

when it is known that there are 2,700 churches of Christ in the United States without houses of worship. Of these, 1,800 have sought for assistance, but owing to lack of funds only 500 have been helped since the fund was started.

Money out of the Church Extension Fund is not given to weak churches but loaned to them. They pay it back into the fund by regular instalments. In this way the same money will help church after church until there will be no weak churches needing places of worship. The fund has been so carefully managed that it is said not a grant that has been made has been lost. But the present need is more money. Nearly 1,300 churches have sought aid unsuccessfully, because the fund was exhausted.

The letter by the office editor which appears in this paper was written for the June issue, but withheld because he thought it lacked matters of general interest. Some readers, however, have asked that the letters as well as the trip be finished—as it is hardly the correct thing for the letter to leave the writer in the mountains of North Carolina, when he is in fact down by the Bay of Fundy. Well, this letter brings him back to the starting point and leaves him at work.

We have a few higher critics among us. They make a good deal of noise—enough for a thousand of them! Their croaking recalls the story of a frog pond. A man living near who was disturbed by the noise of the frogs thought there must be hundreds of them. He went to a neighboring town to see if he could not open up a business in supplying frog's legs to the grocers. He received some orders and went home to catch his frogs. He found them hard to find. Then he drained his pond and found three frogs. There are not so many higher critics in the world as their noise would indicate.

E. B. Barnes, of Normal, Ill., a former highly respected pastor of the Disciples church of this town, occupied the Methodist pulpit in the absence of their pastor, on Sunday last and delivered two excellent addresses to good congregations. Mr. Barnes is an earnest and fearless exponent of Gospel truth and it was a great pleasure to his many friends to listen to him. During his pastorate in this town his genial good fellowship as a citizen, won the esteem of all denomination and he will always be a welcome guest to Bowmanville.—*West Durham News.*

News of the Churches.

ST. JOHN, N. B.

COBURG STREET

Bro. Wm Murray preached on two Lord's days during Bro. Stewart's absence on P. E. Island.

Sister Grace Phillips, of Boston, Mass., worshipped with us on Lord's day (20th).

Prof. Deweese, of the College of the Bible, Lexington, was with us at our Thursday evening meeting (August 3rd) and gave us a talk on John's gospel.

Bro. Neil McLeod led the young people's meeting on Monday evening, September 4th. He is returning from his home on P. E. Island, where he has been visiting. He is one of the missionaries in Jamaica, where he has labored for three years under the C. W. B. M. Some of the churches there have the endeavor societies and their auxili-

aries. He will attend the Jubilee convention at Cincinnati in October.

Miss Bertha W. Barnes will be a delegate to the Maritime C. E. convention, to be held at Sackville, N. B. on September 5th, 6th and 7th.

Bro. W. H. Harding was at our Thursday evening prayer-meeting (31st) and gave us a very interesting talk on the subject, "Associating with Jesus."

Sister Allen, of Washington, D. C., formerly of this city, was at our C. E. meeting Monday evening (Aug. 14). She spoke of the flourishing society of the Ninth street church, of which she is a member, and exhorted us to go forward in this grand cause of Christian Endeavor.

MAIN STREET.

On the first Wednesday of the month we were privileged to have with us Prof. B. C. Deweese, of the College of the Bible, Lexington, Ky. He gave a very helpful and instructive sermon, and it was with sincere regret that we bid him good-bye Friday morning when he left for Lubec, Me.

Bro. William Murray has been at two prayer-meetings this month and did much to make them uplifting and encouraging.

Sister Torsey was at the evening service August 20. She is in the city on business and returns to Boston where the family is very comfortably situated.

Bro. Armstrong passed to his reward August 1st. Death has thus made the second attack upon this young congregation.

Two business meetings were held this month. The Building Committee was instructed to let the contract for the erection of the building and to proceed with the work. A.

HALIFAX, N. S.

The second Lord's day in August completed my first year's engagement with the church in this city. In many respects the year has been very pleasant. The most discouraging feature of the work here has been the removal of so many of our friends from the city. This we have all felt keenly. But the Lord has been with us and blessed us beyond what we could have hoped. We have been made glad by seeing thirteen willing souls obeying their Lord in baptism, the last one of these was baptized since my report in the last CHRISTIAN.

While there has been considerable sickness, God has been merciful to us, so that we have not been called to mourn the loss of any of our number by death. A growing interest in the work has been manifest all along, and our hands have been held up and hearts cheered by many kind words and acts during this our first year's labor with the brethren in the city of Halifax.

The church has met all the financial obligations of the year, paying their preacher regularly every Monday, and meeting the interest falling due every three months regularly, with all other expenses, such as insurance, fuel, etc. Besides these, the regular expenses, there has been raised during the year, including the work of the C. W. B. M. and the children's work, nearly \$100 for missionary purposes. For a little church like this, with not over fifty resident members, I think the record a creditable one.

The Sunday-school held its annual picnic the 10th of August, and a very pleasant day was enjoyed. We engaged a steamer to take us up the Bedford Basin to the picnic grounds. The day was perfect, the grounds all we could desire, and the attendance good. The affair was a financial success, as well as a success in every particular.

Prof. B. C. Deweese, of the College of the Bible, Lexington, Ky., made us a short but very pleasant

visit. The professor preached two most excellent sermons, which gave us a higher view of the great scheme of redemption, and lifted our souls heavenward. Bro. Deweese will get a hearty welcome when he again visits Halifax.

We have also enjoyed a short visit from our dear young sister, Elsie Smith. This young sister is very dear to us in these parts, not only because of the beauty of her own life, but because of her dear mother of sacred memory, whom many of us knew and loved for her works' sake. Sister Josephine Smith has left the impress of her sweet nature on the daughter to whom we have so reluctantly said good-by.

Since my last report Sister L. Miles, of St. John, and Sister Zela Collie, of Milton, have worshipped with us different times, and have spoken words of good cheer to us in our social meetings. It is very encouraging to have our friends who visit the city come to the meetings and encourage us by their presence and expressions of interest in our common cause.

My son, F. C. Ford, who was with the friends at Gulliver's Cove, Digby Co., the two last Lord's days, was with us a few days this week, and led the Wednesday evening prayer-meeting. He is now on his way to East Point, P. E. Island, having accepted an invitation to visit the brethren at that place.

I have heard of the serious sickness of our beloved Bro. Hiram Wallace. May the Lord spare the useful life of this dear brother is our earnest prayer. We shall anxiously await further news, hoping the next word will be encouraging.

E. C. FORD.

Halifax, August 25th, 1899.

PICTOU, N. S.

Since coming here (June 24th) I have organized a prayer-meeting Wednesday night, and a Bible class which meets at 10 a. m., Sunday. We have had regular preaching, having the privilege (July 23rd) of listening to two excellent sermons by Prof. Deweese, of the College of the Bible, Lexington, who preached again Wednesday night (26th).

The audiences, although still small, are improving, and we have confidence in the future prospects of our work in Pictou. I have met a great many people outside of our membership, a great many in the other churches and find them, very pleasant indeed.

Sufficient money has been raised to purchase baptismal robes and new hymnals, which we expect to use to good advantage this winter. Above all, the good people have been very kind to the present minister, exhibiting remarkable patience and strong faith.

W. H. ALLEN.

HANTS COUNTY, N. S.

An interesting marriage came off at the church, West Gore, the 8th inst., the contracting parties being Bro. William McDougall and Sister Rosa McPhee, both members of the church here. They have set out in their new relation with the best wishes of a large number of relatives and friends.

I have resigned the work in this county, and am glad to say that arrangement is being made to engage another. At a meeting of delegates of the churches called for the purpose a sum was voted to be raised by the churches for the support of a minister of the word. Arrangements ought to be completed by the 1st of October. Persons interested will correspond with Bro. John McDougall, of West Gore.

I am writing these lines from a sick bed, where I have been confined for two weeks. I have known some sickness and suffering, but both might have been worse. I am not able to write. The blessing of the Lord be upon THE CHRISTIAN—its editors, contributors and many readers.

HIRAM WALLACE.

August 28th, 1899.