

It is a matter of regret that the story of the crowning work of their lives, the building of the Houlton Meeting House, cannot be told in the graphic words of Mrs. Spaulding; but the most careful inquiry has failed to bring to light any letters of that interesting period. Doubtless some were written, though various circumstances tended to hinder as full a measure of correspondence as she had carried on before.

On the one hand Mrs. Bradbury was preparing to leave Virginia, and return home again, and also the arduous labors, with exposures in the past twenty years, were beginning to tell upon them both, but to a greater degree upon Mr. Spaulding than upon his wife.

This made additional care and labor for her in order that they might still keep all their appointments, and, again, the extra strain upon them to carry out what they had undertaken for the Houlton Church so absorbed her energies, that she could not write, from the physical inability to keep up the incessant work.

As soon as a church organization became a fact in Houlton the need of a house of worship was most apparent, and they set about devising the adequate method to meet that need.

They took Council together, but chose to say nothing in public about it. After much of deliberation and prayer they formed their plans and went down to the meetings of the Penobscot Association, in September, 1863, to make a beginning in the way of soliciting funds.

After the meetings they went in to Bangor and visited Mr. Giddings* and his family for a few days. While there Mrs. Spaulding opened up to him the subject which lay so closely to their hearts, and plead for help. He heard the story with attention, thought carefully upon it, consulted with a few of the brethren, some of whom had a personal knowledge of the situation, and as the result, before they left Bangor, the sum of \$450.00 was paid

*While Miss Jerusha Bryant taught in the Sunday and week day schools in Bangor a little boy, Moses Giddings, was one of her pupils.

Between teacher and scholar, there grew up a mutual esteem and regard. The lad early gave to his teacher good evidence that a work of converting grace had been wrought upon him, and when he was but eleven years of age she declared him worthy to be received by the Church for membership. The cautious conservatism of the church bade him wait until he was older, to the great disappointment of them both.

Change of place and condition of life did not interrupt their well grounded friendship, which, in its steady continuance and abundant fruits, was as honorable to the gifted, missionary wife and the successful business man as it has been conducive to the present success of the Baptist cause in this section.