

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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NOTICE.

It will not be amiss to again remind the brethren that the Annual Meeting of the Christian churches on P. E. Island will be held with the church at Charlottetown on the second Lord's day in July.

Arrangements have been made with the P. E. Island railway to carry delegates at half fare.

GEO. A. JEFFREY,

Summerside, June, 1895. *Secretary of Association.*

NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of the Disciples of Christ, for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, will be held with the Church at Halifax, N. S., commencing on the Thursday before the second Lord's day in August next.

J. E. BARNES, *Secretary.*

NOTES.

SPECIAL attention is directed to the change of time for holding the Annual Meeting this year.

We understand Bro. M. B. Ryan is now in Hants Co., N. S. We hope that the churches in that vicinity will make good use of him during his stay.

We hope our subscribers will send in their subscriptions as early as possible, so that our annual report may be fully up to the average.

We expect to publish the Programme for the Annual in our next issue. Bro. Hardin, General Secretary of the Home Mission Board, is expected to be present. The Halifax brethren will be glad to welcome a strong delegation from our N. B. and N. S. Churches.

We have just heard of the death of Sister Gates, of Weymouth, N. S. A godly Christian has gone to rest. A suitable obituary will appear in our next issue.

God can make the wrath of men to praise him, and in the time of their greatest wrath we need not fear. The more

WE NEED NOT FEAR. persistently they fight against him, and the more concentrated and well planned their

attacks, the clearer shall his glory and his might appear. In their wrath men heated the furnace seven-fold hotter than it was wont to be heated; but the intensity of their fury makes a back-ground against which we can see, in wondrous distinctness, the greatness of our God. The greatness of their anger seems to add lustre to the miracle. When Herod apprehended Peter and put him in prison, he was put under guard of sixteen soldiers. At night he slept between two of them, his hands chained to theirs, and keepers before the door kept the prison. There we can see man's hate and man's precaution. But God made the wrath of men to again praise him. In spite of soldiers and chains and locks and keepers, he delivered Peter; and the miracle is to us more marvelous than if such endeavors had not been made to keep him safely. Jesus was taken from the cross and put in the tomb. His enemies were alarmed lest his disciples should steal his body and claim that he had arisen. They had a watch set to guard the tomb, and the great stone was sealed. But their wrath has been praising God since that morning, when the anxious disciples found the vacated tomb; and the enemies of Jesus have given us strong corroborative proofs of the fact that his body was not stolen, but that he did arise. Thus does God over-rule what seems to be evil, and finds in it an occasion to show forth his glory. And so to-day when infidels and rationalists are assailing God's word, we need not fear. He is even now making their wrath to praise him; for in consequence of these attacks we have seen, as we never otherwise could have seen, what an impregnable rock the Bible is. It has passed through the fire, but it has not been burned.

God has his own way of doing things, and truly his ways are not our ways. By times he hides his hand in the

TRUST IN GOD. thick darkness, but he does not withdraw it. In his un-

bounded knowledge, he sees the promise of ultimate success where we see only the blackness of an awful disappointment; for these very disappointments and multiplied hindrances and persecutions may be his faithful teachers training us for a work we should never be able to do were it not for just such experiences. Thorough preparation makes work easier. He who graduates from the school of difficulty is better prepared for life than he who comes from Harvard. Let us not murmur against our hardships. No one can enjoy the view from the mountain top who is not willing to climb. We must remember that Jesus, with truth and right on his side, had to fight his way in the face of the bitterest opposition.

When the infant church started out to bless the world, all was not fair as a summer's day. Like the infant Jesus, her life was sought. Paul did not receive the most considerate treatment, even from those whom he would benefit. His apostolic life was a constant struggle, but it eventuated in a glorious victory. There can be no triumph without a trial. The church was most successful when it did its hardest fighting. When, in the time of Constantine, it entered into a league with the world, the fighting in a great measure ceased, but so did true progress. A church that the world does not oppose is not a church of Christ. Satan never opposes a work that God does not favor. But when God begins to work Satan appears to oppose. When the evil one throws himself against an enterprise, it may be concluded that the enterprise is of God; and the stronger the opposition the more important the work. A good rule in military tactics is to find out what your enemy does not want you to do and then do it. What Satan fights against is always the work of God.

A principle that holds good both in nature and in grace is that we are often called upon to give in order that we may GIVE TO GET. get; to give a good, in order that we may get a better. A

tree in the forest may be valuable, but before it can be transformed into an exquisite piece of furniture it must give up its character as a tree. Wheat may be plump and command a large price, but before it can take the new and more valuable form of flour it must lose its identity as wheat. Potatoes must cease to be potatoes if their value is to be increased in their becoming starch. So in life we may have things good in themselves which must be surrendered if we would enjoy what is better. A life of simple pleasure must be surrendered if we would ever be great. Pleasure seekers are seldom great, and great people are seldom pleasure seekers. It is the man who sacrifices ease that wins fame. It is the man who sows the best that is in him that reaps the best that other people can give. The leek and onions and garlic of Egypt must be abandoned before the milk and honey of Canaan can be enjoyed. Moses must turn his back on the pleasures of the court before he can be the leader of the people. The apostles must give up their boats and their nets before they can carry on the far more important work of catching men. Paul must give up his worldly honor and his proud position before he can become the apostle to the Gentiles, and prove the nobility of his manhood by the greatness of his sacrifices. He gave up all that he might, in Christ, possess all. The mere pleasures of this life must be surrendered by those who would enter into possession of eternal joy. We must forego ease here that we may enjoy rest beyond. We must give up this world to gain the heavenly inheritance; put off this house of clay before we can be clothed with the house that is from heaven. The vessel that is filled with silver must be emptied before it can be filled with gold.