

B. Y. P. U.

Notes by Rev. H. F. Waring.

Prayer Meeting Topic for the week beginning April 4.—"Comfort from the Story of the Resurrection," John 20:1-16.

Let those seeking comfort from the story carefully read and re-read the story itself. It is however the fact of the resurrection that is the great source of comfort.

I. The fact. Read Acts 1:22 (cf. Gal. 1:1 and 1 Cor. 9:1) 2:24, 31, 32, 36, 3:15, 20, 21, 4:2, 10, 33, 5:30, 9:5, 27, 10:40, 13:37, 17:2, 3, 18, 23:6, 25:19, 26:16, 23, and you will see why Strauss said: "Without the faith of the apostles in the resurrection of Jesus the church would never have been born." He tried in vain to explain the faith apart from the fact.

Read also the reference to the resurrection in the epistles especially 1 Cor. 15:4-9. With this passage in mind Weizsacker though not believing in a bodily Christophany, writes: "It is a historical fact that the men of whom Paul tells us, and among whom he himself is included, were convinced that they had seen the risen Christ. At the same time they were certain that the conviction had taken possession of them, that it had not originated with themselves." Suggestive also are the words of Ian MacLaren: "The certainty of Jesus' Resurrection does not rest in the last issue on His isolated appearance during the forty days; it rests on His life for thirty-three years. His life was beyond the reach of death; it was Ageless Life." This it is which gives meaning to the greeting of Easter morning: "The Lord is risen" and to the response: "He is risen indeed."

II. Comfort from this fact. Read 1 Cor. 15:12-28, Acts 26:23, John 11:25-26.

At Hastings the reappearance of William reanimated the soldiers discouraged by the report of his death. The resurrection of Jesus reanimated the disciples depressed by His death. The desponding Christian to-day may be comforted by the thoughts of Christ, not simply as an inspiring example, but as a living, indwelling power.

The comforting doctrines of Christianity centre in the doctrine of the resurrection of Jesus. It is the hub of the wheel of Christian truth that comes rolling down the ages. Because of the roughness of the way some of the spokes may be rattling in the rim, but as long as the hub is sound we may live in hopes that in time the noise will be stopped. The only sufficient reason for the belief in our resurrection to a higher, happier life, is the resurrection of Jesus. The changes from chrysalis to butterfly, from winter to spring, from acorn to oak, from seed to crop are but beautiful analogies. Christ is the first-fruits of them that are asleep. Because He lives we shall live also. (Gal. 2:20.)

"One evening you find among the reeds of your lake an unknown bird whose broad breast and powerful pinions are not meant for this inland scene. It is resting midway between two oceans, and by to-morrow will have gone. Does not that bird prove the ocean it left, does it not prove the ocean whither it has flown? Jesus, knowing that He was come from God and went to God" is the Revelation and Confirmation of Ageless Life."

Dorchester, N. B.

On Wednesday evening March 24th, Pastor C. C. Burgess organized a B. Y. P. U., having present to assist him Mr. A. E. Wall, President of the M. B. Y. P. U. Rev. N. G. Estabrook, Secretary of the M. B. Y. P. U., and Mr. Weldon of Moncton.

Although a very disagreeable evening, there was a fairly good audience, and we feel sure that many others unable to be

present are interested. Every one seemed willing to do what they could to promote this new interest, and judging from this meeting there is a bright prospect before it. The speakers showed plainly the relation of a Union to the church, and made every one feel sure it would be a great benefit to the pastor as well as to the people. The officers appointed were as follows: President, Mr. Edgar Weldon; Vice-pres., Mrs. H. R. Emmerson; Rec. sec'y., Mr. Albert Steeves; Treasurer, Miss Mabel Bishop; Cor. sec'y., Miss Mary E. Burgess; Chairman of various committees are as follows: Lookout Com., Miss Cora Halfkenny; Devotional, Miss Essie Weldon; Social, Mr. George Bishop; Missions, Mr. F. C. Palmer.

MARY E. BURGESS, Cor. Sec'y.

The Per Capita.

It is a necessary tax and when it reaches the treasurer of the Maritime Union it is wisely expended. The Executive committee directs payment from it for printed matter and postage used in gathering statistics, and for constitutions, and for leaflets of instruction.

The executive meets once a year in addition to the meeting at Convention. It has seemed only fair to meet their travelling expenses for one meeting. So these are a claim upon the per capita receipts from our societies.

If there is a surplus at Convention it is devoted to some worthy object by vote of delegates assembled.

This explanation should tend to remove doubt from the minds of a few Unions that have not yet joined the majority who pay this small tax each year. Our Maritime work is well in hand and deserves cordial and hearty support. Let your interest and approval take practical form. A. H. C.

Halifax.

The North Union Halifax held a social Friday evening, March 10th, which proved very interesting. "A Book Contest," names of well known poets, and books familiar to a great number of our Sabbath school library readers, were represented on the platform by a committee. Our president, Mr. George A. McDonald was chairman for the evening, and ably filled that office. We had a number of non-unioners with us, and an excellent opportunity was given for our Membership and Look Out committee to do work. Our union meetings are well kept up, and the members are trying to keep flying above everything else, "The Banner of King Jesus."

MINNIE M. HUBLEY, Cor. Sec'y.

Personal.

Bro. John Webber, clerk of the Ledge Dufferin Baptist church, desires his correspondents to observe that his address is now St. Stephen, instead of Ledge Dufferin, Charlotte County, as formerly.

Rev. J. M. Parker of River Hebert, we are sorry to learn, has suffered from repeated attacks of the grip, which has interfered a good deal with his plans for work during the winter. Mr. Parker writes, March 25th, that he had just heard that his aged mother was very ill of the prevailing influenza, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. E. O. Read, Waterville, N. S.

The death of Mrs. Manning, mother of Rev. J. W. Manning, of St. John, occurred at Bridgewater, N. S., on Thursday night or Friday morning of last week. Mr. Manning received a despatch announcing his mother's death on Friday morning, and left for Bridgewater the same morning. Mrs. Manning had recently suffered a shock of paralysis, and her death was not unexpected.

Rev. David Bleakney.

Died at the home of his daughter, Elgin, N. B., Mar. 15th, aged 77 years. Those who had the privilege of visiting him in his last sickness, could not but be impressed with his strong faith in the Redeemer's gracious work, and quiet assurance that all was well. In the death of our brother, one of the links of the past is broken. He had a varied experience in the Lord's work. He did not engage in the full work of the ministry until he was 39 years of age, but before this time he had undertaken the arduous services of Colporteur. In this work he travelled over a large part of N. B., but, especially in Kings, Queens, Westmorland and the northern counties. During



Fifty Years Ago.

President Polk in the White House chair, while in Lowell was Doctor Ayer; Both were busy for human weal. One to govern and one to heal. And, as a president's power of will Sometimes depends on a liver-pill, Mr. Polk took Ayer's Pills I trow For his liver, 50 years ago.

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50 Years of Cures.

this period of service, extending over twelve or fifteen years he embraced every opportunity to proclaim Jesus Christ as Saviour. He was ordained to the Christian ministry over the Caledonia Baptist church, Albert Co., in 1858. As far as I have been able to ascertain he had the pastoral charge of the Caledonia, 2nd and 3rd Elgin churches, also that in missionary work he covered the ground in Queens Co., that was first looked after by Father MacAfee. He also labored in connection with the Buctouche group under the direction of the H. M. Board. I think he was the Baptist pioneer in some of these sections. It was during his pastorate in one of these scattered sections that he began to study and practice medicine. Although not fully equipped for this work, he became very efficient along some lines of practice, especially in contagious diseases. His faith was of the strong Calvinistic type, having in earlier years come in contact with the Buntingites. Being acquainted with him for the last four years, I wish to add my personal idea of his character. He impressed me as a man of prayer. His strong, humble address to God, deep convictions of sinfulness and faith in an all-atonement sacrifice were inspiring. He had not developed into a crabbed, censorious old critic, but had a kind word, could express an appreciation of sermon by a boy from the college. When invited to preach he would invariably say "I would rather listen." A great lover of God's word, God's house and God's people. He ever sought contact with each. During his last years he was wont to preach fireside sermons, and during his last sickness, desired to once more be able to preach. The burial took place at Elgin, and Rev. H. G. Estabrook assisted the pastor in the services.

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