

# THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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## The Christian.

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## NOTES AND NEWS.

We understand that M. B. Ryan has become the minister of the Christian Church in Erie, Penn. We wish him great success in his new field. We also congratulate the church.

C. Howard Buchanan, of St. John, is now preaching for the Christian Church in Odon, Ind. The congregation lately showed their appreciation of his services by a very acceptable gift. The *Christian Oracle* says, "his work moves off nicely."

The office editor and financial manager of THE CHRISTIAN expects to be absent from St. John until next June; but a competent person has agreed to discharge the duties of these offices. Let all articles for publication and all business communications be addressed to THE CHRISTIAN, Box 56, St. John, N. B.

At the Christmas season, when generous impulses are filling your soul, do not forget the Lord's work and its needs. You will feel all the happier if you send a liberal gift to the treasurer of our Home Mission Board. The work needs your aid.

The article by Lester Mellish in the October CHRISTIAN, "Work of the Young People in the Church," was copied, with due credit, into *Our Young Folks*, of St. Louis, Mo., and, by that unsurpassed weekly for young people, was spread before many thousands of readers. Let our young friend write again.

Miss Rioch completes her tour among the churches of the Maritime Provinces this month. She then returns to her home in Ontario. We believe her visit here has been a blessing to our churches, though not much of a rest for her. Her furlough should be extended.

The Annual Report of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society has been mailed. This is the most interesting report ever issued by the Society. Those desiring a copy can have one upon application. Address A. McLean, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The late C. H. Spurgeon was an extreme Calvinist. Dr. John Clifford, the great

English Baptist preacher of to-day is not. One day Spurgeon said to his friend, "I can't see how it is, Clifford, that you don't become more of a Calvinist, seeing you meet Calvinists so frequently." "Well, you see, Mr. Spurgeon," was the reply, "I see you only once a month, but I read my Bible every day, and that keeps me straight."

The lands of the Bible are dear to every Christian heart. Last summer G. O. Gates, pastor of Gormain Street Baptist Church, St. John, spent several months in the Holy Land. He is now giving on Sunday evenings a series of descriptive sermons, and so great is the interest that hundreds are unable to gain admission.

An old colored man made a mistake. He was reading the stanza, "Judge not the Lord by feeble sense," and he read it, "Judge not the Lord by feeble saints." His mistake was not so great after all. It would be a blessing if many people would take his advice. Judging the Lord by *feeble saints* has become all too common.

A. McLean has returned from his visit to Cuba. Both Cuba and Porto Rico are to be evangelized. Of course Bishop Ireland says there is no need of sending missionaries there as the people are in the Roman Catholic fold. But that makes no difference. J. A. Erwin, of Newport, Ky., is now in Porto Rico planning to establish a mission.

Did you receive a special message in your paper last month? Then what have you done with it? Sent the money it called for and tore it up. That was the correct thing to do. We wish many more had followed your example. Perhaps they will this month. They should.

The annual interest on \$5,000 will keep a missionary in the home mission field for a year. F. M. Drake by his gift of this amount to the American Home Missionary Society thus puts a man at work in a needy place and keeps him there as long as money draws interest.

Last year through the Foreign Christian Missionary Society, the churches in N. B. gave \$97.19, the Sunday-schools, \$32.01; the churches in N. S. gave \$81.86, the Sunday-schools, \$6.25; the churches in P. E. I. gave \$84.12, and the Sunday-schools, \$40.26. Indirectly the Society received \$592.00 from the brotherhood in these provinces. See the Annual Report referred to elsewhere.

A month or two since, we called for a uniform list of topics for use in the mid-week prayer-meeting. Many others had seen this need; and we are glad to report that it will soon be met. J. H. Garrison, Geo. Darsie, I. J. Spencer, A. McLean, B. L. Smith and Miss Lois A. White are now at work selecting the topics. Evidently missionary topics will not be forgotten.

A portion of F. M. Rains' address delivered at the Convention in Chattanooga has been issued as a twenty-page tract, with the

title, "The Lowest Classes have been Reached." It is most interesting reading, and shows the transforming power of the gospel. A one-cent postage stamp and your address, sent to A. McLean, Cincinnati, Ohio, will secure you a copy of the tract.

J. A. L. Romig goes to England for a six months campaign among the churches there. We hope his labors will be fruitful in much good. But what about that three months' campaign he was to open in Cincinnati?

The *Christian Evangelist* almost every week gives, on its first page, a splendid picture of some one of our prominent preachers and workers. These pictures add to the attractiveness and interest of the paper.

It is not significant that the Actor's Society is calling upon churches and preachers to oppose Sunday shows and concerts? Theatrical troupes find that they need this day of rest, and they also find that the managers of theatres are, in their covetousness, becoming more and more unwilling to let them have it. People who have no religious regard for the Lord's day desire its rest and quiet.

The *Christian Standard* has issued a call for "A Rally all Along the Line." It is a call to the churches and preachers to consecrate their efforts to the winning of 100,000 souls for Christ this year. The interest in the movement is becoming deep and widespread. We hope that the churches will all recognize that it is a glorious thing to rally souls to the cross of Christ, and with a holy zeal they will go to work with this in view.

A writer in one of our exchanges says: "I believe that the tenth is the true ideal of Christian giving." He may be wrong in his belief. One-tenth was demanded from the Jews under the Mosaic dispensation; but surely we who live in the days of the gospel of Christ should not make the tenth of our income the ideal of our giving. Rather let us make it the minimum. Let us go beyond it as far as we can. But how many don't give even a tenth!

We read in the *Christian Tribune* that a young brother, F. H. Ollom, went to Montgomery, W. Virginia. He found there no church of the Disciples of Christ. He was a man of conviction and did not go into some denominational body, but went to work and erected and furnished a beautiful and commodious church house. Then he sent for W. H. DeVore to come and hold a protracted meeting. He came and a Church of Christ was organized.

It has come at last—that is, a few drops have, and we wait expectantly for a copious shower. One of the great obstacles to the wide distribution of our best literature has been the high prices at which the books have been sold. But the Standard Publishing Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, is now quoting "campaign prices" on some of their best books and tracts. "Campbell's Christian System" is offered at 75 cents; "Lamar's