday evening at 8. General Prayer Meeting, Thursday evening at 8. Brethren visiting the city cordially welcomed. The Ladies' Sewing Society meets every Wednesday evening at 6.

One addition by confession and obedience since last report.

Brethren Gates and Murray paid us a visit on their way through our City. We are always glad to welcome these brethren.

We regret the loss of some of our brethren who have lately moved away from our City, but trust wherever they may be their usefulness will not be lost to the cause of Christ.

The Ladies' Aid Society held their regular meeting on Thursday last. There was a good gathering considering the busy time of year. The receipts were fully up to the average.

BACK BAY.

The work of the Lord is still going forward. Men and women are being "born again." Three weeks ago I visited Bliss's Island, where a good brother and sister of this church live, and held a few meetings. The result was that seven persons, hearing, believed, and were immersed; and two who had strayed away from the fold returned. We had a very happy time. Although there are only six families on the island, as many as sixteen took part in the exercises. May the blessing of God our Father be with them. On Lord's-day they all presented themselves for membership and received the hand of welcome.

J. A. GATES.

April 21st, 1886.

LE TETE.

Last week I finished the time for which I was engaged with the church here and at Back Bay, and Bro. W. Rideout came to labor on in the good cause. There seemed to be a desire among the people for me to remain another week, and after asking wisdom from on high as to what I had better do, I decided to remain. We met Friday evening in our social meeting, and one confessed her faith in Christ as the Son of the Living God. We had another confession on Sunday evening, two more on Monday, two on Tuesday, and one to-day at the baptism. The interest is apparently on the increase. The friends seem unwilling for me to leave. I will probably remain over Lord's-day. Bro. Rideout is

much encouraged in entering upon the work there. May the Lord abundantly bless him in his labors with the people of Le Tete and Back Bay, and may he have many souls for his hire. I understand that Bro. P. D. Nowlan has been engaged by some in Back Bay to preach for them a part of the time.

J. A. GATES.

April 21st, 1886.

LEONARDVILLE.

We visited this church in company with Bro. William Murray, remaining over one evening. Bro. William preached in the evening to a fine congregation. The church is still alive and having grand meetings. All the late converts are active. This church is also in need of a preacher. Who can be found?

H. M.

NOVA SCOTIA.

TIVERTON.

We closed our meeting in Tiverton three weeks ago; and though we are not able to report additions from the world, we can say that our meeting was a good one. The brethren are greatly strengthened and encouraged to work on, believing that in the near future fruit will be gathered from the good seed sown. Quite a number who had unhappily wandered from home, were brought back to their father's house, and are now working in harmony with the church.

The Women's Aid Society is still keeping up its work with interest unabated. The outlook for the future success of the work in Tiverton is encouraging.

E. C. FORD.

WESTPORT.

The regular meetings at Westport are being kept up with fine interest. We had one addition by baptism last Lord's-day. We shall lose a number of our congregation this summer, as several of our brethren have gone from home, and several are yet going. But these changes are going on continually, and we must gracefully submit to the inevitable.

The friends of the preacher and his wife did not forget their double birthday, which falls on the 22nd of April, but come in on us in force, bringing the needful with them in abundance. Quite a large company gathered at the parsonage on this occasion. After partaking of the bounties prepared for the occasion, and spending a few hours enjoying such social entertainments as were afforded, the company broke up, all feeling, judging from expressions, that a pleasant evening had been enjoyed. We cannot but feel that if there was more of the social among our brethren it would be much pleasanter for both preacher and people. The brethren in these parts have done much in this direction to make us feel that we were among friends. These are pleasant reunions, and lighten many a burden which would otherwise be hard to carry.

E. C. FORD.

MAINE.

EAST MACHIAS.

We returned to this place after leaving St. John, and remained two weeks. There were four baptisms and another confession the last evening of the meeting. The house would not hold the people: on Sunday evening some were not able to find admittance.

The church has engaged Bro. William Murray another year. Every prospect for continued success is very encouraging. When Bro. William went there, six months ago, he found a very few who were attending the worship. Now there are seventy members who are in good standing; about twenty have been baptized. The brethren there are very happy over the success.

H. M.

LUBEC.

The church here is without a preacher. They want a good man among them. They are few, and yet are ready to sacrifice whatever is necessary to sustain the cause in Lubec. They have repaired the church house; it is now a model of neatness.

H. M.