

carefully husbanding his time, he never failed to be prompt in his municipal obligations, or in the weekly issue of his journal. He is one of that class of men who prefer to drive, rather than be driven by their business. He conducted the *Witness* with a good deal of ability and discretion, making it a very useful denominational and family newspaper; and the committee having it in charge, and its friends generally, deeply regretted that he had to leave the editorial chair.

Mr. Ruel has held some offices in connection with the church, such as vestry clerk and warden of St. John's, from its organization; and has long taken a deep interest in benevolent as well as religious enterprises.

He has been twice married; the first time, in 1854, to Harriet Kinnear, daughter of John Kinnear, St. John, she dying in 1859; and the second time, in 1861, to Sophia M. Johnson, daughter of Hon. Hugh Johnson, long a member of the Legislative Council of New Brunswick, and at one time of the government. Mr. Ruel has five children living, by his second wife; and none by the first.

REV. THOMAS TODD,

WOODSTOCK, N.B.

REV. THOMAS TODD, thirty-three years a preacher of the gospel in New Brunswick, was born in the county of Londonderry, Ireland, on the 15th of November, 1824; his parents being Adam and Martha (Gill) Todd, who belonged to the yeomanry of that country. He received part of his education in Ireland, came to New Brunswick, in 1839, and finished his studies at Fredericton. His parents came to this province seven years later, and died in Queen's county. On his way out from the north of Ireland, just before reaching this part of the world, young Todd had a very narrow escape from death. Fifty miles east of Halifax, he was shipwrecked with many others, on an island of rock, and was for three days and three nights without food or drink, being finally rescued by a fishing vessel and taken to Halifax.

Our subject was converted at St. John, in 1842, being then eighteen years of age. He was reared a Presbyterian, but changed his views and became a Baptist; prepared himself for the ministry by private study; was ordained at Woodstock, in 1848, and here held his first pastorate, which continued for eleven years. He then served the denomination two years in agency work, extending over the whole province.

In 1861, Mr Todd settled as pastor of the Baptist church at Sackville, where he remained for twelve years, removing thence to Sussex. In 1874, he was taken from the pastorate to conduct the *Christian Visitor*. A year later he settled at Moncton, remaining there between four or five years, when he accepted a call to St. Stephen, his last charge. In May, 1881, he returned to Woodstock, where he is taking a respite from pastoral cares and responsibilities. Mr. Todd has been a hard worker, and few ministers are more deserving of a "vacation." During the thirty-three years that he has been in the ministry, he has baptized at least 1,250 persons, all on the profession of their faith in Christ; eight of whom are now Baptist ministers, and one is his son and only child living, Rev. Frederick Shaffner Todd, pastor at Upper Gagetown; has buried nearly 1,400 persons, and married about half as many couples. During all these years he has never been prevented from occupying the pulpit a single Sunday on account of ill-health. He has acted repeatedly as clerk and moderator of associations and other meet-