

ticipated in the exercises, under the proficient leadership of Principal Henry Campbell; a man of sterling ability and Christian deportment.

I have also had the pleasure of attending, for the first time, the Annual Meeting in this province. We had a grand meeting. Bro. Donald Crawford was with us and preached the opening sermon. Though he is ageing quite fast, yet his voice and style of delivering is as firm and powerful as ever. We had pleasure in meeting Bros. Wm. Murray, R. E. Stevenson, H. W. Stewart, F. Norton, J. S. Smith, O. B. Emery, and also Bro. Manifold. We had a glorious time. I was requested by the brethren to stay and preach for a few nights. I did so, and from Monday until Thursday eight precious souls confessed faith in Christ. I was obliged to return home, but left the work in the hands of Bro. H. W. Stewart. I hope to hear of greater results. H. E. COOKE.

Correspondence.

WEST GORE LETTER.

One made the good confession and was baptized at West Gore since I last wrote. Do not fail to read the notice on the eighth page, about coming to the annual meeting.

Our County meeting in Newport was badly spoiled by a heavy rain storm. The brethren at Newport had made grand preparations for it and were disappointed by the rain; many friends who lived at a distance were planning to attend the meetings, and I want to say that some of them had courage enough to drive from West Gore in all the rain. I am sure you will say they were not "fine weather Christians" anyway. Our first meeting on Saturday evening was a good one. Bro. R. E. Stevens preached an excellent sermon on "How to be great in the Kingdom of God." We were all highly pleased with the discourse and feel that in Bro. Stevens we have an able addition to our ministerial force in N. S. Sunday morning came and with it the rain. Bro. Hiram Wallace was to have preached according to plan, but only a few gathered and we waited until the afternoon. Though it still rained a number of us thought we would go. Bro. Blenus was to have preached but as the church in Halifax would not allow him to come he was not there. We had a good meeting although some wet, but we are not afraid of "much water." In the evening Bro. Stevens preached in the school-house at Union Corner, and still it rained. Still, we believe the rain did good, but we would have been better satisfied if it had come some other day. A number of the sisters had very nicely decorated the desk and platform of the meeting house with flowers, and I have often wondered why more of our young people do not get interested in making our places of worship more cosy and home-like. Our religion should not cause us to worship in houses that we would not live in for the week. Sunday should be a day of gladness and cheerfulness. We should long for the day of worship—the house of prayer.

The churches at Rawdon and Nine Mile River are supplying themselves with handsome new communion sets.

We have a great many visitors home at present from the United States. How glad some are to get back to the provinces and breathe the pure fresh air. What grand churches we would have if all our people, young and old, were to remain in the provinces. This is the haying season and the scent of new mown hay is inhaled at every breath. The summer will soon be ended and so our time is passing away and old age will come with its silvery locks and feeble

step. But eternity is also coming; no feeble steps nor anticipation of old age, nothing but one long long day filled with the happiness of heaven. W. H. HARDING.

FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Amongst the social questions receiving the greatest attention in this country, none excites in interest that of "Drink." The advocates of prohibition are very active and have made their influence felt in the recent legislation on this subject. According to our present law a vote has to be taken in every electoral district of the colony on the same day, as the members of parliament are elected, to decide the question whether the number of licenses in the district may be increased or *must* be reduced, or whether the sale of alcoholic liquor must not be prohibited either in the district or throughout the colony. The question of increase or decrease in the number of licenses is decided by a bare majority of vote either way; but the prohibition vote must be carried by three-fifths majority of the persons voting. On these questions, as well as in electing members of parliament, women vote on an equality with men. I think some of the warmest advocates of prohibition are amongst the female voters, and there are many, both male and female, who declare that prohibition throughout the colony is within measurable distance. I fancy these persons take a rather optimistic view of the situation. The drinkers of intoxicating liquors in New Zealand spend over two million pounds sterling annually in drink, equal to £2-17-2 per head of the population. The number of licensed houses in some localities averages one for every hundred of the population, and I believe the average for the whole colony is one hotel for every two hundred inhabitants. Yet notwithstanding this seemingly large expenditure in drink and the numerous drinking places, this country is not only becoming more sober than formerly, but it is also one of the most sober countries in the world. New Zealand, as I have mentioned, spends £2-17-2 per head per annum; while the colony of Queensland spends £4-17-6 Great Britain and Ireland £3-12-3, and New South Wales £3-5-8. When we consider how many persons there are, men, women and children, who do not drink any, we can form some idea of how much people some must consume to bring up the average to so much per head.

A slight advance in the union of churches has been recently made in N. Z. by the uniting of the Wesleyans, Bible Christians and Free-Methodists. Special services have been recently held to celebrate this event. It is recognized on all hands as a beneficial move, but regret is expressed that the body known as Primitive Methodists is not also united. The Primitives are a more numerous sect than either the Bible Christians or Free-Methodists in N. Z., and it is a pity that a body holding practically the same doctrines as the main body, known as Wesleyans, should, for what appears to be insufficient grounds, hold aloof. It is too much to expect that the various denominations will soon be united, when the sub-divisions of a single denomination cannot come together into one common fold. I believe there is less harmony between these two parts of Methodism than between either of them and the other denominations. Strange, is it not? yet unfortunately true.

Since I wrote you the churches of Christ throughout New Zealand have held their various conferences. These are usually held at Easter time in these colonies. It is the

finest season of the year and a time in which holidays are kept. The annual reports are not very satisfactory. Much work is being done which in some instances show good results, but taken as a whole the progress must be considered slow. Let us hope that it is sure and that in due season we may reap.

A. McLean in his tour of the world got as far as Australia and was present at the conference of the churches held in Melbourne at Easter. He was received with great enthusiasm by the Australian brethren, who were much pleased with his visit. I had a letter from him in which he expresses regret that he could not visit New Zealand. This has been a great disappointment to me as well as many others here and throughout the N. Z. churches. I am, etc., yours faithfully,

L. J. BAGNALL.

Turua, N. Z., June 12, 1896.

HALIFAX BUILDING FUND.

Previously acknowledged,	\$1,781 97
Sister Rose Ann Bond, Rawdon, N. S.,	1 50
Bro. Wm. Murray, Pictou,	1 00

Total,	\$1,784 47
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HENRY CARSON,

Halifax, N. S., July 22, 1896.

Treasurer.

Births.

WALLACE.—At Halifax, 125 North Street, July 7th, to the wife of Geo. E. Wallace, a daughter.

Died.

CHRISTIE.—Another faithful Christian has finished his work and entered into the rest that remains for the children of God. Bro. James J. Christie, of St. John, N. B., was stricken with paralysis on Saturday morning, June 27th, and without regaining consciousness passed away on the following Sunday afternoon. He was in his 82nd year. Many years ago he confessed his faith in the Lord Jesus, and in all the succeeding years he ever sought to live worthy of the Gospel of Christ. He loved the Church, and was ever ready to do all he could to spread the Redeemer's kingdom. His time and his money were freely given. His place in the house of God was never vacant when he could be present; and in his later years he attended at times when he was scarcely able to do so. Few could be more faithful and devoted than he. His kindness to the needy was well known, and many lose in him a benefactor. He will be greatly missed by the Church and many other friends, but by none more than by her who for fifty-six years has shared his joys and sorrows. But she knows whom she has believed and realizes that all is well. The meeting time will come by and by, and then all tears will be wiped away. May the sorrowing family and relatives in this hour of trial experience more and more the joys of the Christian faith, and be sustained by the consolations and the hopes of the gospel. —H. W. S.

MCGREGOR.—John McGregor, Esq., died at his home near Southport, P. E. I., Lot 3, July 7, 1896, aged 88 years, leaving in sadness and loneliness, his dearly beloved wife who stood by him in sunshine and shadow during their long life, and who with their two daughters, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. McRae, attended him with unremitting care during the weeks in which his physical strength gradually waned, and the lamp of the earth-life burned lower and lower, until the shadows closed around him, and freed from mortal care he entered into rest.

As a citizen and a member of society, Bro. McGregor was always careful in what he said and did. Being slow to give offence and quick to do a kindness, he had many friends, and, perhaps, not an enemy in the world. This was partly shown in the very large funeral procession which followed his remains to their last resting-place in the old burial ground at Cross-Roads, Lot 48.

The shadow of the old building in which he loved to meet with the members of the Church of Christ, of which, for many years, he was an honored member and a careful and painstaking elder, will sometimes rest upon his grave, and the passer-by may think and speak of him as dead; but let us rather think of him as having entered into the higher life, and awaiting the coming of those whom he loved so well.

Love is of God, and is eternal. It will join together again in a purer atmosphere those who were here united by its holy influence.

"There is no death! what seems so is transition.

This life of mortal breath

Is but the suburb to the life e'ydian,

Whose portal we call death."

Charlottetown, P. E. I.

O. B. E.

SILLARS.—At his home at River John, May 1st, 1896, after a short illness, Brother James Sillars, in his 86th year. He was a faithful member of the Church of Christ for over sixty years. H. S.