

## LETTER FROM HALIFAX.

Dear Brethren,—It is the duty of all who sincerely love the cause of the Master to be always ready to do what they can to aid in the great work of up-building and extending the work in all its acceptable forms. This we can do in many ways. The cause of Christ, more so than any other we know of, requires co-operation, unity, and brotherly affection. Much good has been done, and more can be done, by a word of encouragement dropped in the proper place. We have no conception of the great good we may be the means of doing, by an encouraging word in season. Above all things we should avoid everything that would tend to discourage a brother or retard the progress of the cause of our blessed Redeemer.

In keeping with the foregoing, we take this opportunity of dropping a word of encouragement and recommendation in favor of our Bro. William Harding, whose heart's desire is to enter the vineyard of the Lord, to labor for the advancement of the noblest cause in which a man can be engaged. For some time past, our beloved and much esteemed brother has intimated his desire to enter into the work; and being confident that these desires originate from a heart, honest and upright in its inclinations, we feel it our duty to put it before the minds of our brethren throughout the provinces—desiring that should they meet our Bro. Harding they will encourage him according as they think best.

Our brother thinks of starting out in the coming month of June. And our desire is that he may prosper in this good work. When he goes out from us here, he will go followed by our prayers and best wishes. Bro. Harding, in starting out, will have his way hedged about with many difficulties; but he is going, trusting strongly in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. His means are very limited, and when our brethren have heard and given him a trial, they will be at liberty to do for him what they think him to be worthy of. Bro. Harding has been an honest, upright and consistent member of the church at Halifax. He, with a few others of the body, has stood firm to the cause, when the forbodings of distress and discouragements hung thick and dark around the little band of Disciples in this city, but with untiring effort Bro. H. was always at hand to do a willing part, and to share the bearing of the burden in the heat of the day. With unwavering faith he was always at his post. We wish him Godspeed when he shall go out from us.

On behalf of the church at Halifax,  
H. E. COOKE.

## MONTAGUE ITEMS.

The winter is past. The ice and snow are rapidly melting beneath the increasing heat of the sun, and we are nearing the time when this beautiful island will again be clothed in "living green."

The church building of the Disciples of Christ is receiving some attention. Some things "which were wanting are being supplied," and the walls, ceiling and woodwork being beautifully painted by the "Ross Brothers," of Vernon River, who appear to understand their business thoroughly.

The time of the annual meeting, which is to be held with the church here, is approaching, and we hope our preaching brethren and other members of churches and friends of the cause of Christ on P. E. Island, and in Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, will, as far as possible, make it a duty as well as privilege to attend, and help make our meeting a success.

Do not wait for special invitations. The church at Montague will be glad to welcome you, and endeavor to make your visit enjoyable, as we hope it will be profitable to all.

The homes of some of our friends have been visited by death.

On the 19th February, at Brudenoll, Mr. Jas. N. and Sister Florrie Stewart, were very suddenly bereaved of their infant daughter, Mary Elizabeth, aged 4 months; and

April 21st, Bro. Geo. A. and Sister Catherine Stewart of Brudenell, also lost their infant daughter, Amy, aged 3 months and 6 days. Little Amy's sufferings were lifelong, and in the midst of sorrow there is consolation in knowing that now she has blissful rest with Him who said: "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto Me." These little ones are beyond the reach of trouble.

Sadly we record also at Brudenell, April 4th, the death of the youngest son of Mr. Hector Johnston, at the age of 17 years and 5 months. George was the beloved of the large family, father, mother, four brothers and four sisters. His illness was long and severe, but no impatience was ever manifested, nor did an impure word ever pass from his lips in the wild raving of delirium. He never made a public profession of faith in Christ; but he loved the church and Sunday-school, and his strongest wish to recover arose from the desire to be publicly associated with the people of God. That association may not now be here. The door is forever shut against that! but, are we without hope? Our young friend lived the last of his days trusting wholly in Him who came to "save that which was lost," and he died trusting in "the sinner's friend."

"Time is winging us away  
To our eternal home."

What will that home be? Where will it be?  
Who will our companions be there?

Certain it is that we are passing rapidly along the channel of time, as a part of the great stream of humanity. In the great onward rush, we will soon reach the point where we will pass from mortal view.

Does this thought add to our peace of mind? Does it fill us with more contentment? Is all well with us? Do we, in truth, claim Jesus as our friend, God as our Father? and can we claim a mansion among the blest when earthly habitations fail?  
O. B. EMERY.

April 24th, 1888.

## News of the Churches.

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

## ST. JOHN ITEMS.

The Little Workers Society held their annual sale of useful articles at the residence of Mrs. Capt. Pheasant. The proceeds netted about forty dollars, which will be given to the Board of Home Missions.

Bro. Capp intends visiting Nauwigewank and adjacent parts next week to preach one or two evenings.

Our last Quarterly report of the Sunday-school was favorable. We have a good school which we hope will be of great benefit to the church.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

## SHUBENACADIE.

It was my privilege to meet with the church in this locality, Lord's day, March 25th. This was my first visit. In the morning I preached at North Salem, occupying the Presbyterian Church. I was pleased with the courtesy and kindness manifested. Too often religious bigotry and prejudice produce unpleasantness that mars the happiness of those that are earnestly contending for the faith which was once delivered to the saints.

In the afternoon I preached at Mill Village. Here the congregation is engaged building a church, which reflects great credit upon their good taste and enterprise. They expect to have it completed in the month of May or June, when I have promised to return and spend a few weeks with them. I was

delighted with my visit here. I found Bro. Coxby in good health and spirits, full of life, energy and zeal. The brethren Wallaces, too, known so well abroad, are active, and energetic, and hopeful, looking forward for brighter days. The brethren Nelsons are also among those whom I esteem and love for their work's sake. 'Tis, indeed, a pleasure to spend a short time with them.

But sigh that e'er my lot did fall  
To part with friends so kind and true.

Bro. Weston Nelson and family were members of the Christian Church in Boston, Mass., but moved to Shubenacadie a few months ago. They were active workers and very much esteemed in Boston, and the church in Shubenacadie will be enriched by their coming among them. Bro. Samuel Nelson has frequently attended church at Scotch Village, and his heart is in every good work.

My stay with the church here was necessarily very limited, and after delivering two sermons and two lectures, and visiting from house to house, exhorting, reading and joining in prayer wherever I went, I accordingly took my departure for Scotch Village. The roads were very bad, and I am under lasting obligations to the brethren who conveyed me a distance of some forty miles, and made everything so very pleasant for me. But so much preaching, lecturing, visiting, exhorting, reading, writing and travelling, brought on an attack of inflammation of the lungs, from which I have not yet fully recovered.

## SCOTCH VILLAGE.

Our hearts were made to rejoice to witness the obedience of one in youth's gay morning as he came forward and confessed the Saviour. A very promising youth among the fruits of our labors in Highfield. He was baptized in the Herbert River in Woodville.

Death has of late entered the church here. Sister Lydia White, at the advanced age of 93 years, passed quietly away to the better land, Lord's day, March 25th. She was as a shock of corn ready to be gathered home. Dear old lady! Peace to her memory!

The families also of Bro. John Anthony and Bro. John Grono are afflicted. We cannot pierce the covered up tablets of the future, but we pray God to deal gently with them, and grant that health may be again restored. Sister Selina Grono came home from Massachusetts two months ago on a visit, and for the last six weeks has been stricken down with hemorrhage of the lungs. We ask the prayers of God's people for those afflicted ones, especially as we are told that "the prayers of the righteous availeth much."

A letter from Bro. George Stevens, formerly of this place, now of Pasadena, Los Angeles, Cal., brings the cheering news that the church there, over which Bro. T. W. Pattie presides, is getting along finely. Their house of worship was dedicated a short time ago. Bro. Stevens' health is not very good, and he purposes returning to Nova Scotia in June. It rejoiced my heart the other day to get a letter from Bro. Stevens, and to learn that he was getting on so well in the Christian life.

W. K. BURN.

## Brooklyn.

## WESTPORT.

The past month has been quite interesting in this nice little island town of Westport. Our meetings have been quite well attended and interesting during the month. On the 13th we had a Sunday-school concert, which was about the most successful affair of the kind we ever attended. Our meeting-house was packed with an attentive audience while a long programme was carried out, consisting of singing, recitations, and a beautiful allegory, styled, "Rescue the Perishing." Bro. Edward Payson opened by prayer, Sister Edith Peters acted as organist, and Rev. Mr. Saunders (Baptist), closed with prayer and benediction.