

Correspondence.

DEER ISLAND LETTER.

During the summer I have been preaching here while my family were in Nova Scotia. This was not very satisfactory; so the church at Lord's Cove has bought a house for a parsonage, and I have been to Nova Scotia and moved my family from West Gore to Deer Island, and things are beginning to assume a very home-like appearance.

We experienced many kindnesses from the Hants County brethren while packing up and moving. Nearly seven years of my ten years in the ministry have been spent in Hants County, and during that time friendships have been formed that will continue in eternity.

We have also received many kindnesses from the brethren here while getting unpacked and settled down. Our prayer to God now is that we may be able to work together for the furtherance of the gospel; that Christians may be strengthened and sinners saved.

A number of enquiries come to me about this island from persons not acquainted with it. Deer Island is about seven miles long and about three wide, with a population of about sixteen hundred. We have two churches, one at Lord's Cove and another at Leonardville. These are about three and one-half miles apart, and have a total membership of about four hundred. There are several Free Baptist churches and two Methodist churches on the island.

The people, as a rule, are comfortably off, hospitable and social. In few places, either in city or country, will one meet a better dressed audience than at Lord's Cove. This holds good all over the Island. I mention Lord's Cove because it is the largest church.

I forgot to tell you in my last letter that Bro. Wm. Allan, of Lubec, preached on the island several times while at home on vacation. He is at present finishing his course of study in Lexington, Ky. All who heard him, speak highly of his efforts. We bespeak a bright future for him.

Correspondents will please address me at Lord's Cove, Deer Island, N. B.

W. H. HARDING.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

We left Summerside, P. E. I., September 27th, with the intention of returning to the Island, but in learning that the illness of my better half prevented her from accompanying me back, then we were compelled to give up all hope of any further labor there this winter.

We were pleased with the encouraging prospect of success in Summerside. The longer we remained there the better pleased we were with the people and the more anxious we were to unite our labors with them in the work of the church. Every indication was favorable for an advance movement. We

visited the brethren in Tignish and Tryon, and although few, yet true to the cause, and very anxious and ready to do whatever seemed possible for the advancement of the church of Christ. We sincerely hope that a suitable man may be found to carry on the work in those localities. We enjoyed our labors while there and with the other churches we visited, and herein insert our modest testimony of regard for the brethren of P. E. Island with an earnest prayer for their success.

We had the privilege of remaining one night in Halifax at the very pleasant home of Bro. and Sister Harris Wallace. Bro. Ford is very hopeful of the success of the cause in that city. His hope and faith and devotion to the cause of Christ, with the history of his former labors, are sufficient to assure the success of the church in Halifax, and to secure the utmost confidence that all that may be donated to the cause in that city will be justly and wisely appropriated to the benefit of the church.

We came to West Gore, Hants County, September 30th. Made our home at the kind hospitable home of Bro. Josiah Wallace. This has long been the home of the preachers, the kindness and benefits of which are unstinted, and as free as the air we breathe. But the absence of one from that home, whom we so highly respected, leaves a sadness that time will never efface.

We remained over three Lord's days, preaching each Lord's day and a few evenings of two weeks. The busy times at the new railroad and the unfortunate condition of the weather with the dark nights made it quite impossible to hold a series of meetings. Two young men made the "good confession" and were buried with Christ in baptism, and are now happy in the service of Christ. Bro. Wallace is preaching for this church, and also for the church in East Rawdon and in Nine Mile River. His health is good and he is enjoying his work with these churches. The few weeks' association with the people here has very forcibly impressed us with what should be expected from a minister of the gospel. As Drummond says, "It is the man who is the preacher, not his words; his character is his message." It was Emerson who once said, "What you are speaks so loud, I can't hear what you say." While the cause here has received a set-back to its progress, and we emphasize this fact with tears, yet we believe good times will come again. We have as good and true brethren here as can be found, who are determined to see the cause advance in this part of the county.

With a field ripe for the harvest, and Bro. Hiram Wallace, whose wisdom and judgment and consecration to the service of Christ is beyond reproach, for their preacher, and whole-hearted brethren to stand by him, we may be assured that they will wisely shape and guide the cause into prosperity. Our hearty thanks are due to these brethren for the substantial benefit we received from them and the pleasant time we had with them.

We are now with our Bro. Wm. Murray at Bro. and Sister Martin Stevens, of Newport. This is another home of friendship and true fellowship, when one feels somewhat like the three disciples on the mount, who wanted to pitch their tents and remain there.

Bro. William has been here in Newport about three months, and the brethren would like to have him remain longer, but he feels that it is his duty to go further and fare worse.

We leave here for Cornwallis, where we hope to encourage the brethren in their efforts to build up the cause of God.

H. MURRAY.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

Leaving Pictou, September 29th, with some regrets at our leaving friends who had greatly endeared themselves to us as fellow workers in a common cause, and because of laying down a work only fairly begun, we turned our steps toward Halifax. Here we spent a week very pleasantly, preaching twice on Lord's day and visiting friends and many places of interest during the week.

The church here has suffered much during the past few years through the abuse of misplaced confidence, and is now just recovering from the most cruel thrust of all. The most hopeful feature now, however, seems to be that there are no dissensions among them. They appear to be perfectly united, standing as one man and facing the future hopefully.

Leaving my better half here for a while, in company with my other travelling companion (my wheel) I went by rail to Elmsdale and wheeled myself down to West Gore. On my way down I fell in with Bro. Harding, who was moving his family and effects to Lord's Cove. Bro. H. gave me the impression that religion, and especially the advocacy of it, was fast becoming a lost art in Hants Co. But my after experience in the county quite changed my impressions and led me to attribute Bro. Harding's forebodings to the effects of parting from people with whom he had labored so faithfully and whom he had learned to esteem so highly. I found some of the people loud in his praise.

Bro. H. Murray was in the midst of a protracted effort with Bro. Wallace at West Gore. The weather was against them, but there seemed to be a growing interest, and on Sunday evening two promising young men confessed the Saviour. On Lord's day afternoon Bro. Murray drove to East Rawdon and preached to a good audience, while Bro. Wallace and the writer drove over to Riverside and spoke and sang the "sweet story of old" to a schoolhouse full, composed principally of men engaged in the construction of the new railroad. Bro. Wallace seems to be gaining a hearing among, and a place in the hearts of, this class, and to be greatly beloved by these brethren among whom he has spent some of his best days of service.