

in fact, every act of kindness has been extended that Christian courtesy could suggest.

We are now nearing the close of the year. Soon 1888 will be numbered with the years beyond the flood. As I take a retrospective view of the past I rejoice that good health has been mine to enjoy all the year round. Not a cent have I paid in doctor's bills for either myself or family for the last ten years. Furthermore, I rejoice that throughout the year, with the exception of fifteen weeks, I have added from one to six to the church each week, having in all sixty-one additions. I have also averaged four visits a day, and have endeavored to comfort the sick and the dying and dispense sunshine wherever I have gone. Nor is this all. I have written over 1,500 pages of manuscript, and am now engaged in preparing several volumes for the press. During all these labors I have learned a great many lessons of considerable importance, which, doubtless, some day will be given to the public. However, I shall always endeavor, amid life's varied scenes, to

Press on in the line of duty,
Calmly march and boldly stand,
For my home's in fadeless beauty
Just across the golden strand.

W. K. BURN.

December 17th, '88.

NOVA SCOTIA.

KEMPT.

I left here on the morning of the 3d of Dec., on my way to Westport. After driving from Kempt to Annapolis, stopping long enough at the Chilton House to dine, I took the steamer *Bertha* for Digby, arriving there at 4.30 p. m. I took the coach for Sandy Cove, arriving at the last mentioned place at 6.15 p. m. Here I was received by Bro. Harvard Eldridge and family. I spent a very enjoyable evening, being cared for kindly in a real genuine hospitable manner. I also had the pleasure of meeting Sister G. M. Leary, wife of Capt. Leary and daughter of Bro. and Sister Eldridge.

Next morning, taking the coach at 7 a. m., arrived at Tiverton at 10 a. m. Here I met Bro. E. C. Bowers of Westport, and had the pleasure of grasping the hand of Bro. Milton Outhouse, who received me with kindness and conducted me to his home. After dinner I went out to take a view of the place, Bro. H. A. DeVoe requesting me to remain over and preach for them. I did so, and at 7 p. m quite a large audience greeted me. We had a grand meeting. I was delighted with the brethren, and also the building; such a nice snug house to worship in has never been my chance to visit. Its appearance speaks volumes for the brethren; it is indeed a big item to the credit of the brethren there.

I spent a pleasant time with Bro. DeVoe. He is well liked by the brethren: they speak very highly of him and he of them. We have a firm, ardent and right-thinking Christian soldier in Bro. DeVoe—strong in the faith once delivered to the saints. I am glad he is settled down in Tiverton. God bless him and his labors, is my sincere prayer. I also had the pleasure of meeting Bro. and Sister John Smith, and at whose home I received a hearty welcome. In fact, the kindness from all was such I shall never forget.

After remaining over one night, I was asked by Bro. DeVoe and others to remain another night. I did so, and a larger house greeted us. I spoke on the subject found in I. Cor., xv. 29. I formed the acquaintance of many of the brethren, and was to the home of Bro. and Sister Amos Outhouse, where I was used very kindly indeed.

On Thursday morning at 12 o'clock I arrived at Westport. I was met by Bro. E. C. Bowers and taken to his home. After dinner, in company with our brother, we visited Bro. E. A. Payson's, into whose home I was taken and soon found myself

amid many warm friends. I was indeed glad to find myself in the home of Sister E. A. Payson, whose acquaintance I had made while attending a quarterly at Port Williams. Bro. and Sister Payson have a beautiful home; peace and joy seems to reign triumphant. This home indeed shows evidently the power of Christian living. Bro. and Sister Payson are strong in the faith. Their hearts are made glad and their home brighter to see their only daughter, Carrie, so devoted to the true principles of the religion of Christ our Saviour, whose devoted Christian character and genial spirit makes their home indeed a home. On Saturday evening (day of my arrival) I attended the prayer meeting, and we had an enjoyable time.

Bro. D. McLean and his daughter Laura were here. I have indeed found a noble and devoted Christian brother in Bro. D. McLean. He has indeed a heart of oak filled with love for Christ and the church. He knows how to love his brother because he loves his Master. May God bless our land, and build up and extend the influence of His truth by lighting up the way by such noble-hearted men as our Bro. McLean.

Lord's day morning, at 10.30, I spoke in the Bethel for the first time. We had a large congregation. At 2.30 was the Sunday-school, where I was glad to see so many interested in this noble work. The school is under the watchful care of brethren devoted to the work, such as Bros. E. A. Payson, E. C. Bowers, Geo. Bowers, Thos. Hicks and Sisters Carrie Payson, Edith Peters and Superintendent Bro. John Peters. In the evening at 7 p. m. we had a full house, and greatly enjoyed our gathering together, after which the Lord's supper was attended, presided over by Elder E. A. Payson.

I purpose remaining here for a few weeks. It is rather a difficult time of year to hold meetings, but I intend doing all the work possible while here, after which I return to my first field of labor. I am glad to report that Bro. H. Murray has recovered from his illness and is able to attend to his pastoral work.

As Christmas is now at hand, and before we greet our always welcome friend, THE CHRISTIAN, it will be numbered with the past. I wish the brethren in Christ a joyous season, and God grant the coming year may be one of greater effort and more abundant success.

H. E. COOKE.

Westport, Dec. 14, '88.

TIVERTON.

We are now settled for a year at least at Tiverton. Our meetings are well attended and the audiences attentive, and we are praying God for, and trusting Him to give, the increase.

The brethren and friends, to the number of thirty-five, took us by surprise last Wednesday evening and made us a generous donation, consisting of provisions and useful household articles of over \$30 in value. Our prayer is that He, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, will enable us to prove more worthy of His benefits and that He will abundantly bless those through whom this gift has come to us.

H. A. DEVOE.

December 21st, '88.

HALIFAX LETTER.

My last letter was written in Shubenacadie, and at the time of writing I was engaged in a meeting. Altogether, I spent twelve days there, preached fifteen discourses, and as an immediate result there were eight additions by confession and obedience, one restored, and one other made the good confession, but through unavoidable circumstances was not able to be baptized. Part of the time we had the use of the Presbyterian church, for which we thanked them for their kindness and then continued our meetings in a school-house. The brethren

are looking forward with pleasure to the time when their own meeting-house will be finished. From here I went to the Nine-mile River, where there are about half a dozen Disciples. I remained here one week, and as a present result four were added to the one body, three took membership with the church at Rawdon. I am in hopes to see a church here some day.

From Nine-mile River I went to Upper Rawdon, with the intention of having a meeting for a few days, and on Lord's day we had two grand meetings, and planned to have some meetings through the week, but the rain descended and the wind blew, and our plans fell to the ground. The meeting had to be given up for the present, but in the near future we hope to meet with better success. In all these places a good interest was manifested, and the brethren seem earnest and desirous of seeing the work go on.

As I travel around from church to church I am more and more impressed with the great need of evangelistic work, and I pray that the Lord will open the eyes of His people so that they may see the necessity of further effort in this direction. Weak churches cannot build meeting-houses and pay preachers without aid, and unless meeting-houses can be built and preachers sustained the work cannot go on. Some one may say this is a "missionary letter"—call it what you like. I will give some facts that will prove that there is need for us to awake up out of sleep. In rummaging over the books in my library this morning I came across a little pamphlet entitled, "Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Disciples of Christ in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, held in Coburg street Church at St. John, N. B., Sept 20th, 1879." I looked over this pamphlet with interest, and here-with give some facts and figures that may interest the general reader. In 1879 twenty churches reported to the Annual Meeting, showing a total membership of 1,370. In 1888 eighteen churches reported, with a total membership not exceeding 1,600. Nearly ten years, and yet the net increase cannot be estimated as much over two hundred. Of course this does not refer to the number who have been added to the different churches in that time. But to the permanent growth. We will pick out six of the largest churches reporting in 1879, and compare with their report as given in 1888:

	1879.	1888.
Kempt.....	110	68
Milton.....	160	163
Cornwallis.....	104	94
West Gore.....	133	135
St. John.....	110	200
Lord's Cove.....	110	147

While the church at St. John is largest in point of numbers at present, yet the church at Leonardville shows the largest increase during this period. In 1879 it reported a membership of 60; in 1888 it had increased to 155, showing an increase during this period of 95. The church at St. John comes next, showing an increase of 90. The church sustaining the greatest loss is that at Kempt, showing a decrease of 42. These figures are significant. We must turn the tide. And, now, who is going to do this? No one man can; but we all can. This is the time of year when we are in the halit of making good resolutions—turning over new leaves. Then let us make the resolution to do more for the sake of Christ this year than ever before, and I will venture to say that if we all do that, that there will be the largest report in the way of increase at our next Annual Meeting that we have ever had. I am determined, God helping me, to begin the work over again with renewed vigor, and the success that has attended my humble efforts during the past few weeks has only made me more anxious for the future, and I hope to have the hearty co-operation of the brethren throughout the provinces, and that each one may feel an interest in this great movement. Let those who cannot go out into the world to preach help those that can, and then let those that do preach be earnest, faithful and true, with the Bible in their hands, the love of God and man in their hearts, and we will then all meet around the throne of God in heaven, where sorrow is never known, and love and harmony shall reign forever.

W. H. HARDING.

Halifax, Dec. 20, '88.