

THE HOME MISSION JOURNAL

VOLUME IV, No 11

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 27, 1903.

WHOLE No. 90

We would be very much obliged if those to whom we addressed postal cards would respond soon. Of the thirty to whom we sent them only one as yet has sent in a remittance! Friends we are in need of funds to carry on the paper.

Culture and Character.

It is the thought of some that character can be transformed by culture. Educate men, we are sometimes told, and you will regenerate them. Give them culture and you will lift them out of the slough into which they have fallen. Transform their environment and you shall transfigure them. It all sounds well, but after all there is a fallacy in it.

Of course no one would deny that education and its consequent culture have an influence on the external lives of men. Neither will any one deny that if you can better one's external condition you stand a chance of improving his character. But the influence that is exerted in each case is too largely an external influence to very greatly transform the inward character. Something of inward impulse of course is imparted by education and its resultant culture. But it is not enough to reach the centre of man's being. It is not enough to capture the citadel of his soul. Some one has said "the profoundest education cannot change a man's nature." There is no question but that this declaration is true. There is something in the human heart, something in human nature that defies the touch of education, of culture. There is, if you will, an innate tendency to evil which will break away from the bonds of each and reveal the man in his true condition.

Now then, it is this phase of the problem of human transformation that Christianity meets. This regenerating power from the Spirit of God comes to and touches the man's inner life. He is born from above. He leaves something of the old life and takes on the new life which Jesus Christ imparts. Under this spiritual change old things pass away and all things become new. What education cannot do; what culture cannot do; what change in external environment cannot do that the new birth in Jesus Christ can do. It changes the man's nature; it makes him over. Moreover this is not theory alone, but fact. Practical illustrations of this can be found on every hand. This is the testimony that Christianity is bearing to itself all the time. It is transforming the nature of men so that the selfish, the base, the sensual, the covetous, the evil inclined, are turned face about and made to emulate in some measure the example Jesus Christ has set. It is this work of Christianity that in these days demands special emphasis. It is a fact that men recognize and are ever ready to acknowledge. There are speculative questions that we can well let alone, but this practical illustration of the grace of Jesus Christ we want constantly to enforce.

Active Members.

C. H. WETHERBE.

Those who are designated as being active members of a church are quite generally regarded with much more favor than are the apparently inactive ones. Pastors, as a rule, set a higher value on the active members than they do on

those who are called "inactive members"? It is commonly taken to mean that such ones participate in those forms of Christian work to which they may be adapted or believe that they are adapted to. They steadily attend all of the services of the church. They make a practice of being present at the mid-week prayer meeting, even if they do not always directly participate in the services. If the active member be a woman, she is connected with the local missionary society, if there be one, and she is sure to be present at each meeting, unless she be especially hindered. Now, such members are generally praised for their religious activity, and they are preferred to the inactive ones; but it has recently forcibly occurred to me that too high an estimate is often placed upon the merely active members of churches, or at least many who are active in certain directions. Bear in mind that there are even more important elements in the character of a member of a church than activity in religious affairs. There are thousands of church members who, although exceedingly active in attending the appointments of their church, are destitute of the great essentials of Christian character.

I know several members of a church who are very active in all of the forms of religious work which that church undertakes, and yet they are distinctly devoid of honesty, veracity and true Christian love. Two of them are women in middle life, occupying offices in the church and its affiliated societies, and outwardly they seem very zealous in serving the good cause, yet both of them have frequently proved themselves to be thoroughly unworthy of the confidence of those who know their real traits of character. And the same thing is true of another member, a man who actively occupies prominent offices in the church. It would seem that these people suppose that their religious activity atones for any moral deficiency to which they may be subject; if so, they are awfully deceived. Active church members are very desirable, but they need to possess genuine Christian character if they would make their activity count in favor of Christ's cause.

Song in the Night.

SEVEN men were buried beneath thousands of tons of rock which fell without a moment's warning in a Cornish tin mine.

Willing hands soon began the work of rescue, though all despaired of finding any one alive.

Their worst fears were not quite realized. One man was found, and was removed from his comrades uninjured, the rocks having formed an arch over him.

After two days the men who were at work, having been greatly encouraged by finding one man alive, called very loudly to ascertain whether others were alive and could speak. One man answered. He was an active Christian, and a Sunday-school superintendent.

"Are you alone?" asked some one.

"No; Christ is with me," was the answer.

"Are you injured?" was the next question.

"Yes," replied the imprisoned man, "my legs are held fast by something."

Then, in a feeble voice he sang:—

"Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!

When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O, abide with me."

They heard no more from him. Two days later they found him with his legs crushed by a huge rock which rested on them; but it was known from his life and his last words that he had gone to be "forever with the Lord."

When he was buried, his funeral was attended by hundreds of people. According to the local custom, they carried the casket through the streets with their hands; and on the way to the cemetery, and also at the graveside, his favorite hymns were sung. All were weeping as they finally sung the hymn which was last upon his lips, "Abide with Me"; and many felt the desire of their own hearts expressed in the words—

"In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me."

—*Rev. William J. Hart, in C. E. World.*

A FAVORITE.

"I can't understand why Mrs. Day is such a general favorite," the stranger remarked, looking with puzzled eyes after the plain, poorly dressed little woman who had just left them. "She isn't a particularly bright talker. There's nothing noticeable about her anyway, yet everyone I've met seems to love her."

"If you saw her a half-dozen times you would understand," was the prompt reply. "She has two of the greatest charms in the world—a beautiful and sincere humility and an utter freedom from envy. I never saw anyone who was happier over other people's happiness. It seems as if she has cleared herself out of the way and is utterly free to rejoice with others. She has made me understand, as no one ever did before, how the meek may inherit the earth. She inherits all the joys of all the lives in our village."

It was a beautiful picture of one of earth's conquerors. There are many ways of joy—courage, patience, perseverance, high ambition—these all have their rewards. But in all the world there is no road where joy so often passes as that of the "heart at leisure from itself." The time that we might have for people, the time that we might have for God, if only self were shut from the heart!—*Selected.*

FOLLY OF ATHEISM.

Someone tells of a man going out under the starlit skies and looking up into the great infinite blue above him, and seeing the splendid constellation of worlds on worlds, and realizing that the unthinkable spaces beyond were filled with suns, and worlds, and systems, all moving in perfect order and harmony, all obeying some stupendous universal law. And then this man, who from the time he was a child on the nursery floor, could not see a ball roll across the carpet without instantly asking, "Who did it?" declared, in full view of this glorious nightly panorama, that nobody did it; that these brilliant orbs were simply evolved; that they had no creator, no ruler, no planner but chance. And God looked down from behind the stars and simply said: "The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God.'"

Rev. H. Clay Trumbull tells the following good story of Mr. Moody: "In Moody's earlier days, in Chicago, an over-zealous critic, who was not an over-zealous worker, took Moody to task for his defects in speech. 'You oughtn't to attempt to speak in public, Moody; you make many mistakes in grammar.' 'I know I make mistakes,' said Moody, 'and I lack a great many things; but I'm doing the best I can with what I've got. But, look here, my friend, you've got grammar enough; what are you doing with it for Jesus?' It is not often that the grumblers who do no work are so well rebuked.

The Home Mission Journal.

A record of Missionary, Sunday School and Temperance work, and a reporter of church and industrial activities, and general religious literature. Published semi-monthly. All communications, except money remittances, are to be addressed to

THE HOME MISSION JOURNAL,
14 Canterbury Street, St. John, N. B.
All money letters should be addressed to
REV. J. B. DUGGLES,
Caretaker St. John.

Terms, - - 50 Cents a Year



Railroading with Christ.

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CHAPTER XI.

MERIT REWARDED.

WHEN Joe Benton, after a week of careful nursing in the hospital at Orange Junction, recovered strength sufficiently to be able to listen to the details of the attempted robbery of the express, he was surprised to learn how, although he himself had suffered through their malignant hate, the plans of the evil doers had been effectually frustrated.

The bullet which so spitefully sped from the rifle of the guard had entered Joe's leg, causing a painful though not a dangerous wound. Joe had fallen at once and, partly stunned as he was by the fall, had been left for dead by the robbers. Quickly, however, Joe had regained his senses sufficiently to rise a little and to make an attempt to stagger off in the direction of the approaching express, yet only to fall again. This time, however, he sank down not between the rails of the main track, but upon a bit of disused switch which led off to a side cut from which gravel had formerly been dug.

Weakened by his wound and confused in his senses, Joe lay on the satchel helpless and inactive, until presently he dashed into view upon the track the headlight of an oncoming locomotive. To Joe, scarce knowing where he was, the train seemed like a great monster rushing upon him to destroy him; and overcome by this new peril he fainted.

It was indeed a train that had rattled by Joe, as he lay on the switch—but not the express, as he had imagined, having in his half-unconscious condition mistaken the points of the compass. The fact was that the express had been detained by a blocking of the track west of Giant Mountain, and so under special orders the freight to which the leading ruffian had referred had been allowed to proceed on as far as Walnut Siding. Of this sudden change in the ordinary train schedule the robbers were of course totally unaware. Moreover, a strong westerly wind which was blowing that night carried all sounds of the approaching freight away from them; and a succession of bluffs through which the track curved tortuously in the direction of Orange Junction completely concealed from view the headlight of the locomotive, until suddenly, without the slightest warning, its brilliant rays shone full upon the wreckers as it shot out from around a sharp curve a few rods below the spot where the ties were heaped on the track.

The surprise of the freight engineer and of the robbers was mutual. But, as had been intimated by the leader of the gang, the engineer who ran

the freight, although a quiet man and never given to boasting, was one of the pluckiest engine drivers on the road. No sooner did the light from his locomotive reveal the obstruction on the track than he comprehended its purpose, and rapidly calculated the chances of successfully dashing into it. Of course he knew that the robbers would take a shot at him as he sped by, but he considered that the advantages to be gained by demolishing the obstruction on the track warranted the risk to be run in attempting to shoot by the spot. So Jim Perkins quickly yet coolly pulled the throttle wide open, and the powerful freight engine immediately gave a leap forward. There was a crash and the locomotive seemed to quiver in every part as it crunched its way through the splintered log ties, scattering them right and left—yet the train was not derailed, and once over the danger point, where the ties had been placed, it did not stop for all the curses of the infuriated ruffians. The timbers had been so placed on the track that while they afforded an almost insurmountable obstacle to the passage of a train from the West, they were readily brushed aside by the cow-catcher of an engine taking them on the reverse side.

By the sudden and unexpected appearance of the freight train most of the robbers had been utterly confused and disconcerted. But one member of the gang—the big man so familiar with the affairs of the railroad—retained his composure. With a fiendish deliberation and cruelty he raised his rifle to his shoulder and fired at the engineer as the train shot by. The bullet did not hit the engineer, but another man in the cab was struck and instantly killed. The victim was a young brakeman who had temporarily deserted his post, and was riding in the cab of the locomotive, when he should have been on the roof of a car. Unfaithfulness in what he had regarded as a small matter had cost the young man his life.

What the effect of his fire had been the big ruffian did not discover till some days afterwards, when, in a retreat where he was hiding, he read in a country sheet that out of the whole train crew only one man had been injured, and learned that it was that had lost his life. Bill Summers had killed his own son!

Joe Benton had not been long in the hospital when one day a visitor was announced. The caller proved to be the superintendent of the railroad, who, sitting down by Joe's bedside, took his hand and began an apology for what he had come to feel had been a harsh and hasty judgment of his subordinate.

"And now I have come to offer you," he continued, "in the name of the president of the company, in recognition of your attempt to save the express, an appointment as conductor of the through freight on which you once braked. The train crew is composed of the same men who formerly served with you, with the single exception of Jake Summers, who was shot as you know by one of the robbers on the night of the attempted train robbery."

Joe, of course, was delighted at these brightening prospects, and accepted the offer at once, accompanied as it was with such a handsome, if long delayed, vindication of his character. He felt now that his reputation had been firmly established.

In due course of time Joe Benton was discharged from the hospital. Hobbling about the bare and cheerless rooms in which his mother and himself had taken up lodgings after being forced to leave their old home, Joe sadly missed the little parlor so endeared to him by tender associations, but he bravely kept up heart and was not without hope that if he continued to have steady employment for some years he might finally win back the house under whose roof so many happy days had been spent. This bright

dream of future prosperity Joe confided to his mother. Meanwhile they agreed that they must hope in God, patiently and persistently apply themselves to the tasks of every day, and try to remain contented in spirit while yet seeking to be active and enterprising in labors.

After a few weeks at home Joe Benton was able to report to the superintendent of the railroad for duty, and was immediately given charge of the freight train, with the details of the running of which he was perfectly familiar. Jim Perkins, the engineer, was a steady, sober man who attended the same church as Joe; and sometimes during the tedious waits at sidings they had talked of other subjects than cylinders and grades and switches. Engineer and crew both felt that in Joe Benton they had a superior who would not stupidly misconstrue orders, nor take unwarranted risks; and so scrupulously observant of the rules of the road was he that at the end of two years he had to his credit a record of which the oldest conductor might have been proud.

The Overcoming Prejudice.

THE feeling aroused among Hebrew Christians at Jerusalem when they learned that Peter had consorted familiarly with Gentiles at Joppa and Caesarea, was not so much that a moral principle had been violated as that a social custom had been transgressed. They felt as some feel about a white man when he invites a negro to his table. But, since men are very apt to identify the code of a class with the moral law, indeed, often put the former above the latter, the feeling that greeted Peter on his return to Jerusalem may be imagined. These men did not object to Peter's preaching the Gospel to anyone whom he chose, any more than the Pharisees objected to Jesus' teaching publicans and sinners. What both they and the Pharisees objected to was sustaining social relations with people who did not belong to their class and had not enjoyed their privileges. They were willing to have the Gentiles become believers in Christ, though probably they entertained some latent suspicions as to whether they could or would do so, but they wanted broad and deep lines drawn between Jewish and Gentile Christians—between the circumcised and the uncircumcised.

This position, as Peter had come to see, was thoroughly untenable. The experience of Christian faith or the possibility of experiencing it are such vital and radical facts that the distinctions that prevail among men are not only dwarfed but eliminated by it. They are like the distinctions among the children of the same parents. No matter how great they are they do not abridge or affect the child's standing in the parents' affection or shut him out from his father's table. You cannot preach a type of religion that is even measurably true to the Christianity of Jesus without indirectly inculcating the doctrine of human equality—not actual, but potential. Thomas Jefferson did not discover that all men are created equal. Jesus discovered it. It was His great social discovery. If He had brought no other idea into the world He would deserve a place among the greatest philanthropists for His enunciation of that principle.

This passage also affords a beautiful illustration of the true Christian temper. These circumcised Hebrew Christians had all the pride of caste and of opinion that we associate with hereditary privilege, but when they heard that the Gentiles had entered into the experience of faith, they suffered their thoughts and convictions to be broadened to the compass of God's revelation. They caught the point. They did not say, "We see that a Christian Jew can con-

sort with a Gentile." but they said, "Then to the Gentiles also God hath granted repentance unto life." And they saw that they could not refuse to receive what God received. The doctrine of human brotherhood was born in their thoughts. We cannot read this description without reflecting how many chapters in the history of the Christian church would be changed if Christians had always had the openness of mind to fresh truth and the willingness to be controlled by it, that we see in the earliest Christians.

Prohibition the Ultimatum.

By A. A. PIRATES, A. M.

The effects of alcohol a crowning curse. Its horrors have never been fully portrayed. No pencil is black enough to print the picture and do it full justice. No tongue is eloquent enough to tell the sad story in all its dreadful details. The use of alcohol is a vile and withering scourge. It is a physical curse—blinding the eyes, blistering the tongue, deranging the stomach, paralyzing the nerves, hardening the liver, poisoning the blood, coagulating the brain, maiming and aggravating many diseases and digging myriads of premature graves. It is a financial curse—draining the pocket, inviting poverty, diminishing comforts, multiplying miseries, filling alms houses and creating hard times. It is a mental curse—clouding the judgment, dethroning the reason, promoting ignorance, producing imbecility, and transforming its unhappy victims into maniacs and fools. It is a moral curse—weakening the will, inflaming the passions, hushing the voice of conscience, and preparing the way for every vice and crime.

The attendant miseries of drunkenness swarm like a locust plague. In the slimy trail of this alcoholic serpent you find everything that is dark and dreadful—everything that is regretful manhood, women without womanhood, age without solace, and infancy without hope. You find want and woe, rags and wretchedness, squalor and filth, disease and death. You find broken vows, broken homes, broken fortunes, broken hopes, and broken hearts. You find bad manners and bad morals; bad words and bad actions; bad reputation and bad characters; bad plans and bad performances; bad parents and bad children; a bad beginning and a bad end. Surely, intemperance is the crowning curse of American Society.

The liquor-traffic is a gigantic crime. I bring against it the following indictments:

It is a destroying intruder. We need the store, the school, the mill, the church. These are all uplifting forces and we bid them a hearty welcome. But where under the shining sun is there any need of a brewery, a distillery, or a dram-shop? What want does that supply? What sorrow does that alleviate? What home does that make happy? Does it add thrift to your farms, skill to your mechanics, a brilliancy to your brains, or nobility to your character? There is absolutely no need of a single saloon in all our broad domain.

It is a fatal temptation and a snare. It is a man-trap and a death trap. It multiplies its blaudishments and lures its unwary victims to death and damnation. No wnder that Lord Chesterfield, in words as eloquent as they were burning, should say of rum-sellers: "Let us crush out these artists in human slaughter, who have reconciled their countrymen to sickness and ruin, and spread over the pitfalls of debauchery such baits as men cannot resist."

It is a commerial fraud. It is full of shams, hollow pretences, and false claims. It takes a blessing and gives a curse. It takes your money, but fails to return a fair equivalent.

Notices.

The Albert county Quarterly Meeting will convene with the Lower Cape Section of the Hopewell church, Tuesday, June 3rd, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Rev. F. N. Atkinson will preach the Quarterly sermon Tuesday evening. Papers will be read by Pastors Addison and Ganong and a good time is expected. Try and send a delegation from your church.

The Sunday School Convention opens the following day at 2 o'clock.

F. D. DAVIDSON, Sec'y & Treas.

The following programme will be presented at the Quarterly Meeting at North River, Westmoreland county, N. B., Tuesday and Wednesday, May 20th and 21st D. V. Tuesday afternoon, 4 o'clock, devotional Conference, 7:30 session by Rev. B. H. Thomas of Dorchester, followed by social meeting led by Pastor Robinson, Sackville. Wednesday morning, 9 o'clock, devotional service, leader, Pastor Christopher, Port Elgin, 9:30, election of officers, 10:12 Home Mission Conference, Wednesday afternoon, "Importance of having evergreen Sunday Schools," Pastor Saunders, Elgin. "Teacher training in relation to evergreen Sunday Schools," Pastor Brown, Havelock. Wednesday evening, "Needs of the Home," Pastor Hutchinson, Monton. Pastor McLatchey, Sackville, (subject announced later).

The New Brunswick Western Baptist Association will convene (D. V.) with the Rockland Baptist church, Caticton county, on Friday 2:30 p. m., June 27th. We hope to see a large delegation from the churches.

C. N. BARTON, Clerk.

Deber Junction, May 8th.

It is with profound regret that we hear of the death of Hon. A. F. Randolph of Fredericton. He will be sadly missed by all who ever had acquaintance or dealings with him. The province, the city, the county, the church with which he worshipped—in fact all classes of society sustain a loss in his departure which will not be easily filled. Brother Randolph was a man of high moral and sound principles; human, sympathetic, benevolent and altogether kind hearted; truly honest, and fair in all his dealings with his fellow creatures. He held many important offices in connection with the county and city in which he lived, as well as in the province and in the church of his choice. The large cortege attending his funeral was evidence of the high esteem in which he was held by all who knew him. To the bereft family we tender our deepest sympathy, and while they mourn departed worth, they sorrow not as those without hope; but have the sweet assurance that he rests from his toils, his pains and weakness, with Jesus and the glorified. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord." "The righteous shall be had in everlasting remembrance."

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY.

It is with profound sorrow that we, the brethren of the York and Sunbury Baptist Quarterly Meeting, here assembled, learn of the death of our late brother, Honorable A. F. Randolph. His many noble acts and philanthropic works have endeared him to the hearts of the Baptist people of this county and city. In his life he proved a true friend and a wise councillor, and his departure means a distinct loss to church country and home.

To the bereaved widow and children and many friends we extend our heartfelt sympathy, and commit them to the loving care of an all-wise Providence.

Signed in behalf of the Baptist quarterly meeting:

REV. GEORGE HOWARD, Chairman.
REV. W. D. MANZER, Sec. Treas.
M. S. HALL.

Wiser.—On April 5th at Hopewell Hill, Albert Co., N. B., William A. West passed over to be with his Lord, aged 60 years. Our brother last June fell and dislocated his back, and although the joint was put back into its place again he did not recover the full use of his limbs and suffered greatly. It was finally decided to try an operation and the shock seemed too great for him. He died of heart failure. He has been the efficient clerk of our church for several years and was superintendent of the Sunday school at the Hill, and an active worker in the church. He also represented the parish of Hopewell in the Municipal Council for several terms. His funeral was one of the largest ever seen here. The pastor was assisted by the Rev. M. E. Fletcher (Baptist) and Rev. J. K. King (Methodist). His body was interred in Bay View Cemetery, Harvey. He leaves a wife and seven children and a very large circle of friends to mourn.

[This notice was prepared for our last issue but was overlooked by the printer in the making up of the paper. We very much regret its late appearance.—Ed.]

Religious News.

Mr. Editor, I feel quite certain that the following items will interest some of your readers: perhaps all of them. I have been on this field nearly one year and six months. During this length of time there has not been either a birth, marriage or death in the town congregation. There has not been an addition to the church, either by baptism, letter or experience. Two members were dismissed; but as they united with one of the churches on the field no loss was suffered. A conversion has not taken place in the Baptist congregation or in any other so far as I can learn. Since my coming to the place, no serious attempt at Evangelistic work has been made by any church in the town. We are not pessimistic though the above may seem so, but hopeful, as there are some good things left to mention. The congregation does not dwindle, but keeps up the average. We have a good choir and the best singing in the county. Our prayer-meetings are excellent and well attended. The Sunday School is efficiently conducted by Deacon George F. Hibbed, whose esteemed wife is the leading spirit of the choir. The ladies of the church, though few in number, are energetic, and have already succeeded in raising a fairly good sum of money, the same to be expended on the interior of the church building. We are among a kind people and have no reason to complain. Of the other churches in the group, I will write another time. CALVIN CURRIE.

Thanks to Bro. Currie for his honest report. It is full of useful suggestions. We hope he will not get weary in well-doing, for in due time he shall reap if he faints not. He that goeth forth weeping bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with Him.

Baptisms on April 6th and MAIN STREET, May 4th, also members received by letter. Several ST. JOHN. conversions have taken place lately and some are enquiring.

On May 4th, I baptized one HAMPTON, N. B. young man, and on the preceding Conference received a sister on experience. We are busy preparing for the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the reorganization of the church. A sister, the daughter of Rev. R. Mutch, has also been received by letter into the Norton church. H. S. SHAW.

Bro. Adams has come and HOPEWELL, N. B. gone. His visit has done us all good. This good old church responded well to the truth and he carried away cash and pledges to the amount of \$625, which I feel sure will be brought up to \$700 or more. This church last year stood sixth in this province in giving to the work of the denomination. She has given over \$2500 for building purposes inside of two years, beside paying all running expenses.

F. D. DAVIDSON.

On Sunday evening, May 4th, the pastor baptized nine SUSSEX, N. B. converts in the presence of a congregation which completely filled the house. The ordinance was impressive and was witnessed by many who have not obeyed Christ as the New Testament directs. One man in middle life who was converted last fall has been debating in his mind the matter of Scriptural mode of baptism. He is a sincere and godly man and is anxious to do right. He has been brought up under the teaching of a pedo-Baptist denomination and had a hard fight. However he came and requested immersion saying he was satisfied that immersion was the right way. Bro. Marple assisted me a little over a week. He was to stay with us longer but was taken ill. He is a good earnest worker with a fine Christian spirit. His work with us was attended by the blessing of God.

Since our last communication GIBSON AND MARYS the work has been going on splendidly. God is blessing us in our labors. VILLE.

Eight precious souls have followed Jesus in baptism. Three have united by letter and three by experience. A total of 14 additions. We

expect to baptize seven on Sabbath. It was my privilege to baptize 3 candidates for Bro. Rogers of Mangerville, quite recently. Bro. Rogers is doing a grand work in this charge.

W. R. ROBINSON.

HAVLOCK.

The Lord is blessing us at Springhill, one of the sections of this field. For a number of weeks special services have been held there, and a deep and quiet work of grace is in progress. We have had no outside help, and the people are deeply conscious of the fact that the work is of the Lord. Seven have already been received for baptism and others are expected to come. Many others are enquiring, and all seem deeply moved. This church has of late discarded the subscription plan for raising the pastor's salary, the free and unsolicited offerings of the people each Lord's Day being depended upon instead.

Havlock, N. B., May 9.

On review of the history of

SPRINGFIELD, the Second Baptist church Kings Co., N. B. of Springfield at a roll call held on the evening of Wednesday, the 23rd April, it was resolved unanimously to present Bro. James Keirstead and family the thanks and highest appreciation of this church and people for their long continued care of the house of worship and service to the congregation in building fires and lighting the lamps gratuitously for a period of fifty years. A history we believe unparalleled in the history of the churches of New Brunswick. Deep regret was expressed that Bro. Keirstead, the oldest member of the church, was unable to be present on that occasion and earnest prayers that the light of the Spirit of God might shine about him in his declining days.

JUSTUS H. GRAY, Clerk.

We are pleased to hear that Rev. C. W. Townsend has returned to this province; and has received and accepted a unanimous call to the pastorate of the church at St. Martins. He will begin his pastoral duties there the first of June. We trust he will be a great blessing to the people there in building up the cause of the dear Master, and we feel assured that the people there will appreciate his service and treat him well. We will continue to give our readers selections from brother Townsend's articles he wrote for the Sword and Trowel while he was in England.

Before leaving this part of CENTRE VILLAGE, the country we had the privilege of baptizing 3 more last Lord's Day. After meeting the hand of fellowship was given to these and another received by letter, making in all 19 who have united with this church the last few months.

HURST AND BEAMAN.

The First Baptist church, HOULTON, ME. Rev. J. A. Ford, pastor, closed its fiscal year with all bills for current expenses paid and \$50 in the Treasury. This is the first time in the history of the church that such a showing was made. Beside the regular expenditure \$300 were paid for the support of an indigent member. Forty-three persons were added during the year.

God is again pleased to bless 3RD ELGIN CHURCH the efforts of his people in this part of my field of labor. It was my joy to baptize on Lord's Day, 11th inst, at the close of the p. m. service, Addie M. Douthright, Blanche Douthright, Katie Douthright, Ina Smith, A. Stella Smith, Nathan P. Harrison, Alexander B. Banister (from the Methodist), John R. Johnson (from the Presbyterian). In the evening we gave the sisters and brothers the right hand of fellowship. We are very thankful for the mercy drops. Brethren pray for us.

I. N. THORNE.

We reached here May 1st PLASTER ROCK, and for the past two weeks TOBIQUE RIVER. have been assisting Bro. Sterling in his work, he had been engaged in special work to days before our coming. A good interest has been manifested from the first and much good has been accomplished, backsliders have been reclaimed and

some have made a start for the kingdom of Heaven. On the 14th inst, a meeting was held at Plaster Rock to consider the advisability of organizing a branch of the Tobique Valley Baptist church at the above place. Twenty-three names of brethren and sisters were submitted to the meeting, 15 of them members of the Tobique Valley church, and by a unanimous vote these, with 8 others, were formed into a branch of the church to be known as the Plaster Rock branch of the Tobique Valley Baptist church. We sincerely trust this was a right move. The exercises of the evening were as follows: Sermon by Rev. R. W. Demmings of Andover who kindly came up and helped us; Reading of articles of faith and practice by Bro. Sterling; Reading of covenant and of fellowship by writer. We go from here to Aberdeen for a short visit.

A. H. HAYWARD.

I am pleased to be able to CAMPBELLTON, report good progress in the Master's service in this portion of his vineyard.

N. B. In the last few weeks six new members have been received into the church by letter and experience and on the 13th inst eight were baptized as a result of the special work carried on by our pastor, Rev. J. W. Kierstead. Others have been received and are waiting baptism. The church membership continues to grow and we feel that the good seed sown by the faithful in Christ will ere long bear much fruit. Our church building is being remodeled, the front of the building is being altered, new steps, railings, etc., being built, a new vestry is being added to the side of the church which when completed will be fitted with folding or raising doors which will almost double the seating capacity of the church. The rear of the building will be torn out and a new chancel built, which will greatly enlarge the choir loft and platform, a new baptistry is also being built. This work when completed will give us a very comfortable and substantial looking church home, large enough for our requirements for some time to come.

R. C.

Married.

GORRIE BROWN.—At St. John, on May 8th, by Rev. David Long, James C. Gorrie and Edna May Brown, both of St. John.

HAINES THORNE.—At the residence of Thos. Stickle, Gibson, York Co., N. B., May 7th, 1905, by the Rev. W. R. Robinson, Fred R. Haines of St. Marys, Z. C. and Lillie F. Thorne, Bellenden, Q. C., N. B.

LAWSON SMITH.—At the residence of the bride's father, on the 5th May, by the Rev. A. T. Dykeman Robert Lawson, police officer of Fairville to Jennie Smith of the same place.

JEFFERY HETHERINGTON.—At the home of the bride, on April 22 by the Rev. A. B. Macdonald, A. Bismack Jeffery and Mary H. Hetherington, daughter of Isaac T. Hetherington, Eq., all of Johnston Queens county.

BOYCK KATES.—On April 4th, at Newcastle Bridge, Queens county, by Rev. W. J. Blakeney, Henry Boyce and Mrs. Annie Kates, both of the parish of Canning.

SHEERWOOD HILL.—At the residence of Guilford Sheerwood, Brussels St. St. John, April 6, by Rev. W. J. Blakeney, cousin of the bride, Charles J. Sheerwood to Mrs. Alvin Hill. The happy couple will reside at Melrose, Mass.

JONES DUNPHY.—Cecil G. Jones of Waterside, Q. C., and Annie M. Dunphy of the same place were married the twenty-seventh day of April by the Rev. S. C. Moore, at the residence of the officiating minister.

Died.

PERRY.—Suddenly at his home, Springhill, N. B., April —, Weldon Perry, son of Barzilli Perry.

DODD.—On Sunday last Mrs. Dodd, aged 62, was laid to rest. She was a member of the Sussex Baptist church. She lived a consistent Christian life. She leaves behind her an only son to mourn her loss. Her pastor conducted the funeral services.

HARPER.—At Middle Sackville, March 28th, William Harper, in the 88th year of his age. Deceased was a grandson of Christopher Harper, who emigrated with his family from Yorkshire, England to this country in 1776. He was baptized at Sackville, by

the late Rev. William Sears some sixty years ago and ever adorned his profession. His faith in Christ grew brighter with his advancing years and in his death passed peacefully to his reward.

ADAMS.—At Hartland, April 1st, Allan Adams, aged 59 years, leaving a widow, five sons and two daughters. He was a member of the church at Coldstream and died trusting in Jesus.

STEWART.—At Cumberland Bay, N. B., on Friday, March 28th, Roy B., aged 7 years, 8 months, son of Brother and Sister James Stewart. Our little brother has suffered much, having been afflicted all most all his life, we therefore can't grieve but rejoice that Our Father has said "suffer little children to come unto me," and has taken him to Himself. The parents have our sympathy and prayers.

BELEYA.—At C. Idstream, Carleton Co., March 11, Hannah King, beloved wife of Nevers Belya, aged 54 years. Sister Belya was baptized 38 years ago by late Rev. Joseph Harvey and united with the Baptist church in this place. After six months of suffering she entered where "the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." A long husband, a devoted daughter, two brothers and a sister, with many acquaintances, feel her loss.

LOUSSUREY.—At his residence, Newcastle, (Mir), on Sunday, March 29, G. S. Loussurey, passed away into eternal rest and peace in the 57th year of his age. He was baptized at the Upper Queensbury church 15 years ago and about 4 years after our well known and esteemed brother removed to Newcastle, where he became identified with the church there. About four months ago he was laid by as supposed with a severe case of indigestion but a little later a further examination at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, it was pronounced an incurable case of cancer in the stomach, when he went home he lived 2 months of great suffering, but borne with great patience. He lived in the conscious fellowship of Jesus and did not assuage of his abundant entrance into the heavenly kingdom. A sorrowing wife, daughter and son survive him to mourn his departure. Their loss is his gain.

LEMON.—At Gasperaux, Chippawan, Queens county, on 27th inst., after much suffering from Bright's disease, accompanied with dropsy, Mrs. Nina Gertrude Lemon, aged 31 years, leaving four sons and one daughter, besides her husband and a large congregation of friends to mourn her departure. The deceased was a member of 1st Chippawan church and died in the possession of a Christian hope.

WETMORE.—At Roxbury, Mass., on Sunday 27th inst., Charles H. Wetmore, Eq., in the 65th year of his age, leaving a wife, one son and two daughters in mourning. Bro. Wetmore formerly lived in Springfield, Kings Co., and was the eldest son of the late Deacon Wenden F. Wetmore of the 1st Springfield church. He had resided in Boston for a number of years; his remains were brought to Springfield for interment.

HATHAWAY.—At Dow Flat, Victoria county, on April 21st, Celinda Hathaway, aged 41 years, leaving a husband and a number of children to mourn their loss. Funeral attended by C. S. Stirling on Thursday, 24th April, a large number being present.

BELLMORE.—Mrs. Thomas Bellmore of Dipper Harbor died in the Public Hospital, March 23rd, aged 35 years, leaving a husband, two daughters and one son. Sister Bellmore was a member of the Methodist church and much beloved by all who knew her.

MCLEOD.—At the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. G. Letter McCall, Portage, Mrs. Margaret McLeod passed to her rest on Sunday afternoon, May 4th inst., aged 85 years. For a long time Mrs. McLeod had been suffering from the effects of a cancer in the face. Her sufferings she bore with Christian fortitude. She was a true and devoted Christian and was a member of the Baptist denomination. Long will her consistent and godly life be remembered by all who knew her. During her long illness her daughter, Mrs. McCall, ministered to her every want with marked devotion. All that a loving heart could do was cheerfully done. She longed to be with Jesus where she might rest from pain and distress, yet waited patiently until the call came. Her pastor, W. Camp, attended the funeral services.

SPRAGG.—At St. John, on April 15, Michael Spragg, in his 75th year. The deceased was a deacon of the Main St. Baptist church for 35 years. He was beloved by his brethren for his Christian qualities, prominent among them being his faithfulness, humility, spirituality and church attendance. He attended to his duties at a baptismal service and the Lord's Supper on April 6th, and on the 8th weakness of body forced him to take his bed. His illness was painless and on the 15th he passed away peacefully. Services were held in the church on the day of the funeral and on May 4th, the large congregations testifying to the esteem in which our brother was held. He leaves a widow and grown up family to mourn their loss.

COLPITTS.—At Petticoatic, N. B., at the home of her son, March 21, Elizabeth Ann Colpitts, aged 63 years. Through a long and painful illness, she was tenderly cared for by the younger daughter. Her life is worthy of a larger notice than can here be given. A life-long member of the 1st Elgin church, a Christian of more than ordinary faith and zeal. Left a widow with nine children, she has had the joy of seeing all converted and holding good positions of usefulness in the church of Christ. Two of the sons, Horace, now at Rochester, and Robert, on the Messenger and Visitor, are also entering the ministry. Our sister's gifts were large, to her family, to her church and to the community in general.