

world's thinkers, as the sun the satellites. The bearing of these facts upon the heading of this brief article is obvious. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me"—was the utterance of an obscure peasant of Galilee. He was destitute of wealth, fame, hereditary honors, or a following worthy of the name; and yet he foretold a time when he should become the world's central magnet, attracting and binding all men to himself. The prophecy was stupendous. From any but the God-man it had been madness. No mere man may expect to sway the sceptre of universal empire. Human genius may thrill the nations, but it cannot bind them. It lacks the bulk and density that would make it a world centre. Distance weakens its grasp, time rusts it, attrition wears it. Its power declines in inverse ratio to the square of the distances. It is the gospel of the grace of God alone that can seize the hearts of earth's teeming millions, and give vitality to the bond that binds the weakest and most remote spirit atom to himself forever.

But if the announcement was stupendous, the means by which it was to be accomplished was still more surprising. The cross was the symbol of a slave's torture. Inspiration itself had proclaimed, "Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree." And yet the cross was to become the world's centre. Christ crucified was to captivate all hearts and become the one object in which all men should glory: verily, it was a prophecy that only history itself could vindicate.

The progress of eighteen centuries proves it true. The cross has lost its shame, and has become the synonym of all virtue and nobleness, goodness and greatness. It has become an evangel in all lands, and it has won its triumphs from among all peoples. All men are its enemies, and yet everywhere the heart's enmities are subdued by its presence, and all souls are attracted by its silent power. Sinners become saints, and persecutors apostles, at its mighty touch. It captures to liberate, binds to enoble, humbles to transfigure and save. Who shall explain the mystery? Its shame has become its glory. This root out of dry ground has become the chiefest of ten thousand and altogether lovely. The hated, despised, persecuted, abandoned, crucified Nazarene is a king with hearts for an empire. He has brought desires, affections, impulses, yearnings; yea, even the imaginations into captivity to the obedience of Christ. Men count it their highest glory to suffer and even to die for him. They forsake home, and country, and friends; tread beneath their feet ease and fortune and fame; live unknown, die unhonored for the sake of telling of his love, and of wearing trophies for his cause. Such are the facts. They demand our most careful study.

T. H. BLENUS.

It is sometimes harder to be willing to be served than to serve willingly. It is sometimes harder to accept the sacrifices which others make for us, than it would be for us to make similar sacrifices for them.

Home Mission Notes.

SPECIAL.—The Secretary has sent out letters to all our churches, calling attention to the May collection for the General Christian Missionary work. Will the brethren read the letter to the congregations and thus give them a chance to contribute to this worthy object. If you cannot take up a collection on the first Lord's day in May for this fund, please attend to it as soon afterward as possible.

GOOD NEWS!—Bro. J. H. Hardin writes: "Our Board (the General Christian Missionary Society) has granted \$250.00 a year to support a preacher in Pictou." This makes \$500.00 a year they will give to Halifax and Pictou. Surely they are liberal to us. We hope every church in these provinces will take up a collection for their fund, and forward it as requested. Deeds speak louder than words, to show our gratitude in this case. Bear this in mind: if we do not assist them, they cannot continue to aid these points, and we all want the cause to grow strong in both places.

Halifax, Portland, Leonardville, Tiverton, and Westport Sunday-schools have been heard from this month. What about the other schools? Are they going to lose their part in this good work? Brother Superintendent, you are responsible.

Bro. Blenus again visited Keswick and held a good meeting. Two married ladies were baptized. Bro. B. drew the plans for a new meeting house and they are now at work on it. The lumber for the frame was got out before he left. The church there has been aroused as never before, and will make every effort to become strong enough to withstand every attempt that shall be made to crush it.

Bro. Blenus on the 14th addressed the Y. M. C. A. in Fredericton, and at night preached in the Baptist church to a large congregation. The daily papers spoke highly of his efforts, and he will be well received in Fredericton again. This visit was made at the urgent request of Bros. Bagnall and Stockford, who desired to introduce Bro. Blenus to the Fredericton people. One good brother said the newspaper's comments on Bro. Blenus was worth more than the cost of his visit.

Bro. Ford went to Pictou and remained over the five Lord's days in March. He found Bro. Fullerton's hall all that could be desired, and that he had left nothing undone to make the preaching a success. Bro. Fullerton is well satisfied with the opening up of the work by Bro. Ford. He had more out to hear him than they expected, and a good impression was made on all who came to hear. We hope and pray that the means can be raised and the right preacher found to carry on this work until it becomes self-supporting.

We are glad to say, Bro. Weaver is at work in Pictou, trying to aid in establishing the cause there, which was so well started by Bro. Ford. Let us all pray for blessings on their efforts, that we may soon see the word of the Lord bearing fruit in that large town.

Bro. Blenus is now on Deer Island, and will visit Letete and Back Bay also. He has offers from several good preachers to locate in these fields, and hopes before he leaves, to see two of them settled there. This is a

move, we think, in the right direction. The right men in those places giving all their time to the work, will show grand results.

Again we appeal for help to carry on the work laid out for us. Remember, we need now \$140.00 a month to support the preachers at work. These men are working hard—great good is being done; let every one help, for it is the Lord's work.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	\$546 31
Taunton, Mass.—	
Miss I. D. Dewar,	50
Portland Sunday-school—	
Per J. Barry Allan,	6 05
Halifax Sunday-school—	
Per W. F. Shaw,	7 00
Leonardville Sunday-school—	
Per C. H. Conley,	2 72
Tiverton Sunday-school—	
Per K. Outhouse,	1 00
Westport Sunday-school—	
Per T. M. Hicks,	1 18
Halifax—	
Per W. F. Shaw,	25 00
Cornwallis—	
E. C. Ford—	9 00
Cornwallis—	
A. Bligh,	5 00
Pictou—	
Per E. C. Ford,	85 00
Keswick—	
Per T. H. Blenus,	21 00
Leonardville—	
Per Wm. Kay,	2 00
Southville—	
Mrs. Gates,	4 00
Milton—	
Per Miss A. Collie,	6 00
South Range—	
Per H. A. Devoe,	2 00
West Gore—	
Per Josiah Wallace,	5 00
A. B. Wallace & Co.,	1 00

\$879 76

J. S. FLAGLOR,
Secretary.

Post Office, St. John.

Foreign Missions.

Maritime C. W. B. M.

*Expect great things from God.
Attempt great things for God.*

DEAR SISTERS—You will enjoy Sister Rioch's letter, and rejoice with her that Japan is accepting Christianity. Surely the Lord is working with his people there.

I received a letter a few days ago from the Secretary of the Ontario C. W. B. M., in which she says, that owing to the changes made, Sister Rioch's expenses will be much heavier than before, and asks to endeavor to increase our contributions to meet the larger outlay.

Sister Rioch is now in charge of the school for training girls to become Bible women. It is necessary for her to have a Bible women to assist in teaching them, as well as in the other work which she will continue to do; also a woman to do the house work required. She has been paying her Bible woman and other expenses out of her salary; but now that these expenses have increased, she should not be burdened with them. Remembering the great sacrifices that she is making, let us be willing to make at least some small sacrifice, that the work may prosper, and that her heart may be encouraged thereby. We trust that those who before have not realized that their help was needed, will do so now.

MRS. J. S. FLAGLOR.