

sibilities. Let us pray that we may be soul winners. Be earnest in our work. Preach as dying men to men who are also dying. Have a message of life. Make them see that there is something higher and nobler, holier and happier in the religion of Jesus Christ than in anything else.

7th. We must have variety. Change in manner, style and form of delivery is good. Believe that you have something good for the people and then plan how to introduce it to the most persons. Adopt business methods. If one way does not work, try another.

8th. Study the lives of successful preachers from Paul to Spurgeon. Do not try to mimic them, but learn the secret of their strength.

9th. Persevere. Sometimes men find a resting place half way up the hill, and because of the difficulties they stop there, content to fill that station, but the successful man toils on, overcomes every difficulty and becomes a power in the world for good. Make the best of every opportunity. Never feel satisfied with present attainments and while you are building yourself up, you will be keeping fresh and the people to whom you minister will continue to be interested in the same degree as you are interested in yourself, that is to a certain extent. If the preacher is not improving so as to bring things new and old out of the treasure house, the people soon catch up to him, hence the dead line.

Let me give a closing word on this very important subject. Every avenue for information lies open before us. We can search the pages of history for illustrations and see God in history. The book of Nature lies open before us and although she has not revealed all her secrets, we find much to help us in our work. We need to study human nature and find with Pope, "The greatest study of mankind is man." "There is no need to cross the dead line. Our work is to be tried by fire. If our work abide it will be well, if not, may we be saved even so as by fire."

MIXED RESULTS.

T. H. BLUNUS.

Occasionally some good brother or sister gets very much disheartened because an unclean fish is seined in the gospel net. Spurgeon, that prince among preachers, once said: "Brother minister, friend working in the Sunday-school, laborer for Christ in any low district, you may fairly expect that the people will come to Christ, but do not expect that they will all come from the land of honesty and truth. Do not count all fish that come to the net, or it may happen that your sure disappointment will dampen your zeal and diminish your confidence in the gospel. Expect to take good fish in your net, but reckon on finding the dog-fish there too, breaking your lines and biting your other fish. Out of the best haul a fisherman ever makes there is something to be thrown away." Every worker for Christ may count on mixed results. And when they come he must not despair as though some strange thing had happened unto him. Christ in his personal ministry had some of the best of men with him, though there were some of the worst. Grateful hands were there which could break an alabaster box and pour it out for his sake, as well as cruel hands which could clutch the blood-stained pieces of silver—the price of his betrayal.

Correspondence.

NEW ENGLAND CONVENTION.

The Convention held at Swampscott, Mass., was called to order Friday morning, Oct. 1st. There was a primary business meeting, at which committees on the various lines of work were appointed. They had their reports ready at the opening business session.

R. A. Nichols, Worcester, was elected president; J. W. Henry, Haverhill, vice-president; and G. Wilton Lewis, secretary-treasurer. We were sorry to release Bro. S. M. Hunt, who has so nobly served the Convention many years. But he insisted that he be released, and we had to yield.

The papers and addresses were good, and much enjoyed. Homer T. Lewis, of Fort Worth, Texas, was present, and cheered us much by his eloquence and love. B. L. Smith was also with us; and a union between the New England Association of Churches and the Christian Missionary Society was consummated, much to our delight. We look for great things in the near future.

The accessions during the year numbered 513 in New England—a gain of about 21 per cent. The amount of money raised for Home Missions during the year was quite a good sum.

The time of meeting was changed from the first of October to the first of June, and the Convention meets next year with the Danbury (Conn.) Church.

The brethren of Swampscott entertained us royally. We had the best Convention I ever attended in New England. Everything was splendid.

HARRY MINNICK.

Lubec, Maine.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

On my way home from P. E. Island I stopped at Pictou a few hours, and made a short call at Bro. D. Fullerton's and also at Bro. R. E. Stevens' home. I also saw Bro. George Fullerton. Each of these brethren seemed deeply interested in the work of building up a church in that town. It will certainly be a long pull and a strong pull and a pull all together.

I spent one week at home, this being the only week at home in four months. On Thursday, Sept. 30th, I left home for Elmsdale, where, in company with Bro. M. B. Ryan, I was to take the train for Pictou en route for P. E. Island; but the unexpected often happens. Bro. John Wright, who lives in Nine-Mile River, and is one of the elders of the church in that place, was suddenly bereft of his wife. The blow came, oh! so suddenly. She was a good Christian woman, was baptized by the writer of these notes about nine years ago; she was an earnest worker in the church, and loved by all. At the earnest request of the bereaved husband and friends I remained to attend the funeral; so I had to re-arrange my plans of travel. The large company of friends at the funeral gave evidence of the esteem in which the departed one was held.

It seems too bad that in the county of Hants, where we have six churches, there is not a minister to even bury the dead. There is something wrong somewhere, and it is to be hoped that some good man having the Master's work at heart, and who will not be too great a lover of money, may take up the work in this county. I have done a great deal of work in this county, and do not like to know that the work is going back, for, under other circumstances, I would have gladly continued that work. The people of this county have a warm place in my heart.

I spent two weeks on P. E. Island, preaching in New Glasgow, New London and Fredericton. In all these places we had good audiences and good attention. On Friday, Oct. 15th, I came from P. E. Island to St. John. Bro. Stewart met me at the station, and I enjoyed his hospitality over night. On Saturday I came from St. John to Mascarene in company with a number of friends from St. John. The purpose of our visit was to assist at the opening of the new house of worship. Since I began my ministry I have preached dedicatory sermons at the opening of five new houses of worship.

I will leave for others the telling about the opening. I have been hospitably entertained, making my home mainly at Capt. Peter Cameron's, who, with his wife, have made me feel welcome. I continue the meetings, and will organize a church, about which I will tell you in my next.

W. H. HARDING.

DEDICATION OF THE NEW CHRISTIAN MEETING HOUSE AT MASCARENE, N. B.

On Lord's Day, October 10th, 1897, the new meeting house at Mascarene, Charlotte County, N. B., was dedicated to the worship of God. Just four months has passed since the house was commenced and carried on to completion.

In the morning at 10.30 Mr. W. H. Harding, of West Gore, N. S., preached the dedicatory sermon, taking as his text Ephesians iv. 11-13.

Order and design, he said, prevail in all God's works in the physical world. The same is true in the plan of salvation in the moral and spiritual world. We may not be able to comprehend all connected with the will of God, for His way is higher than our way.

The text, he said, sets forth a part of the plan relating to the organization of the church and the carrying on of the work. We notice the three kinds of workers: First, apostles and prophets; second, evangelists; third, pastors and teachers. These three classes of workers had three things to do: First, the apostles and prophets had to perfect the saints and lay the foundation; second, the evangelists had to preach the gospel; third, the pastors and teachers to edify the church. As a result we will have: First, the unity and harmony of faith; second, the unity and harmony of knowledge; third, the unity and harmony of practice.

INVOCATION.

We set apart this house to the worship of the living and true God, and to the services of Jesus Christ our Lord. We devote it to