

what little they had to supply their wants, it was not because they expected to get more back than they gave, but because of their interest in their brother man, and the result was a return to their own wants much more than they gave. This is as true to-day, under the hand of Providence, as it was then in the age of miracle. Let us open our eyes and our Bibles and see how sure and plain God has made the way of happiness and prosperity, and how contrary to facts and opposed to the promises of God and detrimental to our own success is this delusion of being too poor to give to the cause of God.

Correspondence.

FLORIDA LETTER.

The September issue of THE CHRISTIAN is before me. I have read the very complete report of the annual meeting held recently at Tiverton, N. S., with unusual interest. I am glad to know that your board feels encouraged to continue the work in Halifax, Pictou, and Main Street, St. John, and other provincial points as rapidly as means and circumstances will permit. In a recent letter to a prominent member of the American Christian Missionary Board I particularly dwelt upon the necessity of the co-operation of that society with our provincial brethren, not only as a matter of incalculable benefit to the provincial churches in their effort to evangelize the provinces, but also as a matter of benefit to this country which has drawn so largely from the maritime field. I believe the United States have received manifold in return for every dollar spent in the provinces. I shall rejoice to hear of a strong evangelist in the field of N. S., N. B., and P. E. Island the coming year.

In this southern country circumstances pertain unknown in the north. The four months of midsummer here are very spiritually depressing, the greater part of the churches close up, and the "parson" hies him to the seaside or the mountains. We did not follow the popular example this summer, and have not lost a week day or Lord's day service, and in addition to our regular church work we have done much preaching and visiting in the camp of the U. S. Seventh Army Corps stationed here. This has been the most laborious part of our summer's work, and recently this work has become somewhat of greater moment, owing to the very large number of sick ones in the camp hospitals. I attend the hospitals two days a week. The Second Division Hospital, being nearest, is the one to which I have been requested to devote my time; it has at present seven hundred patients, all sick with typhoid and typhus fevers, incidental to climatic changes and camp life. About six deaths occur daily in this division. We do all in our power to encourage, instruct and otherwise aid the men. We carry writing material and write letters home for those who are able to dictate them. To those who are able to read, as they convalesce, we give Testaments and other reading matter. There are about thirty thousand men in this corps, and about twelve hundred, perhaps, are in the various hospitals. It is a great work, and though attended with much danger, is a necessary work. Many touching scenes

come to us, as we spend hours with these sick soldier boys. Many touching letters have they dictated to us to fathers and mothers, many of whom will never see them again. A very touching incident occurred yesterday in one of the wards. A very sick boy saw me approaching him, and faintly requested me to sit near him; I sat on the side of his cot, fanning his fevered brow, when he asked me to write a letter for him; I took my pen, and was about to begin, when I found he was fast becoming delirious and immediately was unable to dictate even his name or the names of his friends. I sat a moment, and after smoothing back the hair from his brow, I left him to the kind attentions of a Red-Cross nurse.

The Heavenly Father has kept us in good health thus far, for which we thank him.

Mr. Frank Smith, Chief of the Christian Commission here, with headquarters in New York, on behalf of the commission tendered us hearty thanks this week, and informed me that he had been instructed to send me all writing material, Testaments and other aids I should need for my weekly visiting work. I preach also Tuesday and Thursday nights in the camp, which gives me the preparation and delivery of five sermons a week in addition to my other pastoral duties. I rejoice that I am able to do this work, and feel thankful that I have been enabled to do it so uninterruptedly.

Our new church is but five months old, but is self-sustaining, and making preparations to buy a good lot and build.

T. H. BLENUS.

Jacksonville, Florida.

DEER ISLAND LETTER.

My last letter was written from West Gore, Hants Co., N. S. I spent two very pleasant weeks in my old field of labor. One Sunday I preached in West Gore. The large attendance, and the many hearty handshakes, and the warm expressions of friendship, coming from people who heard me preach so many times, gladdened my heart. I also preached once in Nine Mile River. Here I also had the same experience. This church was organized by me during my ministry in Hants Co., and although the membership is small, we always had a good hearing, and to my mind this is a very promising point. I visited friends in Rawdon and Newport, but my time was far too short to see all whom I wanted to see. I enjoyed attending two prayer meetings in Coburg St., St. John. I do like to meet with these brethren. I always feel that I receive strength. The subject of the last meeting was "Drifting away from Christ." How many are "only" neglecting salvation?

Since coming back I have been getting down to work again. The plebiscite is taking up a good deal of time, and it deserves all it will get. It should be the aim of every Christian to advance the cause of prohibition in every possible way.

As one of the literature committee I have been thinking that we ought to make an effort to get our churches to scatter more tracts and small pamphlets in their various localities. I am thinking of having the churches here supply me with such, that, in my visiting among the people, I may leave them something to read.

A great many visitors have been on the Island this summer, and all who came are

delighted with the scenery and speak highly of the place. This reminds me of the fact that although there are about sixteen hundred inhabitants on the Island, yet there is not one place where intoxicating liquors can be bought or sold.

Another thing that visitors notice is our beautiful school-houses. I think I have not seen them excelled anywhere outside of the cities. Deer Island has produced a great many good school-teachers. We have some teachers here now who do not belong to the Island, but they are good; so with good school-houses, good teachers and brains, the good work will go on.

Death has been very busy on the Island of late, as a glance at the number of "deaths" will show. Each time I stand beside the open grave I feel as if I want to do more to persuade men to accept of the terms of pardon offered through Jesus Christ. How many are still without Christ. Are we doing all we can to induce them to become Christians? Each day brings us nearer to the time when our work must cease. After work, rest.

W. H. HARDING.

Lord's Cove, N. B.

MARITIME C. W. B. M.

REPORT OF BUSINESS MEETING.

The annual business meeting of the Maritime C. W. B. M. was held at Tiverton, N. S., Aug. 15, 1898. Mrs. Roome led the devotional exercises, after which the president took the chair.

After the naming of a committee on resolutions and a secretary *pro tem.*, the following officers were elected:

President, Miss Carrie Payson; vice-presidents for N. S., Mrs. H. L. Wallace and Mrs. J. M. Ford; vice-presidents for N. B., Mrs. J. S. Flaglor and Mrs. Frank Richardson; vice-presidents for P. E. Island, Miss Ethel Conners and Miss Margaret Stevenson; secretary, Miss L. N. Jackson; treasurer, Mrs. Susie Ford Stevens; superintendent of children's work, Mrs. D. A. Morrison.

The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.

The secretary's report was read as follows:

REPORT OF SECRETARY OF MARITIME C. W. B. M. FOR 1898.

DEAR SISTERS,—The time has again arrived for our annual meeting and report. The past year has seen but little change in our missionary work. We have gained two new societies, one in Pictou, the other in Southville, N. S. All our auxiliaries have been laboring faithfully, and we wish to thank them as well as the other brethren and sisters who have assisted us in our work.

I very much regret that Sister Rioch is unable to be present to-day. Although much improved in health, she is not strong, or equal to such a journey. She hopes to be able to come later on, and to visit all our churches with the view to getting acquainted with the brethren and sisters who are supporting her, and of creating a deeper interest in her work. I am sure that she will have much to tell us that will be very interesting, and that we will be blest by her presence and words amongst us. Several of our churches observed C. W. B. M. day again this year; we were very pleased to see that they are thus striving to awaken a deeper interest in missions in the local