

Correspondence.

BOWMANVILLE.

The work of the Master in this town is progressing favorably. Through many trials, under the efficient leadership of their former preacher, whose untimely death filled all interested in the cause with deepest sorrow, the brethren have obtained an enviable standing among the denominations of the town. While we are not numerically strong, yet in social status and influence all concede that we are among the leaders, if not actually in the lead. The brethren, realizing that their present house of worship was inadequate to meet the demands of the growing membership, have undertaken, and now almost completed, a new edifice, which is the neatest and most unique structure of the kind I have seen. It is a perfect novelty, built of brick, to be seated with upholstered chairs, lighted with electricity, and fitted up with all modern improvements. The seating capacity of the auditorium is three hundred, though for the present but two hundred and fifty seats are being put in. A fine baptistry, dressing room, preacher's study, leaded glass windows, all add to its beauty and utility. The date of dedication is set for the middle of February. Some of our American financing preachers are to be with us, and we are looking forward to the event with a great deal of interest, as it will be a red letter day in the history of this congregation. Toward this good work the brethren have contributed liberally, very few outside of our immediate membership helping in any way. One good feature about our church life here is, that when you want a dollar for a good work, it is not necessary to take a pair of forceps along. Eye-teeth and dollars are in no way related to each other. When a congregation is permeated by a true spirit of liberality, when it is as ready to perform as to promise, when the principles believed are as dear to the heart as a dollar to the hand, from out of its vocabulary must be expunged all such words as fail.

Besides the Disciples Bowmanville supports Congregationalists, Presbyterians and Methodists. The latter in numbers are by far the strongest. They devoted the first and second Lord's Days of this month to the dedication of their new church. As is customary on such occasions, large crowds attended, and, as is always customary when tea-meetings are given for the purpose of raising funds to liquidate the church debt, great disorder prevailed. I, among others, charitably disposed, attended, but so great was the pressure of the hungry crowd that at one time I thought, if not soon liberated, I shall be crushed as flat as a postage stamp. But fortunately I escaped uninjured, which is more can be than said of the new church. I merely pen this as a warning, so that we may not follow the indiscretions of others. If our religious neighbors are content to make mistakes let us profit by them. I would much rather be guided right by their wrongs than for them to be guided right by our wrongs. We don't want to make mistakes, and if we do, depend upon it they could not be avoided. Others have the same right to profit by our failures as we have by theirs, and I promise, for one and all that, if the denominations will continue to make mistakes without lowering their past record, we will do our level best to profit by them.

The attitude of the different religious bodies in town toward us is worthy of special mention. We are on good terms with all, and will endeavor to maintain these good relations, though we shall not fail to point out the mistakes of the Methodists, the fallacies of the Congregationalists, and the inconsistencies of the Presbyterians. A great many good people are found in all these denominations; against them I have not the slightest shade of ill-

feeling; but against their absurd theories and speculations I must file my complaints. Or, in the words of another, I do not hate a man because he has the rheumatism; I hate the rheumatism because it has the man; and this ought to be the attitude of every Disciple toward every creed and every name but that of Christian.

At a social recently given by our young people the preachers of the above mentioned bodies were present, and gave us good words, complimenting us highly on the sociability by which we are characterized, and wished us success in every good work. While this in itself may be a small matter, yet, to my mind, it is indicative of a great deal. Let some of our older brethren go back to the time when first our plea was heralded throughout the land and call up the denunciations that fell upon their eyes by the orthodox preachers of the day. How many of these preachers would even cross the "unholy threshold of a Campbellite meeting house?" How many would wish us God-speed? Call all this to mind, contrast it with the present, be thankful for the grand triumphs of the gospel over the teachings of men, for the wonderful progress of our plea. So thoroughly have the principles advocated by us leavened every creed, system and phase of religious thought that the question with the world is not, shall we accept a creed or the Bible, but shall we accept the Bible or not? Its teachings are better—infinitely better—than the system of any man, though he have the wisdom of a hundred Solomons. And let me say that what is true of the denominations towards us in this place is true in almost every other place. Of course, there are a few high-colored walking tailor shops who still refuse to recognize us as a people, but they belong to the past rather than the present. Soon the funeral sermon of the last one of these thimble-headed gentlemen shall be preached, and if on that occasion we have any tears to shed, let them be tears of joy. But enough for this time. E. B. BARNES.

P. E. ISLAND NOTES.

My correspondence for the CHRISTIAN will, for the future, appear under the above heading. I am comfortably settled in Summerside with my family, and will do all in my power to advance the interests and promote the harmony of the Church of Christ on P. E. Island. My getting here has been attended with considerable loss to myself. My library and some of my household effects were shipped on board a schooner, and she, unfortunately, was wrecked, and I lost all. For years I had been collecting a library, and now to lose it all at one blow seems very hard indeed.

Last Thursday evening (11th) quite a number of the brethren and sisters took us by storm in a snow storm; but they came, bearing gifts and good things in abundance. Elder Richard Murray in a neat little speech told us that they came to welcome the new minister and his wife to Summerside, and they wished to express their welcome in a substantial way. Various other speeches were made, and a very enjoyable evening spent. When they went we found that a great many things that we were in need of had been left, and we felt very thankful, indeed, that we had fallen among such good friends; and we would be very happy and contented but for our heavy loss. The brethren have done a great deal toward help make up our loss in household effects; but I have no books, and just how I am going to replace two hundred dollars worth of books is a question. Some of the books lost were only purchased three months ago. Still, I am not discouraged. I shall do the best I can, and trust God for the rest.

Our work here is very encouraging. Large and attentive audiences greet us, when the weather is at all favorable, and we are planning on a special meeting after the New Year. I am just closing

my second year as a preacher of the gospel. Nearly fifty have been added to the church under my preaching during the past year. I hope, with the help of God, to double the number during the coming year. I ask for the prayers of all who read this, that I may be instrumental in God's hands of awakening Christians, and saving sinners.

I spent one Lord's Day in Tryon lately and baptized one young man. I also spent a Lord's Day with the church at Tignish, but it was so stormy we only had one meeting, which was held at the house of Bro. Ben. Haywood.

I shall not close this note without mentioning the kindness of the brethren at Tignish; but I shall not say much, as I have been informed there is more to follow, and I will put it all together.

Happy New Year to all. W. H. HARDING.

HOME MISSION NOTES.

Tiverton again shows up with a good sum. Bro. Stevens says: "The church in Cornwallis is in earnest in this work, and hope to see a great deal of good done." Halifax does better this month than ever. Bro. A. LeCain has added his name to their pledge list. The Secretary has written to all churches (that he knows of) offering Bro. Applegate's services, and nearly all that have answered want Bro. A. to hold them a meeting." Bro. A. will start at Westport at once, and will work his way through Nova Scotia. Brother Archibald has kindly remembered the fund.

Ezekiel 3 ch. 19 v.: Yet if thou warn the wicked and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his evil way, he shall die in his iniquity, but thou hast delivered thy soul. Brethren, what are we doing to warn the wicked? Are we satisfied to work only in our own community? Have we such confidence in the plea for Union that we want to sound it through the Provinces? You have now the privilege to help spread the truth. The evangelist is here and has entered on his work. If you aid in this work you "deliver your soul," for you have done what you could to warn the wicked from his wicked way.

W. H. Applegate, of Pennsylvania, our evangelist, arrived in St. John New Year's eve. He made a short, earnest address at the New Year's morning prayer meeting, in which he dwelt on the words, "Go forward," and urged that we go forward in our work of building up the churches and turning sinners to the Lord; also that our lives should be ever forward "to the mark of the prize of our high calling." Brethren, let us give him our support in his efforts to preach the word. Assist him in every way to make the work a success. Pray and work for the spread of the truth; and the Lord will be honored and praised in our hearts and lives.

RECEIPTS FOR DECEMBER FOR THE N. B. AND N. S. MISSION.

Previously acknowledged.....	\$90 83
Received in November—Westport:	
E. C. Bowers.....	50
A Sister—Per Carrie Payson.....	50
December—St. John:	
Coburg street Y. P. M. Band.....	1 45
Bal. A. M. Col. Milton—Per R. Jackson ..	25
Cornwallis—Names in last month's issue:	
Per R. Stevens.....	9 75
Halifax:	
Per Miss E. Wallace.....	5 00
Tiverton:	
Per Miss B. Outhouse.....	3 00
Milton:	
Per Miss M. Freeman.....	5 60
Woonsocket, R. I.:	
G. W. Archibald.....	4 50
Vancouver, Me.:	
G. M. B. Sprague.....	1 00