

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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NOTES AND NEWS.

In all probability the annual meeting will be held with the church at West Gore, Hants County.

Bro. Northcutt is down in Texas holding meetings with his usual success. He recently closed one in Houston with ninety-five additions.

Bro. B. L. Smith, corresponding secretary, gives notice that the Secretary of State of Ohio, on the fifth day of February, 1896, changed the name of the General Christian Missionary Convention to the American Christian Missionary Society. We think the new name is a great improvement.

We learn through the *Christian Evangelist* that Bro. Capp is doing excellent work at Plattsburg, Mo.; and this is just what we would expect from him. We wish that, in his busy life, he could find time to send a letter through *THE CHRISTIAN* to his many friends in these parts.

We know that conscientious people do not desire to be thanked for doing their duty. It is almost like an imputation that you did not expect it of them. But still we feel like expressing our thanks to the many who have lately renewed their subscriptions. There are others who have neglected to pay what is due, and we would like to hear from them.

Dr. A. T. Pierson is one of the leading preachers in the United States. He is the author of many books, stands pre-eminent among missionary leaders, and is the editor of the *Missionary Review of the World*. He has recently been immersed, and is reported as saying, on that occasion, that he has long been convinced that that was the only form of baptism practised in the time of Christ.

The great work of the church is to obey the Lord's command and "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Some people who take no interest in this work, but rather glory in their indifference, think that nevertheless they love the Saviour. But they are mistaken. He says, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments." (Revised version.)

In one of our exchanges we see that in 1836 there were only three Disciples of Christ in St. Louis, Mo. Two others joined them the same year, and the five used to meet from house to house on every Lord's day, to remember his death. Sixty years have gone and now there are nearly three times as many churches as there were then disciples. The growth in recent years has been very rapid.

Out in Oklahoma there is a minister who last year preached ninety-eight sermons, received forty-two members into the church and was paid, all told, \$87.57. This year he is preaching at four different points, pays his own railroad fare, and modestly says that he hopes to do a better work next year. He must have much of Paul's earnestness, and deserves to be remembered for his faithfulness. His name is E. Bachman.

We are glad to know of the increasing success that is attending Bro. Lhamon's labors with the Cecil street church, Toronto. We recently read an excellent sermon by him on *The Rightfully Restless*, in which he dealt with the labor question, and showed that the condition of working people demands earnest attention. He has been in Ohio lately and held a meeting with the church in Warren, Ohio.

Did our readers carefully peruse the long article on the contribution in the last *CHRISTIAN*. If they have studied it to good purpose, they will put its teachings, which are also the teachings of Scripture, into practice, with the result that the churches will be able to raise more money this year for the Lord's work, and raise it easier, than ever before. One of our great mistakes has been the failure to give regularly and systematically, as the Lord has prospered us. Let us be faithful.

In reading short sketches of the lives of noted preachers, we were particularly struck with the fact that the most of them became Christians in early boyhood, some of them in their twelfth year. Spurgeon once said that of the many thousands he received into the church, very few of those who came in early youth ever proved unfaithful. Some one has said that when age comes to Christ a soul is saved; but when youth comes the soul is saved as well.

There is a little stir in Boston over the action of a Baptist pastor, Robert Macdonald. He gave a broad invitation to the communion table, saying, "This table is open to any one who wishes to remember Christ as the suffering Saviour." Many Baptists disapprove of his action, but one of their leading ministers, A. S. Gumbart, is reported to have said that he does not know of a case where anyone remaining to the communion, and desiring to partake, was refused; and he speaks from twenty years' observation.

Tribulations and piety often go hand in hand. Some of the most godly people in the world have been called to go through the

deepest waters and to go through oftenest. It often seems that the worst people have the best time, and some have hastily concluded that piety does not pay. But sorrows and trials do not come because people are good; and this is where many miss the truth. But there is a logical connection. The purity of life is the result of the trials, but not the occasion of them; a consequence is not a cause.

Whatever talent or money we have is the Lord's. He has simply deposited it with us, making us his bankers. When he desires to draw any of it, he has a right to expect that we will cheerfully and promptly honor his drafts. He has the right to draw out all he has deposited with us, and in some instances it is a wonder that he does not; for when he comes seeking a small amount, he is refused and treated as if he had no right to make the demand. What man would leave his money with a banker who would so treat him?

We feel that we must this month give a paragraph to some of the most successful meetings that have been held since our last report; and this month we will limit our field to the state of Illinois. In the meeting held at Heywood, there were 66 additions; at Hoapeston 88 additions; at Barry 103 additions; at Carthage 106 additions; at Du Quoin 151 additions; and at Rushville, 155 additions; or a total for six meetings of 669, an average of more than 111 each. A recent number of the *Christian Standard* reports 3000 additions.

Not long since, Bro. T. D. Garvin went to Honolulu and opened up a mission that has proven to be one of the wisest and most successful undertaken by the Disciples of Christ in many years. A new house of worship has been recently completed. It is beautiful, commodious, and well planned, and will greatly aid and stimulate the work. So says the *Christian Guide*. The leader is carrying on this work independent of any society, and thus those who do not care to give through such an organization have here a chance to aid in a work that should commend itself to them.

Once each year the churches are asked for a contribution which will go to swell the amount that is needed in order that the gospel may be sent to all the nations of the earth that are still in darkness. The need, then, is great and pressing. Thousands, yes, hundreds of thousands, and even millions, go into eternity every year who have never heard of Jesus, the only Saviour of the world, and their only Saviour. Thousands of brave young men and women are anxiously waiting to go with the gospel to those who have it not. How shall they preach except they be sent? The great need here is money. Let all our churches take up a liberal collection early in March for this work, and send it to A. McLean, Box 750, Cincinnati, Ohio. God's blessing will be with the church that does.