

READ OF ALL MEN.

Dr. A. P. Peabody, writing of Phillips Brooks, says in the *Harvard Monthly* for February, 1893, "I doubt whether he ever thought of defending Christianity. . . . He had no need to defend it. He proved it by living it. . . . Were such lives multiplied, scepticism and infidelity would die a natural death, and we could afford to make a bonfire of the countless volumes of *Evidences of Christianity* which, when holy prophecy shall become history, and the cross shall be the sceptre of universal dominion, will of all literature be the most thoroughly inane, vapid and worthless."

It seems to me the old doctor struck a splendid chord here. What we want is not simply the evidences of Christianity, but rather the evidences of Christ. These are to be found not so much upon the printed page as upon the tablet of the human heart. If we are diligently sought to be parakers of the afflictions of Christ for His sake and the sake of others, we should have little difficulty in winning the world to Him.

A Brahmin said to a missionary: "We are finding you out. You are not as good as your book. If you were as good as your book you would conquer India for Christ in five years." Ah! there is the trouble. If we were living such lives of sacrifice and service as our Master lived for us the whole world would be practically Christianized within a decade. We could do much more to convince and convict the world of the power of Christ to save by allowing that power to manifest itself in our own lives than by the use of all the arguments that have ever been produced for that purpose. This was what Phillips Brooks did, and his life did more to turn men to God than any book ever written on Christian Evidences.

In the campaign of the coming year, which we are undertaking for our great Captain, let each of us determine that his own Christ-like life shall attract at least one soul to the crucified One. God forbid that any of us should *repel* one from Him.

C. C. ROWLISON.

Cambridgeport, Mass.

News of the Churches.

ST. JOHN, N. B.

At the meeting of the Womens' Missionary Aid Society, the following officers were elected:—President, Mrs. L. A. Miles; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Owen and Miss E. Christie; Treasurer, Miss E. Barnes; Secretary, Mrs. W. A. Barnes. The collection for Foreign Missions at their last meeting was the largest yet taken.

The following are the officers of the Endeavor Society, for the present six months:—President, Miss Lamont; Vice-President, Mr. B. Lingley; Treasurer, Mr. H. Waite; Secretary, Mr. Robert Johnson, Jr.; Cor. Secretary, Mrs. D. A. Morrison. The meetings are largely attended. Sometimes one hundred are present. The collection taken at the last monthly meeting was the largest yet.

An Endeavor Society has been organized at Silver Falls, with twelve active members. They elected the following officers:—President, H. Shelington; Vice-President, Miss Ada Garnett; Treasurer, J. Arthurs; Secretary, B. Hicks; Corresponding Secretary, Alice Garnett.

The meeting-house at Silver Falls is almost completed, and we expect in the next *CHRISTIAN* to give an account of its being opened free of debt. Also of a meeting being held, and if possible, a church organized there. The brethren there are deeply interested—have displayed great zeal, and deserve success.

Both our Sunday-schools have had this month the largest attendance in their history—151 at

Coburg Street, and 98 at Portland. Portland has added 40 new books to their library. A new library has been bought by the Coburg Street School. The Portland Sunday-school has purchased a fine organ.

We have enjoyed short visits from Brothers H. A. Devoe, of Tiverton; E. C. Bowers, M. P., of Westport; D. F. Lambert, and Martin, of Lord's Cove.

We were all much pained to hear of the death of Sister J. A. Wallis. She never failed to take part in our prayer-meetings in an earnest, helpful manner, and we suffer a great loss by her death.

We deeply sympathize with those who are mourning the loss by death of a loved one—Miss Sadie Pheasant—grand-daughter of Brother and Sister J. J. Christie. Her death at the early age of nineteen, was deeply felt by all who know her.

Sister Ethel Barnes, we are glad to say is recovering; and we hope soon to see her among us as usual.

On Thanksgiving night, Bro. Stewart preached a sermon on Thanksgiving, which was greatly enjoyed by a large audience, many of whom were strangers.

HALIFAX, N. S.

Since my last notes from Cornwallis, I have spent some twelve days with the brethren in Halifax, preaching for them over two Lord's days, attending their regular week evening meetings, and visiting them at their homes, and talking of those things which pertain to the kingdom of God. To me, this was a very enjoyable visit, and I trust not altogether without profit to the brethren.

The prospects for doing a good work in Halifax are very encouraging. Their failure, as yet, to secure a suitable man to labor with them permanently, has been, and is very much against them. But notwithstanding this, they are growing in interest, in strength, and in numbers continually.

The progress that has been made since the opening of their meeting-house, last February, is wonderful. I am not certain of the number, but think there must have been near, if not more than fifteen added by baptism since that date. Besides this, the church has gotten into line of regular work, with a good prayer-meeting, a fine and growing Sunday-school, a warm and active Endeavour Society, and are enlisted in all our missionary work. Though the church is small, we have no brethren more united and more earnestly engaged in the work of building up the cause of God than the band of faithful brethren in Halifax.

While this work of advancing the spiritual interest of the church has been carried on so faithfully, the financial interest of the work has not been neglected by any means. I want to place before the brotherhood a statement of the financial condition of the church here so far as the interest of the cause is concerned. I do this to encourage the brethren to come to the aid of the church in Halifax to pay off the debt still on their house. As long as the debt is on them, the money that otherwise would go to support a preacher must be used to pay the interest on the debt. What has been done by the liberality of the brethren in Halifax, and by the generous aid of the brotherhood, encourage us to ask for a continuation of these donations, that the money which now goes to pay interest may be turned toward the support of preaching the gospel in that city.

Since this building fund has been placed before the brotherhood, now some fifteen months ago, about \$1,500 have been donated to this work, so that all the outstanding bills against the house have been paid, save the \$2,500 borrowed on mortgage. Now it is the earnest desire of the brethren to pay this off as fast as possible. And to this end a fund has been started, which they call a "sinking fund;" all of which is to go toward paying off

this debt. And already a considerable sum has come into this fund which does not appear in the regular receipts in the *CHRISTIAN*. With a little more aid from the brotherhood, they will be able to make that debt an even \$2 000 in a few months. Certainly they will if they do as well in the next six months as they have in the months that passed since they started the "sinking fund."

So brethren, if any of you have any money to help pay of this debt, let it be sent to Bro. Carson as usual, from \$1 00 to \$100.00 or more.

I am anxious that this should be kept before the brethren, believing the same interest which has prompted them to aid the work there in the past, will still encourage them till the church in Halifax is placed out of debt, and the cause self sustaining. Till then, let us all do what we can, and a worthy cause and a band of worthy brethren will be greatly encouraged and helped.

I cannot close this letter without speaking a word more about the Sunday-school in Halifax. To my mind, this is one of the most promising features of our work. This school is continually growing in numbers, and soon will be a great feeder for the church. The children are being brought to the truth, and also taught to give toward the cause of God. One class alone, with an average attendance of four—a class of young girls—have raised \$17.00 since the school was organized last February. Who can beat that?

E. C. FORD.

MILTON, N. S.

Our outlook in Milton is fine. We can but think we will see an ingathering there soon. We never had such large congregations and we never had such fine prayer meetings.

H. M.

SUMMERVILLE, N. S.

This is the second week of our meeting. Last evening (November 21st) we reached a high water mark. House full; two confessions; and others interested. We hope that this evening, which is stormy, will not break the interest. Bro. Ford is doing splendid preaching and all like him.

H. M.

BRADALBANE, P. E. I.

I have been spending some time preaching at Bradalbane mission station. A good number attend. One young man came forward in the meeting Sunday November 19th and was baptized on the Monday following. The prospects for more are rather encouraging.

D. C.

TIGNISH, P. E. I.

The Church in Tignish, P. E. I., is in sorrow over the departure of their much esteemed pastor, W. H. Harding, who has moved to Hants Co., N. S. He labored with the church here part of his time, the past three years, and by his earnest preaching, prudent conduct, and unassuming manner, won the respect and esteem of every one with whom he came in contact. We congratulate the church in West Gore. What is loss to us will be gain to them. We hope that Bro. Harding will come back to us after a few years, not much the worse for wear. In the meantime we wish him every happiness in his new field of labor, and pray that his work may be blessed abundantly, and that many souls may be saved.

A. HAYWOOD.

NORTH SOMERVILLE, MASS.

I have often told the *CHRISTIAN* that the work in North Somerville was progressing, and I am glad to be able to say the same again.

Two confessions since last report, and one addition by letter from Coburg Street, St. John—Sister Rhodes, a valuable member, and she has already taken hold of the work, and will be a wonderful help in bringing our young people out in the work.