

Correspondence.

EDUCATIONAL FUND.

Dear Brethren,—All who have not contributed towards this fund that has been opened in THE CHRISTIAN will please do so at an early date as possible. The Lord's business requires haste, and those that give quickly, give double. We have young men that are intelligent and will do good service in the Master's cause, and some of them have and are making sacrifices for the Lord's work, and we want to help them bear these sacrifices, and call upon our friends everywhere to help us in this work of assisting financially young men desirous of attending college where they will be trained for the Master's work; and we wish all our friends to consider this important matter and be alive to the duties that are devolving upon us. None of us need be told what our duties are. But one thing we lack.—promptness. I am aware that we are all pretty good at precept, but it's not precept we want just now, but practice. It is about time we put our precepts into practice, and show to the world we mean business. As far as I have seen of our brethren, their hospitality towards one another is commendable, but we fall far short of what might be done for the cause of Christ. A little more sacrifice, brethren, on our part, and we all will be benefited here as well as doubly blessed in the world to come. God cannot lie, His promises are sure, He has promised one hundred fold in this life, and in the world to come, life eternal. That should be enough to satisfy all true followers of the meek and lowly Saviour, who gave all for us even His own life, and became poor for our sake that we might be made rich.

Yours in Christian love,
W. J. MESSERVEY.

A TRIP TO ST. STEPHEN AND BACK.

Thinking that an account of my visit to St. Stephen would not be out of place, I have concluded to write a few lines.

After my return from P. E. I., my attention was drawn to the announcement—The Fourth Annual Sunday-school Convention of New Brunswick will be held at St. Stephen from the 10th to 12th of October. Not feeling over well and the reduced rates of travel influenced me to think favorably of attending the meeting.

On Sunday evening the 9th, my mind was made up. But whether to go by train or boat was the question. If I take the boat and the water should be rough, some unpleasant feelings might be engendered; if the cars, some delay or accident, (either not being uncommon) might place the time of our arrival away in the night. Said I, I'll risk the boat.

On Monday morning at a quarter past seven o'clock, I started for the boat—calling on the way to send a telegram to Bro. H. Minnick of Lubec, to meet me in Eastport at noon. At eight o'clock the "Cumberland" left the wharf; the day was lovely, the weather warm and the water almost as smooth as glass. About a quarter to twelve o'clock we were at Eastport, Maine. Anxiously I looked around for Bro. Minnick, but he was nowhere to be seen. Upon enquiry, I learned that had the boat been in a few minutes earlier, I could have had the pleasure of carrying to him the despatch—not that we had travelled so quickly, not that the electric fluid moved slowly, but some official had been careless.

About 3 P. M., on another steamer, much smaller than the "Cumberland," we started up the St. Croix river. To the right was Charlotte Co., N. B., to the left the State of Maine. On either side were to be seen what some would call high mountains, heavy woods, rugged rocks and sloping fields. Here

and there upon the river were darting, this way and that way, a number of boats with their white sails, while yonder were two large vessels moving slowly before the wind. The numerous islands, the sparkling waters and the winding river stretching out before us combined with the rest to make a scene not soon to be forgotten. About 5 P. M. we arrived at Calais, Maine, thirty miles distant from Eastport. A few minutes walk brought us to a long covered bridge, at the entrance of which is a toll gate or house where you pay a cent, then cross over (or through) to St. Stephen. Now said I to myself, I am a stranger in a strange town—no one knows me here. But I had gone but a few steps when a gentleman came along saying—Why, how are you? What are you doing here? After registering at a hotel, I concluded to take a short walk—and had had not gone far when a gentleman overtaking me said, Why, isn't this Mr. Capp? Yes sir, I believe it is, said I; and after a very pleasant conversation we parted. In the evening I attended the first meeting of the Convention. It was held in the Methodist Church, and commenced with devotional exercises, and finished with an address from Mr. W. Reynolds, president of the International Sunday school Association. If space in THE CHRISTIAN and time would permit, I would gladly give a synopsis of his addresses, and various hints as to "Ways of Working in the Primary Class," by Mrs. W. F. Crafts of New York, but of course this is out of the question—will give, however, a few of Mrs. Crafts' suggestions on the above subject; and present in tabular form the statistics of the Sunday-schools in New Brunswick. At the conclusion of this first meeting, I was recognized by Bro. and Sister Rideout, who kindly insisted that I should make their home my home during this Convention.

Said Mrs. Crafts, I have in my class one hundred and seventy-five children, and the suggestions that I shall offer will be applicable to smaller classes. And then proceeded with (something like) the following, and giving her reasons for their adoption. (1) Give to each scholar a little card, with a request that it be returned the following Sunday, having upon it correct name of the child, the street and number of its home, its age and birthday—you then, by taking care of this card, can call the child Johnny, Tommy, Mary or Fanny, as the case may be; if you hear of the child being sick, you can at once call to see it—you become acquainted with the family, and many are thus led to Jesus. (2) By arranging these cards as they should be, much difficulty can be avoided. For example, here are numbers of cards stating that certain birthdays are in January, well put them in a group by themselves and arrange them so as to correspond with the days upon which they fall. (3) On that day offer a special prayer for that little one. If possible, go and see it, and take a little present, even though it should cost but five cents, and say—I come to see you on your birthday. The child will talk about it for days—the father and mother be delighted and come to the conclusion, if they never did before, that Sunday-schools are not such bad institutions after all. (4) Teach the child to give systematically to the Lord. If it can't give any more, let it be a cent every Sunday; the amount is not so particular, but let it be given regularly.

Mr. Reynolds was one of three—Moody and a Mr. Jacobs being the two others—that awakened in Illinois such an interest in Sunday-school work that already its influence is being felt throughout the United States, the Dominion of Canada, and many parts of Europe. Speaking of their earlier efforts to push in Illinois this work along, he said, "To B. F. Jacobs belongs the credit of introducing the International Sunday-school Lessons. I shall never forget the time when he suggested the system. We considered it impracticable; we frowned it down; and, to use not an uncommon expression, we (being quite a strong committee at the time) determined to 'sit on him.' But all to no purpose,

for he is one of those irrepresible fellows, that when he makes up his mind to get up—if you don't get off—he'll take you up with him; and so it proved to be in this case."

When speaking about the work to be done; the sacrifices necessary to have it done well, and whether the results would justify their efforts, he related a conversation he had with Bob Ingersoll, the infidel lecturer, about Christianity; when it terminated something like this: Said Mr. Reynolds, "Bob, you'll never get your infidel principles to grow—you can't do it." Said Ingersoll in reply, "If it were not for your damnable Sunday-schools I'd have some hope." A gentleman proposing to erect a building, etc., for the reclaiming of fallen young men, was addressing a great crowd of people, and closing his remarks said "One million and a half of dollars is required, and if only one young man is rescued it will be money well invested." At the conclusion of the meeting said one rich man to another, "Wasn't that an extravagant statement—that if only one boy was rescued the million and a half of dollars would be money well invested?" Said the other, "That depends upon whose boy it is; if that boy were my boy, no, sir!"

Another remark, which I thought was not without some foundation, was, "At times we meet those who appear to be very much interested in religious matters, and will sing with a vim, 'Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small,' etc., and when the collection box is passed to them then drop in a five cent piece."

STATISTICS OF N. B. SUNDAY-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

COUNTIES.	Number Schools.	Evergreen.	Officers and Teachers.	Scholars.	Total Membership.	Average Attendance.	Received into the Church.
Albert.....	50	4	238	1512	1750	1151	41
Carleton.....	106	47	699	4415	5064	3208	91
Charlotte....	77	38	559	3968	4527	2908	79
Gloucester....	12	8	35	232	267	197	31
Kent.....	40	12	131	995	1126	609	...
Kings.....	126	14	215	2001	2316	1439	85
Northumb'd..	58	16	88	747	835	484	18
Queens.....	54	...	78	561	639	404	39
Restigouche..	38	21	126	841	967	619	4
St. John.....	51	36	831	7299	8127	4761	135
Sunbury.....	22	4	101	558	659	395	13
Victoria.....	14	12	70	416	486	263	11
Westmorland.	73	17	263	2030	2293	1505	86
York.....	81	7	500	3420	3920	2500	17
Totals.....	802	236	4034	28992	33026	20434	605

There were meetings of various kinds throughout Tuesday and Wednesday; but at the close of the evening meeting of Tuesday, I crossed over to Calais, and at the home of F. other and Sister Rideout spent a pleasant evening in talking with them of the things concerning the kingdom. The following morning at eight o'clock, I was on board the steamer and in about two hours was at Eastport. On looking round I fell in with Bros. Garrison and Fountain of Chocolate Cove, who gave me a passage in their boat, and by 1.30 was on Deer Island. After dinner, and calling on several of the brethren, we started on foot for Leonardville—distant at least three miles; and if some one had said it was four I would not have questioned it, as I did when Brother Garrison said, "The mail-carrier says it's but two." We were sorry to find that Bro. G. Leonard was away from home. Bro. William Murray, who is laboring with the church at this place, was making calls upon the brethren and friends of the neighborhood. But soon we were together, driving down (it may be up, for I always get puzzled as to the ups and downs of the Island) to Lord's Cove to see the new meeting-house and to find out the time of its opening. The house was being seated, and said Bro. F. Lambert,