

# THE CHRISTIAN.

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

Vol. XVII.—No. 11.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., SEPTEMBER, 1900.

WHOLE No. 203

## 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.

## THE ANNUAL MEETING.

.. 1900 ..

The Annual Meeting of the Disciples of Christ of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia convened with the congregation of Disciples at Westport, N. S., Thursday evening, Aug. 30th, 1900. The number of delegates was quite large, numbering something over one hundred and thirty, and the meeting one of the best that has been held.

One thing that added greatly to the convenience of the delegates and others who attended the different sessions was that the meetings were held in a large tent that seated some 500. Also, for all of the sessions of the convention the weather was everything that could be desired.

The first meeting of the convention, called to order by chairman Howard Murray, was opened with a spirited song service led by R. E. Stevens, of Cornwallis, N. S. After this the pastor of the Westport congregation, Howard Murray, on behalf of the congregation, in some hearty, earnest words, gave the visiting delegates a cordial welcome to Westport and the homes of the people. Responses were made to this address by J. A. Mohorter, of Boston, A. Martin, of Muncie, Indiana, and Dr. Ray, of St. John, after which the following committees were appointed:

*Nominating*—W. H. Harding, J. W. Barnes and H. A. Devoc.

*Auditing*—E. C. Bowers, L. S. Ford.

*Order of Business and Enrolment*—J. Barry Allan, F. C. Ford, J. W. Gates.

*Obituaries*—R. E. Stevens, F. C. Ford, J. Barry Allan.

*Resolutions*—R. E. Stevens, H. A. Devoc, Howard Murray.

*Time and Place of next Convention*—F. K. Etherington, Howard Murray, Lloyd Ibson.

*Ways and Means*—E. C. Bowers, Josiah Wallace, Howard Murray, Jas. W. Barnes, H. E. Cooke.

Dr. Ray was appointed official reporter.

Friday morning at 9 o'clock the convention listened to an interesting paper on "Protracted Meetings," by Evangelist A. Martin, of Muncie, Indiana. This was followed by a discussion on the same subject, participated in by Howard Murray, E. C. Ford, W. H. Harding, L. S. Ford, J. A. Mohorter. The discussion was followed by a short reply from Bro. A. Martin. At 10 a. m. the organization of the convention took place, and the nominating committee reported as officers for the ensuing year—President, E. C. Ford, Halifax; Vice-president, E. C. Bowers, Westport; Secretary *pro tem*, W. A. Barnes, St. John.

The minutes of last meeting were received, and were followed by letters from the different churches, a condensed and catalogued report of which is as follows:

CHURCH.	Membership	GAIN.		Loss.		SUNDAY-SCHOOL.		MISSIONS.	
		Bapt'sm	Letter.	Death.	Other-wise.	Pupils.	Teachers	Home.	Foreign.
Halifax, .....	55	8	.....	2	9	50	7	\$111 50	\$40 15
Douglas Ave., St. John,	59	9	5	.....	5	90	12	75 20	6 00
River John, ..	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	25 05	.....
Mascarene, ..	19	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	.....	.....	.....
Milton, .....	231	5	1	2	.....	50	10	56 00	79 00
Lord's Cove, ..	288	10	.....	6	.....	80	12	27 50	.....
Upper Rawdon, ..	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	3	.....	.....
South Range, ..	58	7	.....	1	.....	62	4	21 90	4 00
Summerville, ..	38	1	.....	1	.....	25	3	6 00	5 00
Cornwallis, ..	100	2	.....	4	.....	25	3	24 60	18 00
West Gore, ..	100	4	.....	1	3	50	5	21 00	10 00
Back Bay, .....	67	47	.....	.....	.....	35	7	15 00	4 00
Coburg Street, St. John,	343	1	.....	2	16	128	20	305 37	29 70
Kempt, .....	70	9	1	.....	2	40	5	1 83	1 80
Leonardville, ..	105	6	.....	.....	.....	70	12	2 43	.....
Tiverton, .....	102	.....	.....	2	.....	40	5	9 00	18 00
Nauwigewauk, ..	18	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	5	7 90	.....
LeTete, .....	48	4	.....	.....	.....	92	11	8 00	5 00
Westport, .....	100	29	.....	1	.....	80	12	33 88	17 00
Southville, .....	103	4	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	1 50	.....
Pictou, .....	40	21	.....	.....	6	40	5	35 00	12 00

A number of congregations have sent in no report, and some of the reports sent in seem to be very incomplete.

The letter from Pictou contained the announcement that Bro. David Fullerton, the senior elder of the church there, had given to the congregation and brotherhood the valuable property in which worship has been held. The property is free from debt, and it was a most generous gift. After the letters were read it was moved by Howard Murray that this convention highly esteems and appreciates this noble act on the part of Bro. Fullerton. This motion was carried unanimously by a standing vote.

Bro. Fullerton made a suitable reply, in which he said that the gift had been made, not for the approbation of man, but for the approval of God.

Next was the reading of the reports of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Home Mission Board.

The President, L. A. Miles, offered the following report:

To the Annual Meeting assembled at Westport, N. S.:

DEAR BRETHREN,—As certain action on the part of your Home Mission Board, has been taken with the object of opening up certain questions for discussion and decision at this August meeting, a brief statement of the reasons and convictions which led to this action, may not be out of place.

It has been the custom, for some years past, to vote a regular grant to certain churches, which grant did not admit of variation, unless notice had been given three months previous to the Annual Meeting. Such notice being given, it is to be presumed that the said meeting could act as they deemed best, either by increasing, reducing or entirely withdrawing such grants.

This arrangement has seemed unfair to your Board, not only to the churches already receiving such grants, as making it possible that their grants might be suddenly and

arbitrarily withdrawn; but also to other struggling and deserving churches, which by the continuation of such grants to the same churches year by year, were denied the assistance from the mission funds to which they would seem to be entitled.

Your Board consider that to continue such grants year by year indefinitely, irrespective of the growth of such churches in membership or financial strength, is not wise.

It appears to them reasonable that, if a church of say forty members, enjoying a grant from home mission funds, should increase its membership to sixty that the grant should be correspondingly reduced for the following year; also, that should any church be assisted for three years in succession without apparent results, such assistance should then cease.

It should be, and your Board believe that it is, the ambition of every church to become self-supporting, but it may well be feared that a grant given from year to year indefinitely may come to be looked upon as a permanent source of income, and thus the earnest