

# THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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## NOTICE!

The brethren will please remember that the P. E. Island annual meeting will be held at Cross Roads, Lot 48, July 11-13. We trust that there will be present a good representation from all the churches, as there are several matters of importance to come up for consideration.

We extend an invitation to the brethren in the neighboring provinces to attend. Our force of preachers on the Island is small and we trust that some of the preachers in N. B. and N. S. will come over and assist us. A hearty welcome awaits all who come.

G. A. JEFFREY, *Secretary*.  
Summerside, P. E. I., June 20th, 1896.

## ANNUAL MEETING

of the Disciples of Christ of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will be held with the church at West Gore, Hants County, commencing on Thursday, September 3, and continue over Lord's day.

J. E. BARNES,  
*Secretary*.

## NOTES AND NEWS.

We notice that the Sunday schools in the United States are taking a commendable interest in missions. The children are being trained to give. The first Sunday in June was observed as Children's Day. The school in Mungen, Ohio, gave \$555. It is pleasing to see that some of our schools are having a share in this work. You will see the report in the church news from Summerville, Milton and Summerside.

The article by Bro. Neil McLeod which we publish this month is the first of a short series on "First Things." The succeeding ones are to be as follows: They Began to Speak; The First Sermon; The First Converts; The First Church. We are pleased to see Bro. McLeod's interest in our work, and we thank

him in advance for these articles. We also thank our home contributors for the excellent articles they are sending.

The closing exercises of the College of the Bible, Lexington, Ky., took place on Tuesday, June 9th. There were thirty-one graduates—the largest class that has ever gone out from the college. Of these, two came from Australia, one from England, one (Bro. Lecnard who is going to work with the churches in North and South Lubec) from Canada, and one (Bro. Manifold who has accepted the work in Charlottetown) from New Zealand.

The Island Association is just at hand. We presume that arrangements have been made for an enthusiastic meeting. The secretary in this number of THE CHRISTIAN has a general invitation. We are not permitted to use any names, but we know that at least five preachers from N. S. and N. B. desire to be present at the meeting, and three of them are almost sure to be present. Besides, Bro. Manifold, who has just taken up the work in Charlottetown, will of course be there.

Our readers know of the political disturbances in South Africa and especially around Johannesburg. But they may not know that in that far off land the Disciples of Christ have a small church. The members have been meeting regularly since December last, but the organization was not completed till March 1st. The members of the church are nearly all from England and Australia. It is to be hoped that primitive Christianity, thus early planted in that rapidly growing country, may find a congenial soil there.

The programme for the N. B. and N. S. meeting appears in this issue. One item is particularly worthy of note, viz. the study of the Epistle to the Galatians, under the competent leadership of Bro. Ryan. When we find out how to systematically study one epistle, we will be able to apply the same method to other books of the New Testament; and as we get down into their depths we will see more of their beauties and richness. Let those who can attend the meeting carefully read the Epistle to the Galatians two or three times before the first Thursday in September—the opening day of the convention.

At the annual meeting of the Disciples of Christ in Toronto last month, there was a large attendance. Many excellent addresses were delivered. A discussion arose concerning the advisability of employing evangelists to travel through Ontario, and it was decided to employ one. Last year the treasurer reported a deficit, but this year there is a good balance on hand. The report on statistics is said to have been enthusiastic. F. M. Rains was present, and said the Foreign Board are on the lookout for some good men to go to Africa and Japan.

We find a "noteworthy incident" in the *Christian Standard*. The Presbyterians have a mission church in the east end of

Washington, Ohio. Dr. McNain, the minister, asked Bro. Austin Hunter to go to the mission and preach on who should be baptized and how should it be performed? telling him at the same time to make it as plain as he could from the immersionist standpoint. His reason for making the request was that some who attended the mission would not be sprinkled and he wished to have immersion fairly presented so that they could have no excuse for not being immersed. Bro. Hunter did as requested.

During the year just closed the Lexington College of the Bible had 154 students, representing seventeen of the States and seven foreign countries. The foreign countries had seventeen students in attendance including the following from the Maritime Provinces: N. Stevenson and A. Simpson of P. E. I.; R. E. Stevens, Wm. Gates and Frank Ford of N. S.; and S. W. Leonard of N. B. We hear good reports of the work done by these young men. While we have many excellent colleges in the States, we do not think we have one that has so much to commend it to the favorable consideration of our young men as the College of the Bible in connection with Kentucky University has.

Immersion is winning its way slowly but surely among those who have been its steadfast opponents. The light is spreading, and "the followers are becoming the leaders." So large is the number of those reared under pedo-baptist influences who request to be immersed, that these great churches which once opposed immersion with all their powers as being unscriptural, are now becoming more and more willing to immerse when requested to do so. And the church that immerses even occasionally is debarred from railing against what it thus recognizes, or it is convicted of inconsistency and something worse. The Methodist Episcopal General Conference which recently met in Cleveland, Ohio, has taken an attitude that must cheer the heart of any one who wants to see the primitive form exclusively observed.

A church can rapidly increase its membership if it will lower its standard and let the world come in on its own terms. But the increase will weaken the power of the church for good. So also those who in the past have pled for the scriptural form of baptism would find many willing to unite with them provided they would open their doors to the "pious unimmersed." Of all times the present seems to be the most unfortunate for such a liberal and unscriptural course; for we must remember that immersion seems to be coming into greater favor than ever before, with those who have sprinkling and pouring for baptism. If immersionists are wise they will not allow any desire for Christian union to lead them to the surrender of what alone is baptism or to the recognition of anything that is not. No permanent good can come from any compromise here, but much permanent evil can. The church has no right to tamper with the Lord's commands. A church that does so—is it a church of Christ? Stand firm for the truth, and win.