

our highest anticipations were fully realized.

You have, sir, under God, been the means of doing much good among us during your short stay, which we all fully acknowledge and appreciate, and we beg to assure you that in going away from Shediak you leave behind you none but friends.

We ask you to accept this purse as a slight mark of the love and esteem in which you are held by this branch of your charge.

We hope that your health may be benefitted by the change of residence you propose to make, and trust that wherever your lot may be in the future, God in His infinite Providence will guide and protect you.

Wishing you bon voyage, we are, on behalf of Knox Church congregation,

Yours very faithfully.

The best wishes and fervent prayers of our people go with him, and we cling to the hope of parted friends to meet again in God's good time.

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In behalf of the Point DuChene Sabbath School I tender sincere thanks to the Sabbath School of St. Stephen's Church, St. John, for their kind gift of books, presented through Mr. John Irvine.

JAS. FRIER, Supt.

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### How we Conduct our Prayer Meetings.

[Free Church Monthly.]

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#### IV.—IN A MINING VILLAGE.

The first question I had to face when I was ordained some six years ago, was, Is it possible to have a week-night meeting at all? There had been for some time no such

prayer-meeting. For the men were chiefly miners, and miners keep early hours both at night and morning; and the young women were chiefly factory-workers, going by train every day to their long day's work in a neighbouring town. As for the mothers, prayer-meetings were not to be thought of. We resolved, however, to make the trial. An early hour of the evening was fixed upon, and the girls were invited to come as early as they could. Sometimes they were a quarter of an hour behind time; but as the first part of the meetings was occupied largely with praise, their entrance did not distract the others. The result was most encouraging. For some time the attendance was equal to half the number of communicants. Our Sabbath attendance was in those days not much over two hundred, and I have seen one hundred present frequently on Wednesday evenings. This, of course, settled that the people could come if they chose. Ever since, it has been my custom to insist that this is so, and to intimate from the pulpit the *congregational* meeting in the middle of the week. And though time has worn off the novelty, and diminished considerably the proportion of Wednesday night to Sabbath day worshippers, the congregation has never forgotten the lesson, and the meeting has kept up wonderfully.

At first it was my habit to intimate the subjects on the preceding Sabbath, and these were as a rule not closely connected with each other. After a time, however, a course of study was tried, and I believe with better results. It is better for the minister, because his mind is not distracted till close upon the time of meeting searching for a subject; and the people like it better, for it supplies a much-valued element in their religious life—instruction in Biblical knowledge. My first course was