

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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P. O. Box 106
ST. JOHN, N. B.

EDITOR:

DONALD CRAWFORD, - - New Glasgow, P. E. I.

FINANCIAL MANAGER:

J. E. EDWARDS, St. John, N. B.

ON looking over the subscription book we notice that a great many are in arrears. We earnestly ask those who have neglected to pay up to do so as early as possible. We also request all who are interested to say a good word for THE CHRISTIAN to their friends. We should have at least five hundred more subscribers this year.

BRO. GORDINIER has commenced a meeting with the church at LeToto. We trust his labors may be abundantly blessed and the church strengthened and encouraged.

We learn by private note that Bro. Wallace is holding a meeting in Hans Co., N. S., with a good interest. Some have been added to the Lord.

Man's way of working and God's are so entirely different that human reason fails to bridge the chasm between them. Instead of calling for a great work the mightiest, He called the weakest. He gave the sheepfold the preference over the throne. Obscurity was no hindrance to imperishable fame, poverty was not a barrier to kingdoms and crowns. On inexperienced youth he laid the burdens of the sage, and the youth is with the burdens raised to the peerage of experience's wisdom, and all was to teach man his own insufficiency and the all sufficiency of God. He chooses the weak things of the world to confound the mighty. God is the only builder of lasting greatness. Abraham is in obscurity, yet by God's call he becomes the father of a great nation and greater still the Father of the faithful. From the unambitious calling of a shepherd boy Joseph is made Egypt's Prime Minister. David exchanges his shepherd's crook for Israel's sceptre. Elijah is unknown. From Gilead he emerges clad in the ruggedness of his mountain home; makes kings tremble, "the dying to live and the living to die." At his word the earth becomes iron and the heavens brass. Elisha is called from the plough. Others of the prophets are vine-dressers and herdsmen. The disciples were men in humble station and more than all He who had not where to lay His head becomes the Lord of Glory.

Now that the long winter evenings will soon be upon us, good crops warding the now busy past, encouraged by the cheering reports at our yearly meeting and dissatisfied still with our efforts, let all our pastors prepare by hard work this winter for a grand campaign with the opening spring. Let the efforts of the study be touched in every

letter by Calvary, so that when you stand in the pulpit your people will see that you have been somewhere near where the Christ has been. It is not hard for men to resist dry book-lore sermons about Calvary, but it is hard to resist the same spirit in a preacher and in his words that led the Saviour up the rugged mount. If you work hard in the study your work will not seem so hard out of it. Touch your people by that same spirit that has touched you and let the contagion spread. You will then work together. Let the prayer-meetings be worked to the utmost. Every worker will know how this can best be done. Likewise the Sunday School teachers. Visit the absent scholars, talk to the young in their own tongue, use your personal influence to win the erring back. Induce every member of the congregation to be at their post, and take part in the services, by hearty song, fervent prayers, appropriate readings, earnest exhortation, provoking one another to love and good works. Go out and seek the lost. Constrain them to come in, and ere we are aware a glorious awaking as welcome as the vernal sun speaking the dead earth into life will be the inevitable result.

We regret that this issue is unavoidably delayed a few days. Changes in our printing department has necessarily detained us.

OUR ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Disciples of Christ of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick was held with the church at Westport, N. S. The following delegates were present:

From St. John—J. E. Barnes and wife, H. W. Stewart, J. B. Allan, Miss E. Christie, Miss H. Banks, J. S. Flaglor and wife.

Cornwallis—Elder E. C. Ford and wife, Mrs. Woodworth, D. McLean, Miss S. Ford, Miss H. Stevens, R. Jackson, R. Stevens, F. Ford, T. Lockwood.

Milton, Q. C., N. S.—Elder H. Murray and wife, J. M. Ford, and wife, Mrs. R. Burnaby, Miss M. Freeman, Miss A. Thompson, Miss O. Dedrick, K. Dedrick.

Kempt, Queens Co., N. S.—Elder W. Murray, I. Cushing and wife, J. Freeman, Mrs. Christopher, Mrs. Hunt, Mr. Shaffner and wife.

Southville—Elder Steele, P. Waggoner and wife, Mrs. B. Waggoner, Mrs. S. Steele, jr., Mrs. Gates, W. Gates, A. Gates, Miss N. Gates, Mrs. J. Cate.

South Range—Elder Zeigler, J. Shortliff.

Halifax—Elder J. H. Gordinier; Sandy Cove, Miss M. Leary; Tiverton, Elder H. A. Devoe and wife, Elder Ossinger, A. Handspiker, Mrs. H. Outhouse, Miss A. Ruggles, K. Outhouse and wife, T. Outhouse, J. Clifford and wife, Mrs. Elliott, Miss A. Outhouse, Miss B. Powell, O. Outhouse, Mrs. Cosseboon, L. Outhouse, Miss S. Cosseboon, Mrs. A. Outhouse.

New Glasgow, P. E. I.—Elder Donald Crawford.

Eastport, Me.—Miss M. Greenlow.

Worcester, Mass.—Miss Fay, Miss A. Cato.

Healdsburg, Cal.—Elder H. Wallace and wife.

The meetings opened at 7.30 o'clock, p. m., on the 3rd. Elder H. E. Cooke, on behalf of the Westport church, heartily welcomed the visitors,

and the following responded: E. C. Ford, J. E. Barnes, W. Murray, D. Crawford, Mrs. Gates, Mrs. Flaglor, H. Murray, H. W. Stewart, H. Wallace, P. Waggoner, J. H. Gordinier, R. Stevens, J. B. Allan. It was a joyful meeting, and showed that all were fully bent on having one of the best annuals ever held.

Saturday at 9. a. m. R. Stevens of Cornwallis led a grand prayer meeting until 10 o'clock, when Elder W. Murray preached on "prayer meetings." He made all feel the good of prayer and the great importance of praying privately and publicly.

After the sermon there was a discussion on prayer meetings, and many valuable suggestions were given as to how to make a successful meeting. Geo. Bowers, J. M. Ford and T. Lockwood were appointed to audit the accounts that were to come before the meeting. At 2 o'clock p. m. Elder H. Murray preached on "church work." He said the Lord had not given us a specific plan of work, but we must use all the means we could command in our church work. It is the same old gospel we preach, but we should use the 19th century appliances.

Then followed a conference on church work, and great benefit was derived from the advice given. At 8 p. m. there was preaching by Elder H. Wallace, formerly of Nova Scotia, now of California. His text was from Timothy, 3rd chap. 1st verse. He showed how the church was the pillar and support of the truth in preserving, translating and circulating it. Elder Wallace is a great favorite, he having preached in these parts some years ago.

On Sunday at 7 a. m. a prayer meeting was led by Elder H. A. Devoe. Although it was raining hard there was a large attendance and an inspiring meeting.

At 10.30 a. m. Elder Donald Crawford of P. E. Island preached the annual sermon. The text was, "Now abideth faith, hope and love and the greatest of these is love." He showed that faith and hope would pass away, but love would abide forever. Love was an attribute of God; faith and hope were not. His description of the Christian's faith and his glorious hope was powerful, and when he spoke of the love that should abide forever tears of joy flowed from many eyes. The audience was deeply affected.

At 11.45 a. m. the Lord's Supper was celebrated, Elders Barnes and Ossinger presiding. This was a very impressive service as the Disciples remembered their Saviour's death.

At 2 p. m. Sunday school was held, Supt. Peters in charge, assisted by Elder H. Murray. A number of questions were asked on Sunday school work. How should we use the "helps?" It was answered at home. The Bible only in the class. How to keep the attention of a boy from 10 to 14 years old? Teachers should get the parents to use all their influence with the boys. Should all the church attend the school? Yes. Should there be prizes? No. How to get the scholars to ask questions? Arouse their curiosity. How to get the older scholars to teach? Have a primary class. Should there be a roll call? Yes, by the teachers. Should the pastor be superintendent? If possible, no. Should a lady be superintendent? If necessary, yes. Should the superintendent be young