

"The Goodwill of Him that dwelt in the bush be with us."

AUG.

1897.

CHURCH AND HOME



The Magazine of the Presbytery of St. John

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CHURCH and HOME

The Magazine of the Presbytery of St. John.

Vol II.

ST. JOHN, N. B., AUGUST, 1897.

No. 8

“Thy Kingdom Come.”

Every time we repeat the prayer “Thy Kingdom come” we acknowledge our share in the advancement of the Kingdom of God on earth. The church that is doing most for the spread of the gospel is the church that lives nearest the standard of Christian duty. There is no distinction as “Home” and “Foreign” missions—the command is to preach the gospel to every creature. We cannot all go forth as missionaries, but we can help in sending some who are worthy representatives of our religion.

If Christianity is true, there is no escape from the brotherhood of man. We may try to ignore the fact, but we are kindred of all the races of men; and if we will not perform the duty that this relationship imposes—if we are indifferent to their needs—if we will not share with them our blessings, they will share with us their moral plagues and disorders.

The duty which this truth imposes is personal consecration, for how can the gospel be better preached than by the living epistle? We are liable to lose the individual in the church, and to judge where the society is working, it matters little whether we do our part. But no matter how successful a church may be, it is not as successful as it would

be were the personal influence added. A congregation composed of members whose lives correspond with their profession has a wider influence than when the work is left to a few, however capable and energetic they may be. Realise the duty involved in church membership, and there is no fear but that by your gifts and example you shall proclaim the Kingdom of God. Instead of regretting that your sphere is humble, rejoice that the Kingdom of God is so wide and that you are permitted to share in its advancement. The soldier of most humble rank considers it an honour that he took part in the conflict that added to his country's greatness and renown. Shall we be less sensible to the glory of our Redeemer's Kingdom? Let us labour, watch and pray, remembering that God's blessing attends God's work.

W. F. M. S.

The annual meeting of the St. John Presbyterial of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was held in old St. Paul's Kirk, Fredericton, on Wednesday and Thursday, July 7 and 8. Mrs. J. M. Robinson, of Moncton, presided, and called the meeting to order on Wednesday morning. After devotional exercises and roll call Mrs. MacFarlane, on behalf of the Fredericton Auxiliary, welcomed the visitors, to which a

reply was made by Mrs. E. A. Smith of St. John. The remainder of the morning session was occupied by a paper on "Corea as a mission field," which was read by Mrs. Melrose, of St. David's Church, St. John, and was afterwards very fully and carefully discussed.

The afternoon session began at half-past two. Mrs. Robinson, who again occupied the chair, delivered the usual presidential address. She spoke as follows :

Dear Sisters,—We have come to another milestone in the history of our Society, and we are now convened for the eighth time. It is our earnest prayer that whatever may be done during the meetings may tend to deepen the true spirit of missions among us. Our Presbyterian Society was organised at Woodstock in 1889, with five Auxiliaries. In the report of 1891 we find that we had increased to 17 Auxiliaries and 10 Mission Bands. That year we remitted \$250.04 to the W. F. M. S. Treasurer at Halifax. In 1896 there were 37 Auxiliaries reported, and 11 Mission Bands, and we remitted \$1,031.94. There has been steady increase both in numbers and in liberality. We cannot, however, feel satisfied until we have an Auxiliary in every congregation in our Presbytery. If we could all realise as we ought the great need of sending the gospel to those who are still in heathen darkness, without hope for the future, our enthusiasm and self-denial for the cause of missions would be vastly greater. In this auspicious year of 1897, when the whole British Empire is celebrating the diamond jubilee of our beloved Queen, it seems fitting that we should make a greater effort than ever before to diffuse that knowledge of the Word of God which our Sovereign says is the true secret of England's greatness.

Never before in the history of the Church have there been such opportunities for mission work. Even the hitherto impenetrable walls of Thibet have been forced and the gospel proclaimed within them. And now the Macedonian cry comes to us from Corea. There is a strong feeling in favour of taking up this work in all our Auxiliaries.

Doors are everywhere opening, and thousands of young men are offering themselves as missionaries ; all that is lacking is the means to send them.

The average amount given to missions per church member is fifty cents a year. That is the seventh part of a cent a day for the salvation of a thousand millions of souls in heathen darkness. Will a man rob God? Not until all Christians realise the claims of God upon them in this respect, and set aside a certain proportion of their income for this cause will the evangelization of the world begin in real earnest.

One cause of the lack of interest in missions is owing to the ignorance which prevails concerning the work and its needs.

Those who are holding up the banner of the Cross in heathen lands need our sympathy and our prayers. "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

While our Society is a Foreign Missionary one we are, as well, much interested in Home Missions. The mission stations and weak congregations in our own Presbytery claim our help. We have much yet to do at home before we can devote all our attention to the uttermost parts of the earth. May God speed that glorious day when the kingdoms of this world shall have become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ.

Miss Upton, of St. John, presented the Secretary's report. It showed

that four new Auxiliaries had been organised at Chipman, Fairville, Pisarinco and Sussex during the year. A net increase of 171 had been made in the membership of the Auxiliaries since the last report.

"Our King's Commission" formed the subject upon which Mrs. M. S. Main, of St. Stephen, read a highly instructive and interesting paper.

Mrs. H. H. Pitts, the Society's Treasurer, reported that \$1,158.71 had been collected for Foreign Missions, and \$291.79 for Home Missions, making a total revenue of of \$1,450.50.

Mrs. L. Younger, of Moncton, had prepared an excellent and searching paper on "Personal Responsibility." As the author was unable to be present the paper was read by the President.

The evening session was held in the kirk, and was very well attended. Mr. L. W. Johnston occupied the chair. Mrs. E. A. Smith, of St. John, gave a carefully prepared, thoughtful and instructive address on "Women's Associated Mission Work."

Rev. A. S. Morton, of Fairville, described missionary work as conducted in his home in Trinidad. Rev. Alex. Archibald, St. Paul's missionary at Salina, also spoke briefly at the close of the meeting.

Thursday's morning session was opened with devotional exercises, conducted by Mrs. J. K. Laffin, of St. Stephen. The first item of interest was a paper on "Mission Band Work," read by Miss McIntosh. The members thought so highly of the paper that, on motion, it was decided to ask Miss McIntosh to publish it in CHURCH AND HOME.

Miss McFarlane and several members of the Mission Band then gave a highly interesting and instructive map exercise on the New Hebrides.

The next half hour was profitably

spent in hearing the interesting answers given by Miss Stevens, Miss Robb, Miss Henderson and Miss McIntosh to the matters which had puzzled members, and which had been deposited with a request for help in the question box.

"The Presbyterian Church Courts" was Mrs. Rankine's, of Woodstock, subject. She talked in an interesting and instructive way of the outward semblance of Presbyterianism.

Then followed the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year. The following was the choice of the Society:

President—Mrs. E. A. Smith, St. John.

Vice-Presidents—Mrs. Clark, Chipman; Mrs. Bruce, St. John; Mrs. Munroe, Woodstock; Mrs. Robinson, Moncton; Mrs. L. W. Johnston, Fredericton; Miss Stevens, St. Stephen.

Secretary—Miss Upton, St. John.

Treasurer—Miss I. R. Everett, Fredericton.

Secretary of Young People's Work—

Mrs. Robert Ross, St. Stephen. Mrs. Rankine, of Woodstock, was elected as a delegate to attend the annual meeting of W. F. M. S., to be held in New Glasgow during September.

St. John's Church, St. John, through Mrs. McLean, invited the Presbyterial to hold its next annual meeting in their Church. The invitation was unanimously accepted.

Votes of thanks were extended to the ladies of the congregation for their hospitality, to Mrs. Smith for her excellent address at the opening session, and to the Press for notices and reports of the meetings.

After the singing of the closing hymn, "God be with you till we meet again," the President adjourned the meeting with prayer.

W. F. M. S.

The President of the St. John Presbyterian—Mrs. E. A. Smith—respectfully requests the Presidents of the different Auxiliaries belonging to the Presbyterian to consider carefully and, if possible, act upon the following resolution, which has been forwarded to her by the Corresponding Secretary of the Dominion W. C. T. U.: "Resolved, That the Dominion W. C. T. Union memorialize all Church organizations of women that at their various gatherings they have at least ONE prayer offered for the prohibition of the liquor traffic."

Richmond.

Richmond, in addition to the horse-shed, one hundred and twenty feet long, erected in connection with the Church at Richmond Corner last summer, has built another this summer, in connection with the Church at McKenzie Corner, one hundred and fifty feet long.

A lawn party was held recently in the vicinity of McKenzie Corner. The congregation was well represented.

Grand Falls.

Mr. Baird has been working for some time in this field and has been doing good work. His services are much appreciated by the people. On Wednesday, 4th August, Rev. Mr. Ross visited the congregation and administered the rite of baptism to eight individuals, whom afterwards, with other three, he received into full communion with the church. The attendance at the services has been increasing, and the whole outlook is very encouraging.

Andover.

The Presbyterian Church at Three Brooks, Victoria County, has been repaired and painted inside. The work has been tastefully done, and visitors at once note the improvement.

The sewing circle in connection with the church is in active condition, doing good work, from a financial standpoint, as well as bringing the young people together sociably; also in connection with church work is the Mission Band. This band was organized about one year ago by Mrs. M. E. Edgar, one of Three Brooks' active church workers. Surely much credit is due Mrs. Edgar for the able way she has conducted this important work. We all know it is no easy task to interest and hold together a society of children. The band is in connection with the W. F. M. S. of the Presbyterian Church. There are 14 members, about 10 families being represented, the ages range from 5 to 12 years. The children meet at the house of the superintendent once a month, and have singing, scripture and other reading, and prayer. Each girl must endeavor to bring a few items of general interest on missionary topics. After the exercises they have an interesting talk on mission work, the children being encouraged to take part as freely as possible. This part of the meeting usually takes from half to three-quarters of an hour. Afterwards the children put their missionary zeal to the practical test, the next hour being occupied with sewing, and right here we must say that the work done does much credit to Mrs. Edgar and the mothers at home who have so early taught their little daughters the art of sewing neatly and well. Last winter a sum of \$10 was realized from the sale of a quilt. This money was sent to the

treasurer of the W. F. M. S., St. John, other articles have been made by the children. After the sewing hour a bountiful lunch is always supplied by Mrs. Edgar, when the children are dismissed. We venture to say there is not a more active or more interesting Mission Band in the Provinces than that conducted under the admirable leadership of Mrs. M. E. Edgar.

Harvey Station.

The Young People's concert in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the landing of the first settlers of Harvey, which has been in course of preparation for some time, and has been looked forward to with much interest, took place in the upper church, on Thursday, August 12, it having been postponed from Wednesday evening on account of the heavy rain. The attendance was remarkably large; it was estimated that over 500 people were present, which filled the large building to its utmost capacity. The floral decorations of the platform were very handsome, consisting of large pots of various kinds of flowers; tastefully arranged on the wall was a beautiful arch composed of ferns and flowers, containing the motto, "Canada for Christ," in large gilt letters. In the centre was a large harp, also made of flowers and ferns, skillfully woven together, and studded with large red roses, which gave the whole a very pleasing effect.

The entertainment, which was arranged by Mrs. J. A. McLean, and prepared under her direction, consisted of recitations, music, instrumental and vocal; religious and patriotic drills, in which over fifty school children and other young people took part. The patriotic drill entitled 'Canada' is deserving special

mention. It was composed of 20 young ladies robed in white, with garlands of flowers, who marched to music through various intricate forms with the greatest neatness and precision. They then formed in line and recited patriotic pieces, and finished by making obeisance to Miss Canada, who was represented by Miss Renna McCulloch, suitably attired and seated in the middle of the platform. The international flag drill was also very fine. It was taken part in by over 25 young people dressed to represent different nations, each one carrying a flag and reciting pieces appropriate to the occasion. This drill was finished by the singing of the "Red, White and Blue" by Miss Lizzie Robinson. The proceeds of the entertainment amounted to \$74.72. Rev. J. A. McLean acted as chairman with his usual ability. Miss Ida Glendinning presided at the organ and contributed not a little to the success of the affair. Much credit is due to Mrs. McLean for the energy and ability she has shown in preparing this treat for the congregation. Every one went away feeling satisfied that they had spent a pleasant as well as a very profitable evening. It is said that Mrs. McLean may be induced to repeat the entertainment in a short time.

Shediac.

The Sunday School Convention of Westmorland Co. was held in Knox Church, Aug. 9-10, and seemed one of great interest and strength. The especial tone of the convention was primary work, and an earnest and helpful address on the subject was delivered by Miss Lucas, who also led a conference of primary teachers, joined in by many who felt the importance of the work. The gather-

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ing was not large but the whole convention proved that strength is not in numbers, and that the blessing is often with the "one or two" truly gathered in His name. The help of the earnest, thoughtful addresses and conferences is felt by our school, and we believe by all the schools represented in convention, and we pray that every reader may feel that one of the most certain ways to help both "Church" and "Home" is by vigorous, noble work in the Sunday-school, where are growing up those whose lives may be made beautiful and useful in the Church, and who sooner or later may rule a home of some kind.

Greenock, St. Andrews.

It was just seventy-three years ago on Sunday last, August 1st, both by day and date, since the Rev. Dr. Alexander McLean preached his first sermon in Greenock church as the regularly inducted pastor of that congregation. The church was finished in June, 1824, and Dr. McLean was the first minister in charge, although services had been held there frequently before the same was finished. In the general surroundings of the community and amongst its people there have necessarily been many changes, but the grand

old structure stands as firmly and as solid as it did on that eventful day of so long ago. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that notwithstanding the great length of time that has elapsed since Greenock church was formally opened for worship, there are still more than a dozen persons living in St. Andrews to-day who were present on that occasion and can distinctly remember the same.

Rev. James Whiteside and Mrs. Whiteside are spending their holidays at Hampton. Rev. J. Hawley supplies Woodstock during Mr. Whiteside's absence.

Rev. Thos. Corbett has gone to renew former acquaintances on P. E. I. and spend his holidays among old scenes.

Revs. Messrs. Robinson, Murray, Clark, Miller, McIntosh and many others visited St. John this month. They were attending the Convention of the Christian Endeavour, held under the auspices of the Provincial Union.

Rev. J. D. McKay has accepted a reappointment as ordained missionary at Dorchester.

QZ-I-10-10-10

Better
get
the
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need
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to-morrow
than
wait
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and
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QZ-I-10-10-10

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Rev. H. G. Gratz has been re-appointed as our missionary at Andover for another year. During his holidays he has been supplying the pulpit of United Church, New Glasgow.

The congregation of Mechanics Settlement applied at last meeting for the sanction of Presbytery to the site of their proposed new church. After hearing Mr. Sutherland's description of the place Presbytery cordially agreed to approve of the same.

A petition from parties in Nashwaak and Stanley congregation, bearing on the appointment of a catechist, which had been irregularly handed to the Clerk, was dealt with by the Clerk being instructed to send it to the Session of that congregation for transmission to the Presbytery in the regular way.

By permission of the General Assembly, the Presbytery at its meeting on July 27th, formally received Rev. C. Irwin as a minister of the Church. Mr. Irwin formerly belonged to the Chicago Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, and in the meantime is labouring with much acceptance at St. Martins.

The application of Mr. Young for a Catechist to labour in Nashwaak and Stanley districts, was discussed at the last meeting of Presbytery. Mr. Mullen presented papers from the Trustees and Session of part of the congregation opposing the appointment of any one in addition to Mr. Mullen. A long discussion ensued, and ultimately it was agreed to send in a man in compliance with the request. Mr. Mullen objected, and appealed to Synod, promising

to give in reasons for his appeal within ten days.

Dr. Bennet dissented from the finding of the Court, and asked that his dissent be recorded.

A Committee was appointed to prepare answers to Mr. Mullen's reasons, and submit them to a meeting to be held in St. Andrew's, St. John, on Tuesday, 21st Sept., at 10 a. m.

Milltown.

On August 10th, the Presbytery of St. John, met in St. James Church, Milltown, for the purpose of inducting the Rev. F. W. Murray to the pastoral charge of the congregation. Rev. J. A. McLean of Harvey, presided. After the usual opening formalities Rev. Wm. Peacock, of St. James and Union, conducted public worship. Mr. McLean then narrates the steps taken in connection with the call, and put the usual questions of the formula. These having been satisfactorily answered, he offered the induction prayer and formally gave Mr. Murray the right hand of fellowship with the members present. Rev. Dr. MacKenzie addressed the newly inducted minister, and Mr. McLean spoke to the people. Mr. Murray was warmly welcomed by the people at the close. The attendance was large, and the service was an interesting and impressive one.

Mr. Murray comes from the Miramichi Presbytery, where he has been labouring in the Bass River congregation. He is no stranger, however, to the Presbytery, having laboured for some time within the bounds at South Richmond. We heartily welcome him again to the Presbytery, and congratulate Milltown on having secured, as their first minister under the new self-sustain-

ing arrangement, one who has proved himself so energetic and useful as Mr. Murray has in all his fields of labour. We wish him success in all his undertakings.

Chipman.

In the Presbyterian Church at Salmon Creek, Queen's County, the company of Loyal Crusaders held a gospel temperance meeting on Friday evening, 6th August. The choir rendered some very fine music. Speeches were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Steeves and Clark, and Messrs. Baird and McDonald. Miss Baird presided at the organ.

Monday Morning.

Every morning is a new beginning. It is not only the beginning of a new day, but it is a point at which each individual begins, or may begin, anew the business of life. He not merely resumes work : he starts as if in some sense he were commencing for the first time—as if he himself were new. Night is a great renovator—a kind of death that gives new life. A man may find his work in the morning just as he left it the night before ; but the work does not so find him. The work is unchanged but the worker is not. He has gone back and yet forward. He has receded and yet gained by the retrogression. He has retreated from the exhaustion induced by yesterday's labour, but comes forward with recovered vigour for the toils of to-day.

Morning is the offspring of Night and the parent of Day. From the

secret womb of darkness it comes forth a new creature, swaddled in dawn and re-robed in sunbeams, while all nature rejoices over the advent. And it comes not for itself, nor for the day, but for the world on which it rises. Dawn dies with the latest star ; day climbs to the zenith in the wake of its king, and thence, without a pause, descends towards the western horizon. We see the latest sunbeam kiss farewell to the tallest tower or the highest hill-top, and the diurnal display is over. In the whispering zephyrs we hear the maternal lullaby, and the mantle of night falls gently over our recumbent consciousness. "Tired Nature's sweet restorer" begins her recuperating operations, and the succeeding morn finds her work accomplished. Then we again begin to be, and to do.

But our mornings, although in fact a continuous and unbroken series, have received a particular classification, which punctuates their progress. Too many for us in the mass, we have bundled them up in sevens, and thus each gets its numerical position as well as its distinctive name. Quakers recognise only the former, while most other Christians accept the heathen nomenclature, finding it suits the purpose just as well as any other. For my own part, I rather prefer it, and this for the very reason on which others found their objection. It reminds us of our pagan ancestry, or rather perhaps of the paganism which once prevailed in the past history of our race, but the

reminder is not dangerous. It has rather a salutary tendency. It leads me to think gratefully of our deliverance from that dreadful darkness, the dawn which succeeded, and the meridian splendour in which we now exult. To those who advance, a retrospect is pleasing and may be profitable. The sun and moon begin the weekly sub-series of days; and these two really occupy much the same position to the other five that their name-parents hold to the lesser dignities with which they have been nominally associated.

It is with the second we have now to do. Monday morning begins the working week. It comes with all the virtues we have noted as belonging to mornings in general, but presenting one of these in special prominence. The morning of Monday arrives not only after the usual interval of nocturnal repose, but also marks the advent and exit of a day consecrated to rest and recreation. It is thus more emphatically than any other morning of the week, a new beginning—a fresh start in the enterprise of human existence and exertion.

All nature, more or less, participates in the nocturnal renovation—man alone in the higher and more elevating influences of the Sabbatical interval. "The Sabbath was made for man," and thus Monday morning comes, or should come to him, as it can dawn upon no other. Spent merely in rest, negative repose, without activity of any kind, this "day off" must prove largely conducive to

the welfare of those who are really over-worked during the other six; but in this respect man's near dependants of the lower creation can and do share along with him. The hard-worked horse needs not to leave his stall, except, perhaps, to luxuriate in the summer air on the grassy field, while even the ill-used donkey (donkeys generally are ill-used) give a more hilarious bray as he recognises that the day has dawned on which his wicked master ceases from troubling. Up to this point the three animals—man, horse and donkey—can enjoy the rest together, and profit by it in the same way; but for man the day has a higher mission, and benefits vastly more benign—all which tend to impart to Monday morning that distinguishing character which has secured for it our present condescension. We refer to the Sabbath with no Sabbatarian purpose at all, but simply because Monday morning must needs be very much what the preceding day makes it.

We should, and generally do, meet Monday morning doubly refreshed and reinvigorated. Under natural arrangements properly carried out each night's repose should sufficiently recuperate from the previous day's exhaustion, but arrears are apt to be left, and to accumulate. These the weekly rest-day should quite clear off, and hand Monday morning a clean sheet for the six days to come. How exultant we feel when this is the case. We wake early, and may have slept less than on other nights, but if so, this

is simply because nature does not feel it necessary to make her usual draft on Morpheus, neither body nor mind requires it, and a wakeful hour or two is neither inappropriate nor unenjoyable. The mind likes to luxuriate consciously in repose—to ramble hither and thither over the past, and to pry and plan as best it may into and for the near future. This is no task but a spontaneous exercise like the sport of boyhood, or the play of “troutlets in a pool.” Mind is stretching its arms, or it may be its wings, to shake off indolence induced by ease, and nerve its frame for the struggle of the day. We arise and go forth buoyant and defiant, fearing not the face of man nor the fight for which we behold with gladness the field cleared and the lists erected.

All this results from rest, and rest alone — physical repose reacting somewhat on our mental nature. But on Monday morning we may many times feel an elevation somewhat beyond this. Being rested, we can go forth rejoicing as strong men to run a race; but if, while resting the body, we have done a little towards feasting the mind, we may feel not only physically strong but mentally magnificent. With this higher acquisition, we may not only find pleasure in the race itself, but lifting our inner eyes to the bright sky above and surveying the varied beauties that surround the racecourse we may gather from a vastly extended circumference materials for higher and more enduring enjoyment. To

this intellectual elevation and expansion the Sabbath lends most efficient and much needed help; nor, while we fully recognise and rejoice in its yet higher function, do we think that even the spiritually minded should withhold its leisure from this lower sphere of beneficence. Many who ignore the spiritual and purely devotional, can derive great benefit from the day, as giving scope for intellectual breathing, and by this respiration they must needs grow into a fuller manhood, which we shall hope by-and-by to see gloriously crowned with that by which alone man can reach his true dignity. The many new starts which Monday morning gives us help us on wonderfully with the world's work, when, along with the weekly regenerator we find this *elixir vitæ* also, we shall live indeed. Meanwhile let us rest and be thankful — thankful for the day; and determined to turn it to the best account physically, intellectually, and spiritually. So shall we hail with gladness each succeeding Monday morning.



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