

crowded houses. There is every evidence of prosperity on this field. Of course, Mr. Hay dwells among his own people, being in the parish when he was born, and in the church where his father was deacon for many years. Within the past few months the churches of Watford and Warwick have purchased a very fine parsonage house and land. The congregation in Warwick is one of the best in these parts. The present handsome brick church is too small for the audience: they will soon need to rise and build. This they are well able to do. They have done well for our Missionary Society this year, and promise to do better next.

WIARTON

is on Colpoise Bay, the terminus of the Georgian Bay and Port Dover Railroad. In this neighbourhood our denomination has had a mission for a great many years. The present church building is among the best in the town, and Wiarton is a thriving place, and likely on the completion of the large dock, to be much more so. For some reason or other, which I am not yet able to explain, our church has not been succeeding for some years past. The Rev. T. M. Rickie was called to the pastorate over twelve months ago, and has laboured faithfully, but without results sufficiently encouraging to warrant a continuance of the effort. Of course when a place has been vacant for some time, and is run down, it is very difficult to bring it up again. Patience and perseverance are essential under such circumstances. With the probable future that is before Wiarton, it would be a great pity to allow our church to remain pastorless, and judging from what I saw and heard, it is a very needy mission field.

PINE GROVE.

This church is about seventeen miles west of Toronto, on the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway. The building is of brick, and very fine. The parsonage is close by, a handsome residence surrounded by wooded hills. I think there are some two acres of land. It is certainly the most delightful situation for a country residence I know of. I preached here twice on the Lord's day, to large congregations. The village of Woodbridge is a mile distant, and several families come from there, others from miles beyond. There is a good Sunday school. The ladies have organized a missionary society. The church has been without a settled pastor for nearly two years, but it is hoped that Mr. W., who is at present supplying, will make this his field of future labour.

HUMBER SUMMIT

is about three miles distant from Pine Grove. They have an afternoon service, and quite a good congregation: besides, one of the deacons conducts an evening service at which, I learned, they have as good attendance as in the afternoon. Here, too, the ladies formed a missionary society. At this point I finished my first

visitation of the churches, and after a few days in these western parts, I will turn my face toward the east. I will have a month in Kingston to cultivate an acquaintance with my family and prepare for the year's work. I purpose to begin somewhere in the Eastern Townships in August.

This is all I have to say at present, except that our churches are all manned now, or arrangements are in course to supply the last that is vacant. I am devoutly thankful for the measure of blessing I have had during the past nine months, and I am full of hope for the future. Very truly yours,

T. HALL.

My address is 479 Princess Street, Kingston.

OBITUARY.

Died at Milton, N. S., on the 22nd May, at the advanced age of eighty-three years, Mrs. Tupper, relict of the late Honourable Freeman Tupper, M.L.C. The death of Mrs. Tupper, while making an irreparable breach in a much attached family circle, will also be heard of with deep regret by all to whom she had endeared herself for a period of many years. The virtues of our late sister were of the quiet and unostentatious character. She seldom went abroad, but delighted in showing hospitality to the many friends who visited her pleasant home. Her kindness to the poor, the very deep interest she took in the welfare of the church at Milton, N. S., and the successive ministers and their families, will not soon be forgotten. Since the death of her late much esteemed husband, Mrs. Tupper's health has been gradually declining, and thus the family circle were not unprepared for the sad event. Her end was peace.—R. K. B.

DIRECT PRAYERS.

The late Dr. James Hamilton had a capital illustration of how general prayers and "oblique sermons" fail to satisfy the soul in the emergencies of life. A Scotchman who had but one prayer was asked by his wife to pray by the bedside of their dying child. The good man struck out on the old track and soon came to the usual petition for the Jews. As he went on with the time honoured quotation, "Lord, turn again the captivity of Zion," his wife broke in, saying, "Eh! man, you're aye drawn out for the Jews; but its our bairn that's deirin'." Then, clasping her hands, she cried: "Lord help us or give us back our darling, if it be Thy holy will; and if he is to be taken, O take him to Thyself." That woman knew how to pray, which was more than her husband did. An "oblique sermon" is not a prayer. An audible meditation or a doctrinal dissertation is not a prayer. Telling the Lord a hundred things he knows better than we do is not a prayer. If persons who lead in prayer had as vivid a conception of what they want and as earnest a desire to get it as this old woman, would there be as many complaints about long prayers as we hear?