

Correspondence.

FROM WALNUT, ILL.

Sunday, Nov. 28, was a time of general rejoicing in the Walnut Church of Christ. Our entire indebtedness on the church building—more than eight hundred dollars—was wiped out of existence, and enough was pledged to meet all other expenses for the present year. Before the day of rededication we had secured over nine hundred and fifty dollars in notes, pledges, and cash, with the faithful assistance of three of the deacons.

Nov. 28, Brother J. H. Hardin, whom we all love, was with us, preached two splendid sermons and helped us swell the amount to \$1,200. That evening, in his own sweetly impressive way, he rededicated the building to God, while the officials solemnly reconsecrated themselves to His service. Our prayers, toil and tears, have not been in vain.

About 40 have united with the church in the past twenty months, and more are listening to the plea for union in Christ than to any other plea in this community. Our sincere thanks to all who have assisted us in sympathy, prayer, and finance. They shall reap if the Lord spares our lives.

Knowing that many of our friends will rejoice with us in this prosperity of our Lord's cause, I could not keep still. Even Mrs. Shaw and Dale are happy.

WILL F. SHAW.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

The old year is dying, and as I write its sun has nearly reached the horizon; by the time you read what I have written, another year will have been born. There is a tinge of sadness in the thought that our life is slipping away, but then the hope—the glorious hope of immortality—we shall never die.

I take this opportunity to wish all my readers A very Happy New Year. May the experiences of the past be very beneficial for the future. Not being satisfied with present attainments, let us seek a higher plane of spirituality and an extended sphere of usefulness.

I want to tell you something that I think will interest you. You know that for some time the readers of the *Christian Standard*, one of our leading weeklies, have been making a special effort to increase its circulation, and they are succeeding, to a certain extent. Now why not make a special effort to increase the circulation of THE CHRISTIAN, our own paper? What is there to hinder our doubling its subscription list during 1898? This is one way to get out of "the rut." I do not think we have tried as hard as we might to do this, so I am willing to start the ball rolling by pledging myself to get ten new subscribers during the year. Are we to have a move all along the line?

Since I last wrote I have visited Halifax, and have preached in different places in this (Hants) county. Although there are six churches in the county, as far as I know only one has a preacher regularly employed, and wherever I have gone I hear the brethren wishing for a different condition of things.

I close these notes with the hope that the coming year may be a successful one in these provinces—yes, that many everywhere may turn to the Lord. For ten years there has scarcely been an issue of THE CHRISTIAN but

in it there has been something from my pen, and for nearly ten years I have been preaching as best I could. There have been many discouragements and some trials. Most of all, I have been discouraged with myself. Still I am hopeful for the future, although I know not what is in store for me. God knows.

W. H. HARDING.

West Gore, Hants County, N. S.

DEER ISLAND LETTER.

For the past three months I have been absent from Deer Island, and so have scant news concerning the work here. The month of September I spent in Nova Scotia visiting relatives in Hants County and resting. October and November were spent in P. E. Island at various points. The readers of THE CHRISTIAN have recently heard of the work in Hants County, so that it is not necessary for me to speak of it. Suffice it to say that we have in these churches many of the most zealous and steadfast disciples of the Lord, intelligent and virtuous men and women, whose friendship it is an honor for any man to possess. They have a fine opportunity before them in their own county to extend the plea for the New Testament faith. May they improve it to the uttermost.

My stay on P. E. Island was pleasant in the extreme, notwithstanding the elements conspired to make it gloomy during November. October was spent in the yoke with R. W. Stevenson in a meeting at Montague. Those who know Bro. Stevenson need not be told that not once during the month did he prove himself the proverbial *off-ox*. In his pleasant home everything was done by the whole family for my personal comfort, and I endeavored to show myself not unappreciative by putting on ten pounds of extra flesh and gaining steadily in strength.

Bro. Stevenson has an excellent congregation to work with, and pastor and people are mutually suited and appreciative. The work has never been in better condition, and is steadily growing in proportions and in its hold on the community.

The first three weeks of November were spent with the church at East Point. Bro. Hiram Wallace, of West Gore, had been with them a good deal through the summer, and I found the brethren much encouraged and strengthened by his work. Extremely unfavorable weather hindered us from holding any except the Lord's Day meetings and an occasional meeting through the week. Those brethren are to be commended and imitated for their faithfulness to all the interests of the Lord's work both at home and abroad. I am especially indebted to the families of Theophilus McDonald, William Young and Alfred Morrow, with whom I made my home for the most part, as well as to all the rest who showed so much kindness.

A week was spent in Charlottetown, including Lord's Day, Nov. 28. The little band constituting the Central Christian Church there are making a heroic stand for the purity and the freedom of the truth of Christ. Bro. Manifold has the confidence and esteem of the brethren, and is surely and steadily gaining the respect and confidence of the public. He deserves the prayers and the encouragement of his brethren everywhere for his faithfulness to an important cause under very trying conditions. The Central Christian Church will succeed by faithful and united effort of pastor and peo-

ple. It is simply a question of holding on and working on for a sufficient time. God's blessing will rest on a faithful defense of His truth. My home in Charlottetown was with Sister Shaw and her son-in-law and daughter, Bro. and Sister Chandler, whose many kindnesses placed me under great obligations.

A few days were spent at New Glasgow in the hospitable home of Bro. D. Crawford, where so many travellers have found a welcome and a blessing. I left them in pleasant anticipation of the jubilee, which is now a matter of history. This first visit to P. E. Island has left many pleasant memories with me. I reached home to find all well, and to settle down for a little, and help in the work on this island. A valuable member of this church has recently left us, Miss Lillian Richardson, who married Mr. Charles Sullivan, of Worcester, Mass. M. B. RYAN.

Lord's Cove, N. B., Dec. 20th, 1897.

TENT FUND.

Acknowledged,	\$92 23
Westport—	
J. W. Bolton,	1 00
Per Mrs E. A. Payson,	5 00
St John—	
Main Street, Mrs. Morrison,	1 00
	\$99 23
T. Lockwood was credited with \$2 last month; should have been \$2.50.	

Married.

HAMBLETON-ELLIS—In St. John, Dec. 8th, 1897, by Henry W. Stewart, David Hambleton of Hampton, N. B., and Mrs. Ann Ellis of St. John, N. B.

NORTHROP-McCAW—In St. John, Dec. 15th, 1897, by Henry W. Stewart, Murray J. S. Northrop and Annie A. McCaw, both of St. John, N. B.

SAUNDERS-DOREY—In St. John, Dec. 22nd, 1897, by Henry W. Stewart, George Saunders and Nettie Dorey, both of St. John, N. B.

WEAVER-FULLERTON—On Dec. 28th, at the residence of the bride's parents, by R. E. Stevens, assisted by Rev. W. T. D. Moss, George D. Weaver of New Holland, Ohio, and Laura Fullerton, youngest daughter of David Fullerton of Pictou, N. S.

Died.

WHITE.—Alfonzo, youngest child of Bro. and Sister Mansfield White, died in Lake May, December 13, 1897, aged 4 years and 5 months. Funeral service conducted by F. C. Ford.

FORREST.—At his home in Grafton, on November 21st, 1897, Bro. Robert Forrest, aged 49 years. Deceased was only sick a week. Bro. Forrest was a member of the Christian Church until a few years ago, when he united with the Baptists. He was an active worker in the church and will be greatly missed. A wife, six children and a large circle of friends are left to mourn the loss of a kind husband, father, and a true friend. F. C. FORD.

WILSON—In the death of sister Mary Knott Wilson, which took place at the home of her son-in-law, Geo. F. Barnes, St. John, on Dec. 15th, the Disciples of Christ have lost one who was quite prominent in the earlier history of the Church of Christ in this city. At the time of her death she was in her 78th year, and had probably been a member of the church longer than any of the few aged ones who still remain. For many years she has not been able to attend the house of the Lord or to take any active part in Christian work, but in the days of her strength few were more willing to spend and be spent in the service of Christ. Owing to the nature of her affliction she has had but little enjoyment for years, and when the end came, it was the end, we believe, of sorrow and clouds and darkness, and the beginning of a life which knows nothing of the infirmities that are to be found here; and so even those who loved her most, and for whom she had toiled and sacrificed, were not unwilling to see her depart to be at rest. Life here had ceased to have any pleasures or duties for her. To die was gain. Her husband, the late James Wilson, who, like her, had long been an active member of the church, was called to his reward about seven years ago. Of the family there remain four sons and two daughters, who sorrow not as those who have no hope, but rejoice that life and immortality have been brought to light through the gospel, and that for the tired toiler, to depart to be with Christ is far better than to abide in the flesh. H. W. S.