

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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The Christian.

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A NOTE from Bro. Ira C. Mitchell informs us that he is now laboring with the church at Portland, Me., and that in the near future, he will furnish manuscript for THE CHRISTIAN.

AN exchange informs us that the Episcopalians in the city of New York are returning to the practice of immersion, and that baptisteries are being placed in their churches.

This should not be much of a surprise, seeing that the prayer book of the Episcopal church on the question of baptism requires the rectors to practice immersion, unless some plea of weakness is presented by or for the candidate, when by the PRAYER BOOK it is said pouring will do.

At the beginning of the present year the *Atlantic Missionary*, Richmond, Va., edited by Bros. Spencer and Hill, has been changed to the *Missionary Weekly*. It being one of our exchanges we have opportunity to scan its pages, which we do with pleasure and profit—presenting and discussing in a firm but kindly spirit, as it does, the religious questions of the day. We hope that the blessings of God will, in the future as in the past, attend the efforts of these brethren to present "the faith once delivered to the Saints."

To THOSE discouraging men and women from obeying the Lord in the ordinance of baptism, and quote the "Thief on the cross" as a case setting forth the needlessness of such submission, we would commend a careful reading of the following incident, related by Dr. Lorimer at an anniversary in Minneapolis. Said a preacher to an unconverted man: "Have you joined the church?" "No; the dying thief did not join the church, and he went to heaven." "Have you talked to your neighbors?" "No; the dying thief did not talk to his neighbors, and he went to heaven." "Have you given anything towards missions?" "No; the dying thief did not give anything to missions, and he went to heaven." "Well, my friend, it seems to me the difference was, that he was a dying thief, and you are a living thief."

BRO. LECAIN of Kentville, N. S., (known to so many of our readers throughout Nova Scotia), having with his wife returned from a short visit to friends in the States, writes us: "On our arrival home we found my father very ill. He did not know me, and this, with but two exceptions,

continued till his death. Without any pain or struggle, he passed away about noon on Thursday the 19th. On Friday we removed him to Annapolis and on Saturday we buried him, so that my father and dear mother lie side by side. Within six years five of our family have passed away. Who will be the next we cannot tell. The only thing we can do is to be ready, that when God calls us from our earthly home, it will be to enter the glorious and heavenly one—prepared for all those that love Him."

To our brother we extend our Christian sympathy, and would remind him of the promise—all things work together for good to them that love God.

THE question of compensation to liquor dealers for damage done to their property by the introduction of law restricting or prohibiting their business, has, and will again, no doubt, be by those interested, pressed before our legislators for favorable consideration. But, why should rum-sellers receive compensation? The privileges and time granted them by the license having run out, and there being no intimation that the contract or a similar one would be renewed. Suppose these liquor dealers, when called upon to repair or make good the damage done by them, not simply to property, but to the souls of men;—What would the response be; and where would they be.

The brewers of Kansas, when the liquor traffic had been suppressed, not satisfied with the decisions of the State, carried the question of compensation to the supreme court of the United States, and the supreme court declares, "that compensation for damage to property cannot be exacted from the State where the manufacture and sale of intoxicants are prohibited.

HIGH LICENSE—and still not high enough—the liquor traffic should be abolished. In Atlanta, Georgia, where license recently prevailed over prohibition, the Common Council has just passed a new license law. Here are some of its provisions, as set forth in *The Observer*.

The fee for liquor selling is placed at \$1,500, and requires that no building shall be opened as a saloon except on the written consent of the owner of the building and at least one adjoining neighbor. The saloon-keeper must carry on his business openly. He can use no screens, or blinds, or painted glass, and cannot conduct his business in a basement. He cannot allow gambling, cards, billiards, pool, or tennis to be played in his place. If a drunken person is found on his premises, his license will be revoked. When a man has been convicted of drunkenness twice in one year, his name is to be furnished to every saloon-keeper, and no liquor can be sold him under penalty of the law. The saloons of the city are all to be restricted to certain specified streets.

In Pennsylvania the liquor-seller must pay in advance a fee of \$500.00. He can hold but one license. He must have two bondsmen to the extent of \$2,000—men that are in no manner interested in the business—thus making it impossible for great brewers owning and subletting saloons to men acting simply as agents. Besides the two bondsmen, the applicant must have on his petition for license, twelve reputable electors of his ward, indorsing him and certifying they have signed no similar

petition that year. In Philadelphia, there have been thus far but 600 applicants, where, as last year there were 6,000.

WE need not inform our readers in these parts that during the past month the weather has been—to say the least of it, more than cool. But if severe here (in the city, the mercury falling not lower than 11° below zero),—What must it have been out west? where blizzards raged furiously at the rate of fifty miles per hour, where between two and three hundred people were frozen to death, besides an enormous amount of stock.

Judge J. F. Kinney, agent of the Yankton Sioux Indian Agency in Dakota, arriving at Nebraska City, Neb., (Jan. 20th), reports: five days were necessary for the party to travel thirty miles, the mercury was 40° below zero all the time. The loss of life in Dakota has been greatly underestimated, as the Dakota papers have tried to cover it up. The passengers were crowded into one car trying to keep warm. Two babies perished. The men discarded all the outer garments they could spare and gave them to the children. Finding these not enough, they brought mail bags from the postal car and wrapped the children up in them. At one station in Bonhomme county, nineteen frozen bodies were brought into the station in one day. The reports made at Yankton yesterday of the loss of life throughout the territory figure up 1,000. Roads from the agency to Yankton are lined with dead cattle, many farmers losing all they had.

The following telegrams will indicate the severity of the weather out west:

WALPENTON, Dak., Jan. 19.—Trains on the Milwaukee road are abandoned, and the Northern Pacific Branch is closed. The Manitoba trains are 24 hours late. The wind is N. N. W., and the mercury 33° below. At Pembina, 52° below.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Jan. 19.—In northern Iowa a blizzard is raging and all trains are abandoned. At Masson City it is 25° below to-night.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan. 21.—This is the coldest day ever known here. Last night the thermometer showed 48° below, and at seven o'clock this morning the standard government thermometer showed 40° below.

LACROSSE, Wis., Jan. 20.—With but a single exception the mercury has not been above zero since Jan. 8, and during four successive days and nights, the temperature did not get above 14° below zero. A spirit thermometer registered 44° below on the street here last Monday morning. Winnipeg, 60° below.

N. B. AND N. S. MISSION BOARD.

January receipts.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Alex Campbell, Montague Bridge, P. E. I. | \$0 50 |
| Happy Tilers, Milton N. S. | 5 00 |
| Young Peoples' Mission Band, (Coburg street, St. John), N. B. | 1 00 |
| W. Martin, McAdam Jct., N. B. | 1 00 |

EDUCATIONAL FUND.

| | |
|---|-------|
| R. Christie, St. John, N. B. | 2 00 |
| Walter Leonard, St. John, N. B. | 2 00 |
| A. Friend, St. John, N. B. | 2 00 |
| Bible Class, Coburg street Sunday-school, St. John, N. B. | 2 50 |
| W. Martin, McAdam Jct., N. B. | 2 00 |
| D. Fullerton & Son, River John, N. S. | 14 00 |
| H. Murray, Milton, N. S. | 5 00 |
| Mrs. H. Murray, Milton, N. S. | 5 00 |
| Church collection, Montague Bridge, P. E. I. | 11 30 |
| Alex. Campbell, Montague Bridge, P. E. I. | 50 |

Total, \$53 80

T. H. CAPP,
Treasurer.