

What About Home Missions?

Nothing was written on this subject after the October meeting of the Board, and at yesterday's meeting the Cor. Sec'y. came in for a little kindly Christian reproof in consequence, and he does not wish again to take even a mild dose of that medicine, and hence hastens to his duty.

This letter will be a little longer than is our purpose to make these epistles, and it will not be at all easy flowing or rhetorically smooth, but please read it to the end, and then think it over carefully.

The situation is serious enough to call for our very best efforts to improve matters. The members of the Board feel that they are in a measure (and it may be in a very much larger measure than they realize) responsible for the general lack of interest in this work, in that they have not in the past taken the churches more fully into their confidence, and given full information in regard to the needs of the work, and more earnestly urged its vital importance upon the attention of our people. They hope that this humble acknowledgment of past neglect, with promise of greater faithfulness in this respect in future, will secure full forgiveness of the people, and hearty response to this their tardy appeal. My instructions are to give the facts, to keep nothing back. I cannot tell the whole story in this letter, but I will give enough to furnish the whole denomination with food for thought until the next monthly installment appears.

First, then, let me give you a list of the pastorless Home Mission churches. Shelburne, Barrington, (after Dec. 31st), Argyll, Tusket, Kemp, Granville Mountain, Hammond's Plains, Moser's River, St. Margaret's Bay, Linden, New Harbor, Half Island Cove, Port Hawkesbury, Gabarus. On P. E. I., Montague and Tyne Valley. Each of the churches here named represents a pastorless group.

This means that we now need sixteen pastors, with not more than two or three in sight. There are several of our own men across the line that the Board could have induced to return, had they been in a position to offer a salary sufficient to meet necessary expenses.

But now come with us and view our treasury and then say whether or not the situation is serious.

Our report to Convention showed a balance in hand of	\$1,250.51
Since then we have received	210.60
Total	\$1,461.11
We have paid to Mission churches since Convention	\$1,353.37
Other necessary expenses	35.37
Total	\$1,388.74
Leaving a balance at this date	\$72.37

FEEDS ONE—STARVES

OTHER

Feeds the body—starves the microbes! That is what Scott's Emulsion does in consumption.

We can't expect to understand all about these germs and microbes—the doctors talk of. They say that one kind causes consumption. Consumption microbes feed on weak lungs. Perhaps that's so.

At any rate we know that Scott's Emulsion has a peculiar action on the lungs which gives the lungs new life and vigor. Healthy lungs starve the microbes out.

Life for the lungs and flesh for the body, that is what the consumptive has a right to expect from Scott's Emulsion. An ideal food and tonic for any form of wasting disease.

Between this and the meeting of the Board on Dec. 8th, we will need to receive at least \$300.00 or we will not be in a position to meet our obligations at that date. We have already received the first quarterly installment from Rev. A. Cohoon, Treas. of Denominational Funds for Nova Scotia. P. E. I. has not been in the habit of sending as much in the first half of the year. Hence, unless the W. B. M. U. comes to the rescue at an early date the Board will be confronted with an awkward situation.

It was a matter of profound thankfulness to the Board to learn that the sisters have decided to give one thousand dollars to the work this year. We think that did they fully realize the needs of the work they would give even more. The Home Mission Board is, we think, receiving a much smaller proportion of the gifts of the people, than its needs and importance call for. Is the Board making the most of the money entrusted to them? Or are they dispensing it with too liberal hand? Take one or two examples. A by-law of the Board requires that each church applying for aid shall state the amount of salary they propose to pay. Here is an illustration taken from an application that was before the Board at the October meeting: "We propose to pay a salary of four hundred dollars, but are able to raise only three hundred and fifteen and ask aid to the amount of eighty-five dollars." The pastor on this field is now in the fifth year of service there. He is a graduate of our college, a man of much more than average preaching ability, and among our most efficient pastors. He is freely admitted to be a man whose gifts and devotion would make him acceptable to any of our strong churches, and he could now be occupying a position that would give him a much larger remuneration, but feels that his work is on his present field, and he will not leave it.

The Board would gladly make his salary six hundred were it in their power to do so, and the denomination should not allow such a man to serve it for less than that.

Here is another typical case taken from an application that was before the Board yesterday. "We propose to pay a salary of three hundred and sixty dollars but are able to raise only two hundred and ten on the field, and ask for aid to the amount of a hundred and fifty dollars." The pastor on this field has been there I think about seven years; is one of our most devoted and efficient pastors; is greatly beloved by the people he has so long and faithfully served. It is touching to read the communications that sometimes come from the little interests that this dear brother serves, fearing that owing to their inability to supply him and his family with the necessities of life he may be compelled to relinquish his post.

It is a constant marvel to the Board how these dear, true men, can keep up a team and provide their families with barest necessities of life on such salaries.

Nothing but loyalty to their Master and love for their people, could hold these men at their posts amid the constant privations and hardships that are inevitable in these circumstances.

The appeal is to the denomination to say whether or not it will make it possible for the Board to save these pastorless churches by supplying them with pastors, and whether those who are now toiling on our Home Mission fields, shall be compelled to retire from them for want of support.

Now I am conscious of having failed to put the case as strongly as it ought to be put, but I think it will be clear to all, that we must have a larger income or else lose the ground we have already taken, to say nothing of enlargement or aggressive movements.

What is to be done? It remains not with the H. M. Board, but with the people who have the money to say what shall or shall not be done.

Cor. Sec'y. H. M. B.,
for N. S. and P. E. I.

Personal.

We were pleased to have a call on Monday from Rev. E. A. McPhee. Mr. McPhee has just closed his labors with the Argyll church, Yarmouth county, N. S., and is now open to an engagement on some other field of labor. Here is an opportunity for some one of our vacant churches to secure a pastor of ability and experience.

A note received—just too late for this issue—from Rev. C. P. Wilson, pastor at Cavendish, P. E. I., reports a gracious revival of religion in progress in connection with that church. We are pleased to learn from other sources that Mr. Wilson is highly esteemed for his work's sake, both by his people and his brother ministers on the island, and that his valuable leadership in connection with the building of the new church recently dedicated is especially recognized.

Mr. Peter W. Gordon, who has been for some time connected with the staff of the St. John Star, has removed to Winnipeg

An Important Question.

Health depends very largely upon the regularity of the bowels. There is probably no trouble more general than Constipation—more productive of wretchedness and discomfort. This disease, which is generally regarded at first as a slight matter, in the end poisons the whole system. The complexion grows dingy, the eyes dull, and the circulation sluggish. Perhaps there is a pain in the back, the nerves may be weak, and the appetite poor. As the trouble progresses, the victim will suffer in mind as well as body. The liver, which should be secreting Nature's great purgative, the bile, is inactive and the blood, clogged with impurities, grows poorer and poorer. Not only is this state uncomfortable and dangerous, but it leads one on an easy victim to other diseases. With your system in this weakened condition you cannot ward off their attacks. Let us put this question to you:

Are You Constipated?

Perhaps made wretched by this depressing derangement you have already resorted to some of the many widely advertised purgatives, little realizing how useless and dangerous they are. These so-called remedies, although they may deceive the sufferer for a brief period, never cure. After taking them one finds himself in a worse state than before. Have you not noticed the feeling of weakness that follows their use? They only drain your system and still further break it down. Beware of these delusive impostures and seek aid where there is safety.

You Can be Cured.

But the only way in which this can be done is by putting the liver again in order. Write to Dr. Sproule, B. A., the famous English specialist, for consultation and advice, which he will give you free. He has cured thousands of cases and his greatest pleasure is to do all that he can to relieve his suffering fellow-men. Some of his most remarkable successes have been effected with those, who after trying many other sources without obtaining relief, have regained health and strength through the skilful and sympathetic aid of Dr. Sproule. In sincerity and good fellowship he offers you his advice free. The best proofs of what he has done are the grateful letters of his cured patients, who feel they cannot thank him sufficiently for all his compassion and aid.

Address DR. SPROULE, B. A., English Catarrh Specialist, (Graduate, Dublin University, Ireland, Formerly Surgeon British Royal Navy,) 7 to 13 Doane Street, Boston.

to accept a position in connection with the Tribune of that city. While Mr. Gordon's many friends in St. John congratulate him on securing a more advantageous position and their best wishes follow him, they are sincerely sorry for his departure from the community where, as a boy and man, he has been so long and so favorably known. Mr. Gordon is a son of Rev. J. A. Gordon of Montreal, and a graduate of Acadia College. While a modest man, he is a man of recognized ability who has already begun to make his mark as a rising journalist, and from whom in the wide and growing field of the West, we shall confidently expect to hear good things. Mr. Gordon's friends of the press in St. John showed their hearty appreciation of him by the presentation of an address and a well-filled purse on the eve of his departure.

Notices.

The Albert Co. Quarterly Meeting will hold a joint session with the Westmorland Co. Quarterly at Hopewell Hill, Dec. 9th and 10th. In addition to the usual devotional and business features of the Quarterly, the programme provides for an address on Tuesday, p. m. by Rev. N. A. McNeill, subject, The Obligation of the Church to give the Gospel to the World; a sermon in the evening by Rev. M. E. Fletcher and an address by Dr. Manning. On Wednesday morning an address by Rev. D. Hutchinson—subject, "Women in Missions," followed by a Missionary Conference; on Wednesday afternoon the Sunday School Convention.

F. D. DAVIDSON, Sec'y.

The Baptist Quarterly of Queens Co., N. S., will meet with the Port Medway church on November 25th and 26th. First meeting Tuesday, 7 p. m. We hope for a good delegation from each church.

H. B. SLOAT, Sec'y-Treas.

The 23rd will be Temperance Sunday, a day when all who study the International Sunday School lessons are requested to study together the evil effects of strong drink upon a nation. Ministers are also invited to preach temperance sermons. May a determined effort be made to advance the cause of temperance by instilling its principles into the hearts of the youth in our Sunday Schools. There can be no better time to organize the temperance department by forming the "White Ribbon Army," any information concerning which can be obtained by applying to

Mrs. LAURA J. POTTER,
Prov. Supt. of Temperance in S. Schools.
Canning, Nova Scotia.

"All communications intended for the Home Mission Board of N. S. and P. E. I. should be addressed, Pastor E. J. Grant, Arcadia, Yarmouth, N. S."

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY FUND \$50.000.

Will subscribers please send all money from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island to Rev. J. W. Manning, St. John, N. B.

All in Nova Scotia to Rev. H. R. Hatch, Wolfville, N. S.

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Digby Baptist District Meeting.

The Digby Baptist District Meeting convened at Barton, Nov. 10-11. On Monday evening Rev. E. L. Dakin, of Annapolis, whose home is at Centreville, in this county, preached on Ps. 27: 4. Tuesday morning was occupied with reports from the churches. Barton is enjoying a gracious revival, the pastor being assisted by Evangelist C. W. Walden. The pastor reported about twenty five conversions, seven already baptized. Nineteen baptisms were reported in all. Rev. H. F. Adams was present. He reported that Digby Co. had already pledged \$300.00 in excess of her allotment for the Twentieth Century Fund. Des H. S. Hall reported upon S. S. work; Rev. J. T. Eaton, upon B. Y. P. U. work; and I. W. Porter upon the State of the Denomination; each report followed by a brief discussion. At 4 p. m. Rev. H. F. Adams preached an excellent sermon upon "The Great Commission," and in the evening, I. W. Porter preached upon "The Local Church." Each evening an after-meeting was conducted by the evangelist with gracious indications. Offering \$5.35. The next regular session will be at Sandy Cove in May, 1903.

I. W. PORTER, Sec'y.

LITERARY NOTE.

The Nineteenth Century and After. Edited by James Knowles. Contents for November, 1902. I. Mammoth Trusts and Municipal Trading, by Lionel Phillips. II. The Native Labor Question in South Africa, by Sir Harry H. Johnston. G. C. M. G., K. C. B. III. Industrial Troubles in America, by Benjamin Taylor. IV. The War Office and Remounts, by the Right Hon. Lord Dunsan. V. Owls, by R. Bosworth Smith. VI. People's Theatres in Russia, by R. E. C. Long. VII. The Man of the Past, by R. Kay Robinson. VIII. Ways and Means, East and West, by J. D. Rees, C. I. E. IX. Some Notes on the Gnostics, by G. R. S. Mead. X. Registration Reform, by the Hon. Ivor C. Guest, M. P. XI. The Criminal Sentences Commission Up to Date, by Montague Crackanthorpe, K. C. XII. The Story of "The Fourth Party,"—I, by Harold E. Gorst. XIII. Last Month, by Sir Wemyss Reid.

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