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

FEB.

1896.

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. 1.

ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY, 1896.

No. 2

"CHURCH AND HOME," writes a correspondent, "kindly send along about thirty copies, &c., &c., we mean to give a copy to each family in the congregation." ALL *do likewise.*"

In a late issue of the *Christian World* we notice that the Elders in Belfast, Ireland, have formed an "Elders' Union," which meets once a month in one of the city churches. The purposes and objects of the meeting are mutual encouragement and conference as to the more efficient discharge of the duties of their office. Would it not be well to hold conferences of a similar kind in connection with our Churches? If the plan could be adopted how much good would result to the cause of Presbyterianism. More friendly feelings would be engendered between congregations, and the mutual exchange of counsel and advice between intelligent laymen would materially help the ministers in their work, and aid the upbuilding of Christ's cause in our midst.

In connection with the agitation now going on for the establishment of a Church Building Fund for New Brunswick, it is interesting to note that the Churches in the old country are engaged in the consideration of

the same problem. The Presbyterian Church in England is engaged in floating an extensive Church building scheme. They tell how in many places they have lost their hold of the people for want of a church building, and are now trying to raise £50,000 that they may be able to build at once and partly recover the ground they have lost. The Free Church Presbytery of Glasgow, Scotland, is also engaged in maturing an elaborate church extension movement. The Church of Scotland has done much through the Baird Trust and kindred endowments to occupy waste places. All combine in stating that no real progress can be made without a church building. We have now a chance to occupy the ground at small expense. If we allow the opportunity to slip it may cost us thousands, like the English Church, to repair the breach made through our errors of judgment. We commend the Church Building Fund to the generosity of our readers.

THE principle of Systematic Giving is an important element in the work of the Church. Contributions are an evidence of our interest in its welfare, and where nothing is given, or small sums are given carelessly, it may be safely stated that we have not fully realized the obligations of

Church membership. Are we giving regularly? Are we giving as liberally as we might? The question is not whether we shall give or not give, for give we must if we would be faithful to the Christian profession.

Although laying down no hard and fast rule, we would say have some method in giving. If all connected with our Churches will ever give regularly, as God hath prospered them, there would be no need to resort to *extraordinary* ways and means of raising money. May the day soon come when our Boards of Trustees and Management shall be able to meet all expenses by direct contributions! When money owed to the Church shall be regarded as a debt in any other direction, and shall be paid as promptly as though incurred in the business transactions of daily life. Where there is no proper control and no regular system in giving it is impossible that a Church can do its best work. In connection with this subject we call the attention of our readers to a communication in another column.

Working and Giving.

"Lord what wilt thou have me to do?" asked the Apostle Paul at the time of his conversion, and during the remainder of his life he did with all his might whatever work he found to do, suffering often persecution, imprisonment, shipwreck and perils of all sorts for Christ's sake. When Moses made known to the Israelites the Lord's will concerning their contributions for the erection of the Ta-

bernacle, the willing hearted ones brought their offerings, proving that they were doers of the Word and not hearers only. God loveth a cheerful giver, and is best pleased with those services that are given willingly and not grudgingly. Not all the people brought gold and silver and brass and purple and fine linen, but those who did not found other work to do, and whether work is done with the purse or with the hands, so long as it is done from a right motive, it is acceptable to God. He never asks of us what we have not to give, but, "If there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath and not according to that he hath not," and because some cannot do as much as others in the Lord's cause is no reason why they should not to the best of their ability make use of the lesser talents with which they have been entrusted.

The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof; the silver and the gold are His, and He giveth His people all things richly to enjoy; but His gifts are not given in equal proportion to all. To some He gives the five talents, to some the two, and to others the one, but to all He says, "occupy till I come." Even the "willing mind," without which the costliest gifts are valueless in God's eye, but with which the smallest offering is well pleasing to Him, is one of His gifts, and our daily prayer should be that He would make our hearts willing to cheerfully work and give in whatever way we can to promote His cause in the earth. If from the abundant storehouse of His wealth He has showered riches upon us, it is not that we may spend it in selfish gratification of the flesh, or in hoarding up merely, but to relieve the needy, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, raise the fallen, carry or send the Gospel to those darkened lands where Christ's light has not

yet penetrated. Freely ye have received, freely give. To whom much is given, of him shall much be required.

If riches have been withheld, we still may give our *littles*, even though they be as small as the widow's two mites, which received a higher commendation from our Lord than the larger gifts of the wealthier people.

If from a pure and sincere love to Him who so loved us as to give His life to save us from death, we are willing to use our talents in His service—our time, our money, our sympathy, our hands, doing good as we have opportunity, and giving God the glory, the words "working" and "giving" will have for us a deeper meaning, and when we are called upon to give an account of our stewardship we will not give back the talent unused, but return unto our Lord His own with usury.

ST. STEPHEN.

Superintendent's Report as
submitted to the Presbytery
at the January Meeting.

To the Reverend Presbytery of St. John:

I beg to report having visited Jerusalem and Welsford early in November. Communion services were held in Jerusalem. Four persons were received into the fellowship of the Church on profession of faith. For the first time, perhaps, in a period of twenty years there is something like a permanent organization. The old church has been repaired, inside and out, and made as good as new. Two elders have been ordained, and a Board of Trustees elected, a Woman's Missionary Society organized, and there is a Sabbath School well conducted. The people have contributed liberally for preaching services, and are anxious

that some supply be given them during the winter months. It is a matter of regret that their wishes cannot be gratified. The whole field, which comprises Welsford, Nerepis, Clarendon and Jerusalem, has done well. All expenses were paid and forty dollars contributed to the Schemes of the Church. Clarendon has not yet entirely recovered from the effects of the old schisms over the building of a church.

Members of Presbytery will remember that Jerusalem had been abandoned as a mission station for three years, as our cause seemed to be hopeless. The church was permitted to go to wreck and ruin. The doors stood open to wind and weather; the cattle and sheep took possession of it during the summer as a place of refuge from the flies; tramps turned in to sleep and smoke; in winter the snow beat in at the open doorway, and the rain in wet weather came dripping down through the roof; but all this is now changed, and our few remaining families have a pretty and comfortable place of worship. Great things are not expected, but it is something to see that life is not extinct, and that there is a prospect of some little return for the toil and expense of many years. Mr. C. D. McIntosh was our catechist in this field for the last two summers, and to his perseverance and zeal is due the change which has taken place.

Shediac and Scotch Settlement were also visited during the month of November. This congregation is in a vigorous and healthy condition. Mr. Morton has been most successful in his work. A new church has been built in Shediac, on the site of the old one which was burned, and the people are happier and more comfortable and prosperous than ever. The grant of \$200 for last year was reduced to \$150, and for

this year to \$100. Collections for the Schemes of the Church have been liberal.

Mr. Morton has taken especial interest in the welfare of the young men of the congregation, and indeed of the community in general. An association has been organized, rooms rented, books, papers, etc. furnished, and a good start made in compelling the boys not to go out but to come in. I am sure the Presbytery will bid Mr. Morton God-speed in this sphere of Church and mission work.

Fairville and Grand Bay have also been visited. It is unnecessary to repeat what has already appeared in print, but this much may be said, that the new church has set the congregation on its feet. A little over a year ago there was no church, no minister, no Sabbath school and no congregation; now these are all for us. The city congregations made handsome donations to the new church, and no doubt feel happier for the good they have done.

St. George, Penfield, Bocabec and Waveig have been visited, and I am pleased to report that rearrangement in this section of Charlotte County is making some headway.

Our people in Bocabec are very loth to give up their claim to the manse in Waveig, which is not a matter of surprise. In this section some of the people are in favor of rearrangement; some are indifferent, and others are opposed. In St. George and Penfield the feeling is that any step which will tend to strengthen the congregation will be acceptable to all, as it would lead to a permanent settlement, which is so desirable.

In Milltown our work is prospering, but I have to report that no advance has been made in salary, and the grant remains the same as last year, viz., \$200.

Rearrangement has been accomplished in St. James, and it remains to be seen how far it will succeed. No little time and pains were taken to induce our people to make trial of it, but if a good strong congregation can be built out of these broken bits of Presbyterianism it will be ample compensation.

Respectfully submitted,
JAMES ROSS.

St. Andrew's Church.

The annual meeting of St. Andrew's Church was held January 15th. The minister, Rev. L. G. Macneill, took the Chair, and after devotional exercises briefly addressed the congregation, speaking of gratitude due to God for another year of privilege, health, work, and fair progress—gratitude also to the Trustees for fidelity to the trust imposed upon them, and gratitude to the people who so liberally and cheerfully backed the Managers with their support. Mr. A. Macaulay, Chairman of Trustees, presented the annual statement of receipts and expenditures, from which it appeared that the finances are in a most healthy condition. The ordinary receipts for the year were \$6,283.16, and expenditure \$6,225.15, leaving a balance in Treasurer's hands of \$58. Adding to the above the special collections for Schemes of the Church, S. School, &c., amounting to \$934.90, the total receipts were \$7,218.06. On suggestion of the minister the congregation decided to raise a larger sum towards the support of the choir, and the result will doubtless appear in better music for the current year. Already the choir has been strengthened by some admirable voices, and under the skilful training of the new organist, Mr. N. Athoe, may be expected to do good work.

The congregation also decided to bear its share of expense incurred for the support of the proposed District Nurse in the City Hospital.

The following were elected Trustees for the current year: Dr. P. R. Inches, A. Macaulay, Frank Rankine, James Knox, J. R. Cameron, R. M. Magee, Andrew Blair, P. S. Macnutt and H. C. Rankine.

Shediac and Scotch Settlement

The annual congregational meeting of Shediac section of the congregation of Shediac and Scotch Settlement was held on Monday, the 18th of January. The financial statement was considered by the congregation satisfactory, although the year began with a balance on hand and ended with a deficit.

The Church, built at a cost of \$3,400, to replace the one burned the previous August, was opened in February. The debt which was at the time of opening \$1,000, has been reduced during the year to \$500. About \$250 of the balance is provided for by subscription, payable in one and two years. The current expenses were \$618. The amount received on current expenses \$505, collectable subscriptions \$60, leaving a nett indebtedness of \$53. This adverse balance is accounted for by unusual expenditure, as organ, fencing, grading walks, and some small bills properly chargeable to Church building account. The receipts have been augmented by the energetic choir, under the leadership of W. A. Russell, Esq., not only giving their services free but providing the funds to purchase a new organ.

The attendance at all the religious services of the Church has been good throughout the year, and, under the consecrated labor of the pastor, Rev. A. S. Morton, there is a decided im-

provement in the spiritual condition of the people, especially among young men. The Sabbath Schools have had a year of prosperity. The blanks made in the teaching staff, and so much deplored at the time, through the removal of Mrs. Kerr and Mrs. White, have been wonderfully provided for, and even a new class formed under a devoted teacher. A pleasing feature of the school is the fact that none have graduated from the school by reason of their having reached the age of sixteen. on the contrary, a number who have passed that age have entered during the year, and at present two-thirds of the school have passed that age, the ages of scholars ranging from four to eighty-two. Eight have entered the communicants' class, five of them young men.

During the year a quarterly conference of Teachers, and a Normal class (of a union character) have been organized, and both have proved helpful. The Union Teachers' Meeting, now nine years old, has been continued during the year. Home department work has been taken up and will be pushed vigorously. The school is gradually equipping itself and is even now better prepared to do improved work methodically than before the fire. The school has raised during the year \$80.18, of which \$45 has been given for missions, \$27.24 on school requisites, and \$8.94 remains on hand. The school at Pt. DuChene is under the care of an elder, and has continued to surprise those interested in it, by the number attending, though, unlike Shediac, the scholars are nearly all very young, and these are under the motherly care of Mrs. Moore. Very much remains to be done in drawing older persons into the school. We long and pray for a lady teacher endowed by God with the qualities necessary for this particular part of

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the work. We think if our minister's efforts were only seconded by such a person a large class of young men and women would be gathered in. This school is greatly indebted to the people of Shediac, and also of Moncton, Truro and St. John, year after year, for help to carry on its work. The last kind remembrance being a parcel of twenty-four books from St. John's Church S. School, St. John, delivered through the kindness of Mr. John Irving. About \$40 has been expended on this school during the year, \$18 of which was provided by the school. A collection is taken for missions each Sabbath, which, on account of the numerous denominations represented, the school votes from time to time for undenominational purposes. The number enrolled is 37, and now, at the risk of being lengthy, let me add one more feature of this school, of which I like to speak, and that I think is unusual. One of the five who did not belong to our school, but assisted at our Christmas entertainment, was a Roman Catholic gentleman, who not only assisted at the entertainment but worked enthusiastically and with hearty goodwill for weeks to make it a success. Another was a devoted Irish Roman Catholic who astonished and delighted the audience by the vivid manner in which she brought before

them all the pictures of Hagar in the wilderness, in her recital of that poem. The audience, who crowded the Public School Room, was at least half Roman Catholic. The admission fee was for furnishings for the School-room.

We gratefully look toward God and offer thanks for the way in which He has led us this year.

Hampton Church.

The Hampton section of congregation held their annual meeting on the 23rd ult. The reports from the Board of Managers and from the W. F. and H. M. S. were very gratifying. There was a balance of \$10 on hand after paying obligations in full and reducing our Church debt by \$195. The Women's Society report showed that in the six years since the Society was organized by Rev. Messrs. McDonald and Ross there was collected in Mite boxes alone \$117.77. The total amount raised by this Society, the membership of which is only ten, during the past six years, is \$278.

Calvin Church.

The annual meeting of the congregation of Calvin Presbyterian Church was held on Wednesday, 8th January. There was a large attendance of the congregation. The pastor, Rev. W. W. Rainnie, occupied the chair. The Secretary's report showed that the income of the Church in 1895 was \$1,437, and the expenditure \$1,404, leaving a balance on hand of \$33. The Church is clear of debt, excepting the mortgage of \$4,000. During last year new furnaces were placed in the building, a new room was



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added and extensive repairs made. The work was done entirely by the Trustees and the young men of the congregation. Sixteen were added to the communion roll. The following Trustees were chosen for 1896: J. S. Clarke, Wm. Megarrity, Wm. Robertson, J. D. McKay, J. H. Murphy, S. Wark, T. S. Hill, David Ross and A. Belyea. Mr. J. H. Murphy was appointed Chairman, and Mr. T. S. Hill, Secretary. A vote of thanks was given to the retiring Trustees, two of whom, Messrs. J. Buchanan and S. E. Dailey, have been members of the Board for over 10 years. A vote of thanks was also given to the Young People's Society, which has done much to further improvements in the Church.

St. John's Church.

The annual congregational meeting of St. John Presbyterian Church was held on Jan. 15th, in the basement of the Church. The meeting was opened in due form, with prayer and singing. On motion W. J. Parks was elected Chairman, and E. J. Armstrong, Secretary. On motion the election of Trustees was proceeded with, and resulted in the following gentlemen being chosen: E. J. Armstrong, H. H. Burns, C. H. Doig, W. J. Youngclaus, W. J. Parks, J. V. Russell, J. A. Magilton, D. Mitchell, W. Kein. The report of the Trustees showed that last year was one of financial interest in the Church. The report of the Session was also read, and showed that the past year was one of much spiritual interest to the Church. The report of the Sunday School was also presented. The scholars are very proud of their satisfactory and gratifying showing. The report of the Ladies' Mission and Benevolent Society was a very satisfactory one. A great deal of

help was given and much missionary work done. The Ladies' Aid Society has done a very remarkable work during the year, and by the report presented showed that they have been the means of helping to pay a large number of outstanding debts. The reports of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, the Mission Band and the Boys' Brigade were very satisfactory, and met with the hearty approval of the congregation. On motion D. McLean and W. Craig were elected auditors. A vote of thanks was tendered to Miss J. Henderson for her untiring work in connection with the Ladies' Aid Society during the year. The choir was also thanked for their services. The meeting closed with the doxology.

St. David's Church.

On Sunday, the 2nd inst., the services in this Church were of an anniversary nature, the Rev. Dr. Bruce having on that day entered upon the 14th year of his pastorate there. In the morning he preached a powerful and appropriate sermon from Heb. x. 25, "not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together," during the course of which he briefly reviewed some of the changes which had taken place in the congregation and in the community since his induction. In the evening his remarks were based on Exod. xiv. 15, and had special reference to the work in the Sunday School.

In addition to the above the following particulars may be given. Last month the annual meeting of the congregation was held; the attendance was good, the spirit excellent, and the proceedings very interesting. The Trustees report was one of the most encouraging ever submitted to the congregation. Under the force of united and con-

tinuous effort, which has recently assumed the form of a vigorous movement, the debt, which has rested on the Church building consequent upon the fire of 1877, is now being reduced in such manner as to furnish strong presumptive evidence, not merely of its assuming nominal proportions, but of its final extinction at no distant date.

Very encouraging also as manifesting much activity and a healthful condition of spiritual life, particularly among the "rising hope," were the reports of the different Societies connected with the congregation, and doing important and yeoman service in the various departments of its work.

Two prominent features may be mentioned—the work in the Sunday Schools, the attendance at which is nearly 600, including 70 officers and teachers, and the Young People's Association, where about 100 persons take part in carrying on the winter programme.

Church membership is nearly 400, and the congregation contributes about \$8,000 for all purposes during the past year.

Markhamville and Waterford.

The Superintendent of Missions reports having visited Markhamville and Waterford, and holding preaching services on that date in both places. Waterford is succeeding admirably with the new Church, having now a subscription list of \$675. Work will be resumed on the building early in March. Any congregation anxious to do mission work can do no better than place some of their funds in the hands of the building committee. More than one congregation will put a brick in this little church it is hoped. Collections for Sabbath services at Markhamville and Waterford 90 cents. The ex-

penses of the Superintendent were \$1.57. Mission Stations must remember that expenses of supply should be promptly met.

A Night in Drumtochty.

St. Andrew's Church School-room was crowded on the evening of Jan. 30th with one of our best city audiences on the invitation to spend an hour or two among the Drumtochty folk, whom Ian MacLaren's inimitable pen has immortalized. Mr. E. A. Smith, a member of the congregation, whose talented wife had frequently been heard before on the same platform, both in literary and missionary roles, was introduced by the pastor, and fairly surprised the audience by his renderings of Watson's humorous and pathetic sketches. His description of the author, the honored Presbyterian minister of Sefton Park, Liverpool, was good, and with the assistance of an enlarged photo of his face that hung on the wall, gave his hearers a fair idea of his hero. His readings of the scenes "The factor and Dr. Davidson," and "Dr. McLure's fight with death" were especially effective. The readings were interspersed with Scottish songs, admirably sung by Mr. Thos. Murray and other members of the choir. The results were all that could be desired—a pleasant and profitably spent evening, a deepening and strengthening of the ties that bind our hearts to the dear auld countrie; and last, but not least, the addition of nearly \$50 to the funds of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

We regret to learn that Rev. J. S. Sutherland, of Sussex, has been confined to the house through an attack of "grippe." We extend our sympathy, and trust he will soon be able to resume his pastoral work.

Fairville and Grand Bay.

A very successful musical and literary entertainment was given in the Presbyterian Hall, on the evening of Jan. 23rd. Rev. W. W. Rainnie and Mr. E. A. Smith contributed largely to the entertainment. Proceeds of the evening, coupled with that raised from other sources, and supplemented by a generous donation of \$45 from Dr. Walker, enabled the congregation to buy a new organ.

There are only about seven Presbyterian families at Grand Bay, but most of them are energetic workers. A Church entertainment with them is a rare thing. But when they have one they mean business. On the evening of the 29th of January, the weather being fair, the moon bright and the sleighing good, the Church was more than crowded. A good programme was well rendered; the visitors were served with cake and coffee; every one was pleased, and the committee realized a nice little sum.

The Presbytery accepted Rev. A. Fitzpatrick's resignation at its last meeting, and now Kincardine is without a shepherd. Mr. Fitzpatrick has gone West. We trust soon Kincardine may secure another pastor.

Calvin Church organized an Auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society last month. Mrs. Buchanan is President, Mrs. Dailey, Vice-President, Mrs. Logan, Secretary, and Miss Phillips, Treasurer. It meets on the second Monday of each month, at 7 1/2 p. m. It divides its funds between Home and Foreign Missions.

We are glad to see Rev. Mr. Fotheringham about as usual, after his severe illness. We regret, how-

ever, that his state of health will not allow him to give as much time and attention to Sunday School work in future. This will be a distinct loss to the Sunday School Committee, which will not seem the same without Mr. Fotheringham's imprimatur on its report and publications.

Rev. Wm. Peacock was inducted to the pastoral charge of St. James' congregation, Charlotte Co., on Jan. 16th. The field has been materially strengthened by the addition of Lynfield and DeWolfe. We trust that success will attend the movement for rearrangement, which is not only occupying the attention of our Presbytery but of all the Presbyteries in the Maritime Synod.

Rev. J. Burgess, at the close of prayer meeting on Jan. 29th, received from his congregation a handsome gold chain in addition to the watch and pencil case received at Christmas. Golden days have begun in Carleton.

The congregation of Buctouche presented Mrs. W. G. King with a handsome quilt and an elegant parlor chair, as a small token of their appreciation of her services as organist. Mrs. King is one of our most faithful Church workers, being always foremost in every good work.

The many friends of Rev. T. F. Fullerton, in the St. John Presbytery, are delighted to hear of his successful work in P. E. I. His congregation in Charlottetown presented him with a gold watch, chain and charm the other day. CHURCH AND HOME extends its congratulations.

Norton's appeal for funds to aid its Church building scheme has met with hearty response, and the people have determined to arise and build. Success to them in their good efforts will be the wish of all our people, and many a helping hand will be stretched out to Norton in this matter.

STANLEY.—Upwards of one hundred of the congregation and friends of the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Mullin met at the manse on Dec. 30th and presented Mrs. Mullin with a well filled purse. Your correspondent was informed by the Rev. J. S. Mullin that during the fourteen years he has been pastor of the Stanley and Nashwaak congregations a manse and four churches have been built. The manse at Stanley costing \$3,000, the Church at Nashwaak costing \$1,500, one at Wilham-burg \$1,000, and one at Tay Creek, which was built last summer, costing \$1,000, and the Stanley Kirk costing \$2,000, and that \$900 would cover the debt on all the buildings.—*Fredericton Gleaner.*

English Settlement.

On Feb. 11th the induction of Mr. J. A. McLean to this charge took place. It had been fixed for the 4th, but as not enough of the delegation attended to allow Presbytery to be constituted the ceremony had to be postponed.

Rev. Dr. Macrae, the Moderator, with Messrs. Fraser and Rannie, attended on the 11th, and received a hearty welcome from the people, who had been much disappointed at the failure of Presbytery to meet on its appointed day.

After the constitution of Presbytery the edict was returned certified as having been served, and no objections being made Mr. Fraser con-

ducted public worship, preaching from Rom. 1 and 16. Dr. Macrae put the questions of the formula and offered the induction prayer, after which Mr. McLean received a hearty welcome from the members present. Dr. Macrae thereafter suitably addressed the minister, and Mr. Rannie the people.

The congregation of Greenfield have enjoyed evangelistic services during the past month, conducted by Rev. Thomas Corbett and the pastor, Rev. Daniel Fiske. Forty have been added to the communion roll as a result.

The scholars of St. John Presbyterian Church have presented the congregation with a handsome Communion Table of polished mahogany.

Latest Church organization — a Boys' Broom Brigade — very useful on stormy days. Accoutrements: 'Brooms and whisks. What next for comfort?

All communications intended for publication should reach the Editors not later than the last Wednesday in each month.

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