

what psalms and hymns and spiritual songs mean. We know *they* are right and that the singing of them, with the spirit and understanding, makes us better as they were intended. Now if *we* are thus influenced, what of those over whom we exert an influence? Our precious young people, for instance. If they are invited to spend an evening with us and singing is introduced, shall we provide books of songs such as the world delights in? If so, where will we draw the line? I remember a family, one of the heads of which was a disciple and intelligent. I visited at their home and saw that the young people were given to fast music and the singing of songs. I do not know *why* but I never heard that one member of that clever, interesting family became a Christian.

I recently saw this remark in a religious paper: "The Bible clearly indicates that there is to be a dividing line between the world and the disciple of Christ. On which side is the dance?" May we not push the enquiry a little further and ask, On which side is the song? I am aware that I am "writing on the unpopular side of a popular subject." But may we not ponder?

Home Mission Notes.

Halifax raised what was due Bro. Blenus in February, and so we were able to pay all our workers in full. But this month there is a falling off again, and we are not able to meet our pledges. We need \$50 a month from now until the annual, or we will come to the meeting in debt.

The Milton church has agreed to raise \$50 to aid Kempt and Summerville in supporting Bro. F. Ford for one year. They desire that it shall be done through the Mission Board, and so we acknowledge \$20, which has been paid to him. They also contribute to the general work.

A little while ago our oldest church, River John, sent a contribution, and we are pleased to acknowledge one from our youngest, Mascarene. Now that we have such a good example from the oldest and youngest, we hope that every church will follow them in helping to build up our provincial work.

Our Main street mission has had three baptisms this month. Bro. Stevens reports most encouragingly of Pictou. Bro. Blenus is away on a month's vacation, and on his return will, with more vigor than ever, continue his labors there.

RECEIPTS.

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| Acknowledged, | \$312 84 |
| Halifax, per T. H. Blenus, | 21 00 |
| Milton for Queen's Co., N. S., per Miss Freeman, | 20 00 |
| " " N. B. and N. S., | 2 00 |
| Mascarene, per Capt. S. W. Dick, | 2 00 |
| St. John— | |
| Main St., Y. P. S. C. E., | 4 00 |
| " Woman's Aid, per Mrs. Robinson, | 8 10 |
| " Sunday-school, | 3 82 |
| Coburg St. Mission Band, | 4 80 |

\$373 86

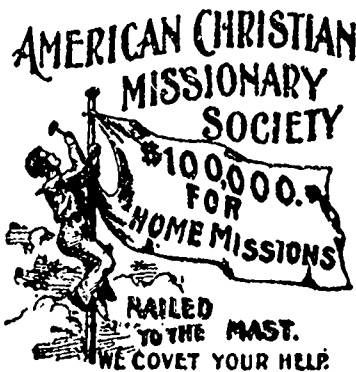
J. S. FLAGLOR, Secretary.

P. E. ISLAND FUND.

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|---|---------|
| Acknowledged, | \$37 27 |
| Church, Cross Roads, Lot 48, (Quarterly Meeting) per Geo. Manifold, | 8 26 |

\$45 53

J. S. FLAGLOR, Secretary.



NOTES.

We present in this issue the claims of the Home Mission work; we know our readers will enjoy this presentation.

There is no more important work before our churches to-day than Home Mission work; to help it to the front means the quickening of all our work.

The General Board of Home Missions has made appropriations to the Boards of twenty-eight different states and provinces to help them do mission work within their boundaries. If we gave our Home Board \$100,000 this help would be sufficient to quicken our work in a most wonderful manner. Let us try to do our part.

We hope that our churches will make the greatest efforts to reach their full apportionment to Home Missions. The Home Board is doing the best work in our history, and we should support the Board in this work.

The Home Board has appropriated every dollar of its income, and even beyond, in the hope that the churches would greatly enlarge their offering in view of the work that is being done.

The missions of our Board are prospering; our home missionaries are doing excellent work on very small salaries. They deserve our hearty support.

Don't fail to send your offering for Home Missions promptly to Benj. L. Smith, Corresponding Secretary, Y. M. C. A. building, Cincinnati, Ohio. It will all be needed to meet the maturing obligations of the Board. Don't fail to remit promptly.

If your congregation does very well—makes an offering two or three times the apportionment—send a telegram, at your own expense, to the Corresponding Secretary, Cincinnati, that it may be used to encourage others. Don't fail on this.

The work of city evangelization needs the assistance of the General Board. Our cities are not able of themselves to do the work that ought to be done. The work done in Chicago by E. W. Darst can be duplicated if we only entrust our Board with \$100,000 for Home Missions.

Remember that we have two missionary offerings in one on the first Lord's Day in May—that for Home Missions and Negro Evangelization. We should pay and pray accordingly.

We should make our offering for Home Missions equal to any other offering for the year—no second place for Home Missions.

Home Missions and Foreign Missions are the two wings of the bird of progress of God's cause. Do not make one any weaker than the other.

There should be no equality of missionary offerings by the division of any other fund, but by the multiplication of the weakest offering. The home offering should be multiplied. Let us multiply our part of it.

The record of the Board shows thirty-five churches organized last year; 2,135 churches have been organized by the Board in its history.

Three hundred dollars put into the hands of the Home Board will keep a missionary employed a year. A great many of our churches should make it a matter of rejoicing to have their own home missionary. There are some fields where two hundred dollars will keep a man at work a year. Let our churches select a field and have their own missionary at work preaching the glorious gospel of our Lord and Saviour.

Let every church make it a matter of pride to be a helper in the Home Mission offering this year.

We believe the home offering will be the largest in our history; the enlarged work, the splendid record of the Board in getting out of debt and keeping out of debt, the prosperity that has come to our Home Mission work, all appeal to our churches, and they will respond with a great offering for Home Missions.

Jesus sat over against the treasury and watched the people as they made their offerings—so, let us believe, our Lord sits over against the churches and notes them giving for the cause of spreading the gospel over America. Let us see to it that our offering has His approval.

It is only a few weeks until the first Lord's Day in May—then the offering for Home Missions. Don't forget it, nor fail to make it a great day.

It is a fact, that needs to be held before our brethren, that the mission churches supported by the American Christian Missionary Society have already reported to me over \$500 for the



BENJAMIN L. SMITH,
Corresponding Secretary of the American Christian
Missionary Society.

March offering for Foreign Missions, and not all have been heard from. Home Mission work pays. Now let every church that took the foreign offering turn in for an equal offering for Home Missions.

BENJ. L. SMITH, Cor. Sec.
Cincinnati, Ohio.

CAN! OUGHT! WILL!

I have a very great desire to see our people rally to the work of Home Missions. We have never yet done anything worthy of us for this great cause. The call for \$100,000 ought to be promptly heeded. We can raise it, we ought to raise it, and from all our churches should come up the unanimous shout, "We will raise it!" There is no such mission field in all the world as America. Let us take it for Jesus Christ! Let us make 1898 a red letter year for General Home Missions! GEORGE DARSIE.

Frankfort, Kentucky.

ONLY \$100,000!

\$100,000 to help win America for Christ! Only \$100,000! Is it necessary to talk about sacrifice yet? When the American Congress, without a dissenting voice, appropriates a