

church who do not enjoy regular instruction. How needful that they be aided to a proper view of these subjects! More than that, in families where THE CHRISTIAN finds a welcome, there may be many who have not yet decided for Christ. Such teaching might be very helpful to them. And in order that still greater good might accrue, it would be well to make a special effort to have THE CHRISTIAN go into the homes of many thoughtful people who would be pleased to have their attention drawn to these themes. One step further; if thought advisable, it would be an easy matter to have these articles brought out in leaflets for broadcast sowing. Perhaps the Mission Board would help bear the expenses. But who will write the articles? Permit the writer, without being invidious, to suggest a brother—one whose familiarity with scripture teaching would make it an easy task, and whose experience as a teacher of the truths of the Bible would suggest to him what subjects to take up and how to present them. That one is the editor of THE CHRISTIAN—Bro. D. Crawford.

### News of the Churches.

#### ST JOHN, N. B.

Annual report of the Secretary-Treasurer of Coburg Street Christian Sunday-school for the year ending December 31st, 1893:

Number of Scholars on roll, .....	175
“ Teachers, .....	15
“ Officers, .....	4
“ New scholars, .....	56
“ Scholars added to church, .....	12
Average attendance, .....	113

#### COLLECTIONS.

From Scholars, .....	\$182 24
“ Anniversary, .....	20 51
“ Other sources, .....	42 18
Balance on hand at last report, .....	15 97

\$260 90

#### EXPENDITURES.

For Home Missions, .....	\$56 85
“ Foreign, .....	40 28
“ S. S. supplies, .....	95 79
“ Other expenses, .....	5 00

\$197 92

Balance on hand, .....

\$62 98

Below is given a comparison of the reports for three years:

	1891.	1892.	1893.
Number of scholars on roll, .....	105	135	175
“ new scholars, .....	18	26	56
Scholars added to church, .....	2	14	12
Average attendance, .....	91	90	113
Received from scholars, .....	\$163 61	\$163 37	\$182 24
Paid for Home Missions, .....	52 37	54 70	56 85
“ Foreign, .....	3 77	10 09	40 28

Respectfully submitted,

J. E. EDWARDS, Sec.-Treasurer.

The Secretary of Main Street (North) Christian Sunday-school begs leave to submit the following report:

Number of Scholars on roll, .....	122
“ Teachers, .....	10
“ Officers, .....	4
Average attendance for first quarter, .....	49
“ “ “ second “ .....	55
“ “ “ third “ .....	61
“ “ “ fourth “ .....	85
“ “ “ the year, .....	62

#### RECEIPTS.

W. M. A. S., .....	\$60 00
Sunday-school, .....	84 81
Sunday afternoon services, .....	21 82
Concert, .....	15 50

Total receipts, .....

\$182 13

#### EXPENDITURES.

Paid for Rent of hall, .....	\$75 00
“ Library books, .....	42 13
“ S. S. papers, .....	24 75
“ New organ (on acct.), .....	10 00
“ Bibles, .....	9 00
“ Lesson pictures and cards, .....	7 21
“ Black-board and cartage, .....	1 75
“ Postage, etc., .....	52

Total expenditure, .....

\$170 36

Balance on hand January 1st, 1894, .....

\$182 13

Respectfully submitted,

J. BAREY ALLAN, Sec. Main St. School.

The above reports should encourage all. We may add that on the last Sunday in January both schools had the largest attendance ever known, there was 163 at Coburg St. and 115 at Portland. On January the 14th a Sunday school was organized at Silver Falls. Twenty eight were present. Bro. H. Shollington was chosen superintendent. The prospects are good for an increased attendance. This school will be a great help to the little band at Silver Falls. Their house has cost about \$800.00, and we are glad to know they only owe \$100.00.

The Woman's Aid has given \$34 00 for books, papers, etc., for the Portland Sunday school; this makes nearly \$100 00 they have given towards this flourishing school. The Sunday school scholars of the Coburg St. school gave a concert in the house at Silver Falls on the 19th. About fifteen dollars was taken in the collection which goes towards the building fund.

One confession on January 30th.

On the 21st Bro. Stewart spoke to young men only, in the Y. M. C. A. building. His subject was the “Three Hebrew Children.”

William and Allan Gates passed through St. John on the 18th. Bro. George McElhaney, whose home is near Boston, worshipped with us on the 28th. We remember him as one of the faithful ones when he lived here years ago. Bro. R. E. Stevens, of Lord's Cove, was with us over two Lord's days, December 31st and January 7th. He preached in Coburg St., Portland and Silver Falls while Bro. Stewart was at Keswick. We were glad to hear him and rejoice to know that he will do a grand work for the cause. He will get a warm welcome from us whenever he favors us with his preaching again. By his help in St. John Bro. Stewart was able to hold a successful meeting at Keswick.

Sister Carrie Payson left for her home in Westport this month.

It is not often the St. John church gets such a useful visitor. We can say “she did what she could” for us. We lose but Westport will gain.

#### HANTS CO., N. S.

I have so much to tell you this time that I scarcely know where to commence. I will tell you first about my trip to Halifax. I preached twice for the church there on Sunday, January 7th. The attendance was good and the brethren seem to be very much in earnest. I am sorry that they have not had a regular preacher, for I think we have a good opportunity there, but of course we can only do the best we can. Every one of the preachers that have visited have written of the great importance of the work there. I could give you some extracts from articles written by Bros. Ford, Murray, Cooke, Crawford and others, but my space only permits the following from the report of the annual meeting in the October CHRISTIAN: “The consideration of our Halifax mission was the next in order. Bro. Northcutt, Bro. Rowlinson, Bro. Ford, and Bro. H. Murray offered some remarks relative to the importance of this mission and the need of a special effort to sustain the cause in that city. To neglect that field now would be not a loss to what has already been accomplished there, but the loss of all hope of doing anything again in the future. A resolution was then passed to sustain the cause there and provisions were made for sustaining a preacher there all the time.”

Now let me give you four facts, 1st. Since that time the church has been four weeks at a time without a preacher. 2nd. What preachers have been there have been fairly well paid between the church and the mission board. 3rd. The running expenses of a church in the city are very high. 4th. They have a large amount of interest to make up, and at the same time they are trying to reduce the capital. Now let us add to these the possibility

of their being longer without a regular preacher! What are we going to do about it? It is admitted by all to be a very necessary work, and the few brethren there backed up by the mission board will do all they can to build up. If the building could only be freed from debt it would be a great help.

Now, I have this suggestion to make. We have ten preachers in the Maritime Provinces, at least that is all I can think of at present. Could not an arrangement be made so that each of these preachers could spend a month, or provide a substitute in Halifax; the churches employing them to pay their salary; the church in Halifax to pay travelling expenses and board them. The Mission board to put the \$300 promised into the building fund. As a result of this arrangement there could be about \$500 paid toward the building fund and each of the churches would do its share and not feel it. Of course this would not be as good as to have a regular preacher, but it has its advantages and would be much better than the way things are going now. Preachers are generally supposed to be the leaders of the people, and we know it is always better to say “come boys” than “go boys.” So as the preachers have been writing a great deal about helping Halifax, let us now say “come boys” and I feel sure the arrangement will be a success. For my own part I am sure that the brethren here, in Hants Co., are quite willing to do their part if this or any good arrangement is made. Let us all unite to help carry on the work so well begun in Halifax.

I must not forget that I have some important news from Hants Co. On Christmas day I went to Newport. I went to Bro. Ben. Vaughn's house. In the evening the brethren came in one by one and two by two and some times more until the house was nearly full of brethren and friends, and a very pleasant evening was spent. During the evening order was called and Sister Tillie Stevens on behalf of the friends assembled presented the writer of these notes with a purse of \$30.00. She made a neat little speech, to which I replied as well as I could. Bros. Armstrong and Green also made speeches, and all seemed happy. I feel quite sure that the church here is in earnest in their efforts to spread the truth. While all did their best to make this a success, great credit is due Bro. and Sister Vaughn and their daughter Hattie for their kindness in opening their house and making everybody welcome.

The day after Christmas I drove home through a snowstorm, and after getting home I found something was up, even though it was a stormy day. Yes! another donation. Notwithstanding the storm the house was filled, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Bro. John McDougall, on behalf of the friends presented the writer with \$35 00 in cash as well as vegetables, etc. Several who did not get there on account of the storm came another evening and made up for it. I do not find it very hard to talk generally, but I do confess to my inability to make a donation speech. I have felt better ever since those donations.

Rawdon comes next. Tuesday, January 16th, was the time; Bro. George Wallace's was the place. But what a storm and what drifts of snow in the road, so we gave it up for that night; but, determined not to be beaten, a number of the brethren and friends met the next evening, and had a very pleasant time. I did not get there, but I received as a token that I was not forgotten, the sum of \$20.00. It was too bad that time, wasn't it? For I should have enjoyed being among those folks so much; but I must stop. Acknowledging the kindness of the brethren and friends in all these places and the goodness of my kind heavenly Father, I close for this month.

W. H. HARDING.

West Gore, Hants Co., N. S.