

THE CHRISTIAN.

FAITH COMETH BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD.—Paul

VOL. XVIII.—No. 1.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER, 1900.

WHOLE No. 205

The Christian.

Published monthly by Barnes & Co., under the auspices of the Home Mission Board of the Disciples of Christ of the Maritime Provinces.

TERMS: - 50 Cents Per Annum in Advance

All subscriptions and renewals should be sent to Jas. W. Barnes, Box 56, St. John, N. B.

All communications, intended for publication, to be addressed:

"THE CHRISTIAN."

P. O. Box 56

ST. JOHN, N. B.

EDITOR:

DONALD CRAWFORD,—NEW GLASGOW, P.E.I

NEWS AND NOTES.

All communications intended for publication in THE CHRISTIAN should be sent to this office not later than the 25th of each month. Please bear this in mind.

Credit should have been given Dr. R. Bentley Ray, who was appointed official reporter for THE CHRISTIAN, for the very full and interesting account of the proceedings of the annual meeting held at Westport, N. S., which was published in the September number.

With this number begins the eighteenth volume of THE CHRISTIAN. That it has grown in usefulness and is appreciated by the brotherhood is seen in the letters which are received from time to time.

With this issue we send out bills for the subscription to this paper. We ask for a prompt remittance. We hope our readers know that the profits are divided for the home mission work in these provinces.

The great commission "Go yet into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved and he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark xvi: 15, 16.

Bro. A. Martin has just closed a grand meeting at Monteith, Iowa. There were forty additions, thirty by confession and baptism and the remainder by letter and restoration.

Prayer Meeting Topics for November:

- 7—Burden-bearing. Gal. vi, 1-6; Rom. xv, 1-7.
- 14—The Wise Choice of the Young Man Moses. Deut. xxxiv, 10-12; Heb. xi, 24-27.
- 21—The Church at Ephesus. (A Scripture Study) Rev. ii, 1-7.
- 28—Reasons for Thanksgiving. Luke xvii, 11-19; I. Thess. v, 18.

Bro. M. B. Ryan, of Erie, Pa., during the past months has written for the columns of this paper several articles, which have not only been interesting but instructive. He has kindly written four others on "Why we plead for Christian Union;" "Why we reject Human Names and Creeds;" "Why we do not Baptize Infants;" "Why we practice Immersion only as Baptism," which will be

published in due time. These are timely and should be read with interest by our readers, but especially by the young.

Last year Lathrop Cooley gave \$5,000 for foreign missions. The gift was to plant a mission in the Sandwich Islands. He has again remembered the Foreign Society by a gift of \$5,000 this year to plant a mission in Osaka, Japan. These are munificent gifts and go immediately into the work. Preaching the gospel has been the chief aim in the life of this venerable brother. He has devoted fifty-seven years to the ministry of the Word. Now in the evening of life his heart is upon the needs of the whole world and providing means for the preaching of the gospel.

F. D. Power, of Vermont Avenue Church, Washington, D. C., has just completed his twenty-five years' ministry with that congregation. On the first of September he delivered his twenty-fifth anniversary sermon. During his term of service, New Testament Christianity in the city has grown from one to four churches, and from a membership of 150 to 1,800. To the membership of the Vermont Avenue Church there have been 1,346 additions, and \$200,000 has been contributed to Christian work. Bro. Power has held 7,500 services, preached 4,000 sermons, and made 36,000 visits.—*Christian Standard*.

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon, whose story, "In His Steps," has had a sale of more than four million copies, has been making a special study of the servant-girl question. A new story from his pen, entitled "Born to Serve," is the result. Critics who have read the manuscript predict that it will be as popular as any of his former stories. He will read the story in Berkeley Temple, Boston, on four successive evenings, during the first week in December, and in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, where Dr. Hillis is pastor, during the second week. The proceeds of the readings will be used to establish a training-school for servants in Topeka, Kan. The story will be published as a serial, beginning Dec. 6, in the *Christian Endeavor World*.

The past year has been the most prosperous in the history of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society. The receipts from all sources amount to \$180,016.16. This is a gain over the previous year of \$27,288.78. The contributing churches number 3,067 a gain of 16. The churches as churches gave \$65,964.39, a gain of \$9,182.62. The offerings of the churches average \$21.50; this is a gain of 40 per cent over the average four years ago. The churches that reached their full apportionment number 972, a gain of 125. The contributing Sunday-schools number 3,260, a gain of 73. Those that reached their full apportionment number 1,089, a gain of 87. The whole amount given by the Sunday-schools in the year is \$42,705.04, a gain of \$3,633.22. The contributing Endeavor Societies number 335, their offerings amount to \$2,965.82. There has been a gain of 791 in the number of individual offerings; the whole number is 1,681.

REFLECTIONS.

R. BENTLEY RAY, M. D.

I once sailed on a beautiful river,
Through a land that was fair like a dream;
And I saw there a wonderful picture,
As my boat floated soft on the stream;
Up above was the sky a pure azure,
As when washed by the warm rains of Spring;
Across it the birds flew in gladness,
And I heard the sweet songs they did sing;
Far away where the blue ended earthward,
Some cloud-flocks by shepherds were led;
And my boat sought the rest of the shadows,
Cast by rocks lifted high o'er my head.

The trees with their blossom and fragrance,
Right down to the water had pressed;
And they sang to the river a love song,
As they shook out their bloom on her breast;
Over all was a beautiful mantle,
Out of light in the Heavens was spun,
And it fell like a sweet benediction;
The glory and gold of the Sun.
And this was the picture above me;
By its beauty my heart was made glad;
Yet I knew I must sometimes look downward;
At this thought I was restless and sad.

I was sad, for I knew that beneath me,
Was the river's bed earthy and bare;
That the rocks lay exposed on her bosom,
And the path of the serpent was there;
Yet I looked, and my eyes sought the river,
When lo, what a wonder to know,
The vision of Heaven above me,
Was found in the water below;
The sky, and the birds that flew, cross it,
The shepherds still leading their flocks;
The Sun and the trees with their love song;
And the rest-shadows cast by the rocks.

I have sailed on that river since often,
And the picture has always been fair,
Yet never since then I've forgotten,
The lessons of life taught me there;
While others with eyes looking upwards,
Have been filled with a wondering delight;
I've remembered with joy, that beneath me,
Was reflected the beautiful sight.
I have loved the dear picture above me;
Yet I think I've been gladder to know,
That whatever its wonderful beauty,
I could find it by looking below.

And now as I sail on life's river,
Drifting softly or stemming the tide,
I have learned that the fair scenes above me
May be found in the stream at my side;
I have learned, and the knowledge has blessed me
That on earth, all the Father hath given,
Like the river, hath some where with-in-it,
A beautiful picture of Heaven;
I am glad; for life's duties I'm stronger,
Since I know that this earth which He trod,
Even man though he wandered far from Him
Was made in the image of God.