

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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NOTES AND NEWS.

"He who is willing to be a failure rather than be false will never be either."

"Drunkard makers are sent to parliament, while the poor unfortunate drunkards are sent to prison."

It is not the great things that we would do if we could that make us great, but the little things that we could do if we would.

Some one has given us the following rules for successful study of the Bible: 1, Study it through; 2, Pray it in; 3, Work it out; 4, Pass it on.

To work in the temperance cause to reform drunkards, and then vote for the man who will make laws that make drunkards, is something awful!!!

"The difference between a Christian and a worldly person is the difference between a rose bush and a hedge; they both have thorns, but the hedge has no roses."

The best news from the field in the Provinces just now is from Bro. W. H. Harding, who reports a meeting at Back Bay with some forty-one additions.

Many are very anxious that they might have dying grace. But we have a greater need of living grace. It requires more grace to live right than it does to die right.

"Do not make known at once to every one that which distresses you, but keep it to yourself until you find one who understands you and whose heart you have tested."

The first Lord's day in March is our day for the foreign missionary collection. We have now something over 200 missionaries in the field and more waiting to go. They depend upon us.

Feeding the 5,000 in modern times. Feed a few on the front seat because they belong to our provinces, but let those on the back seats go hungry because they belong to China, India and Japan,

It is just as necessary and important that the people should fill the pews to please the preacher, as that the preacher should fill the pulpit to please the people. Good hearing makes good preaching.

Evangelist Charles R. Scoville has recently held a five weeks meeting for one of our congregations in Allegheny, Pa., that resulted in 273 additions. This congregation numbers now nearly 1,400.

A learned Chinaman said to a missionary: "I like your doctrine, although I have never heard you preach." How is that? "I have seen it." "My servant was a Satan before he professed your religion, now I can trust him anywhere."

We learn from the *Christian Standard* that J. W. Gates and Y. Minakuchi, students at the Bible college, Lexington, Ky., were in Cincinnati, to buy a stereopticon to be used in lectures given by this young Japanese brother.

To restore primitive Christianity we must restore primitive manhood. Give us the men of faith and love and consecration of primitive times, and such as they had in the early church, and we will soon produce primitive Christianity.

Bro. Wm. Stiff, of Toronto, Ont., has taken up the pastor's work with the Milton church. This congregation has been without a pastor for some little time and we are glad to know they have secured one. The Milton congregation, as far as workers, church building, etc., is concerned, is one of the best equipped in the Provinces; and being situated in a good field we hope to see good work.

The United Presbyterian Church spent last year in its work in Egypt \$5,800. The net gain in membership in Egypt was 438. The cost of maintaining the work was some over \$132 00 for each convert. The same body of people spent in America \$1,521,699. The gain in America was 343. The cost of maintaining the work was something over \$4,436 00 for each convert. In other words it costs thirty-three times as much to convert a man in America as in Egypt.

Bro. R. H. Bolton, who began and carried on for some time the *New England Messenger*, Chelsea, Mass., has given up the editorship of this paper and taken a church in the west. The paper for the present at least will be looked after by Bro. J. H. Mohorter, pastor of the congregation in Boston. Bro. Bolton was a very faithful worker and a godly man. We hope that the work he has taken up will prove pleasant and grow under his ministrations.

The Christian is a free man, and it is Christ, through the truth, that makes him free. No man or set of men; no ecclesiastical combines, creeds or dogmas, should have the least authority over his conscience. The Christian has a perfect right and freedom to exercise his own judgment and intelligence.

No man should govern or rule him beyond what he knows to be right. When a person says he does not believe some things the church teaches, and yet he adheres to them and follows them, because they are the doctrines and practice of the church to which he belongs, he sacrifices his Christian liberty and destroys his chances for growth in Christian life.

Why was Gehazi's mission with the staff a failure? (see II Kings IV; 29) Because the staff of the prophet is of no use if the spirit and power of the prophet are wanting. The truth of God must be seen and felt through the man of God. We are the light of the world. We are the salt of the earth. Here is the great need to-day, men and women who speak and live the word of God. Truth must have heart, hands and tongue.

Russell H. Conwell, D.D., L.L.D., has said "that a hundred ministers speaking their pieces which the hearers never dream of applying to their work, will save but few. Jesus was right. He did not trust to His pulpit power, but to His doing good as He had opportunity. The disciples of Christ who follow the same plan always reap the same harvest. The churches that have tried that plan cannot contain the people who clamor for admission to the service."

Prayer meeting topics for March and April:

March 7th.—Intercessory Prayer, Tim. ii, 1-4; John xvii, 15-20-21; Eph. v, 18-20.

" 14th.—Scripture Study, Psalm 1.

" 21st.—Bridling the Tongue, James i, 26-27; iii, 2-12

" 28th.—The Christian Armor, Eph. vi, 10-20;

April 4th.—Possessing the Land, Num. xiii, 26-33; and xiv, 6-9. Concert of prayer for Missions.

" 11th.—Backbone, John ix, 13-18; 24-34.

" 18th.—Failure Through Self, Victory Through God, Ex. ii, 11-14; and iii, 7-10.

" 25th.—Fishers of Men, Matt. iv, 18-25.

The great mission and design of the Bible is the reformation and salvation of man, to shape and make him more like Christ, our pattern. "Let us make man after our own image." This order is somewhat changed, and the work on the part of some is to reform and improve the Bible, to make God and his word after man's image; to shape the Bible, to make it agree with man, rather than change the man, and have him agree with the Bible. The Bible is a mighty power in reforming and transforming individuals and nations, but what it will be, or do, when the "higher critics" get done with it, is hard to tell.

Rev. Dr. Madison C. Peters, of the Bloomingdale Reformed Church, New York city, and a prominent man in the pulpit of the metropolis, has come to the conclusion that the Bible teaches baptism for believers only, and will withdraw from the Reformed Church, because he can not, in good conscience, continue the practice of infant baptism or of sprinkling for baptism. There have been hundreds of earnest and scholarly pedobaptists who have come to the same con-