

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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NOTES AND NEWS.

1896.

"We live in deeds, not years; in thoughts, not
breaths;
In feelings, not in figures on a dial.
We should count time by heart-throbs.
He lives most who thinks most, feels the noblest,
And acts the best."

"But this one thing I do, forgetting those
things which are behind, and reaching forth
unto those things which are before, I press
toward the mark for the prize of the high
calling of God in Christ Jesus."

What we have written, we have written.
The volume for 1895 has been completed.
It is well to spend a little time in looking
over its pages. Some are bright with joy,
some are stained with tears. Some tell of
deeds of kindness done, and some of deeds
that were not kind. We feel that we would
like to cut out or re-write many of the pages.
But we cannot. They are there to stay.

But if we cannot change the past, we can
learn from it, and so live and act during the
New Year, that when it shall close we may
have fewer things to regret and more to rejoice
over. We may crowd this year with joy if
we so determine. The way to have a happy
New Year is to live in harmony with the
will of God, being and doing what pleases
Him. Thus even sorrow shall be turned
into joy.

We are glad to learn though the *Disciple of Christ* that many of our churches in Ontario have recently been receiving additions to their membership. In the last issue of that paper, about sixty accessions are reported; seventeen of these being the result of a meeting held in the Cecil Street Church, Toronto.

Bro. Lord, the editor of the *Christian Standard* (Nov. 23), gives an interesting account of the genesis of the Warrensburg (Mo.) Church. A young man went to that town to clerk in a store. There was no Church of Christ there. He had travelling preachers stop and preach a sermon or two in a public building. Finally, a little church was organized. The man and the church have grown

prosperous together. It is now one of the strongest churches in Missouri. Is there not a lesson here for brethren and sisters who live where we have no church?

A new work is being undertaken by the Disciples of Christ in the United States. Its object is "to make provision for the relief of disabled preachers, their widows, or dependent children, our missionaries—both men and women—in this and foreign lands, who through misfortune may need a helping hand." It is an easy thing to cite numerous cases of men who have served the churches faithfully, and on a very small salary, but who now in old age are destitute. The widows of many faithful ministers who died in the service of the church are living in want. This work should appeal to our most generous sympathies, and the "Board of Ministerial Relief" should be heartily supported.

Here is a cheering report from Kansas. It shows what churches can do when they pray and pay and work together. During the past year the churches had 53 workers engaged, who preached 4,218 sermons in 3,695 days, and added to the church by baptism 2,539 persons, and otherwise 1,642, making the total number of additions 4,181. They organized 21 churches, 38 Endeavor societies, 33 Sunday-schools and 34 auxiliaries to the C. W. B. M. They are evidently pushing things out there.

We publish elsewhere a statement concerning the apportionment for foreign missions, and we trust that all will read it carefully, and that the churches will arrange to raise the amount that has been asked from them. Every member of every church should give toward the great work of spreading the gospel. We notice by the annual report that the only churches that last year gave to foreign missions, through the Foreign Christian Missionary Society, were Charlottetown, P. E. I.; Montague, P. E. I.; East Point, P. E. I.; Summerside, P. E. I.; Kempt, N. S.; Westport, N. S., and St. John, N. B.; of these Charlottetown, Montague, East Point and St. John raised their apportionment last year. Of course very many of the other churches are contributing through our local board. We see by the last *Intelligencer* that the New Glasgow, P. E. I., church has recently sent \$27.50 to the F. C. M. S.

Many things tell us not to despise the day of small things, and in church work we need often to be reminded of this. Note, then, that the Highland Park church in Des Moines, Iowa, was organized a little over two years ago, December 17, 1893. It was organized to live, and it has kept on growing. It has just erected a beautiful house of worship with modern conveniences and a seating capacity for 800.

Some of our young men who are now in the Bible College, Lexington, Ky., will graduate in June. Among them will be Bro. S. W. Leonard. He is willing to work in these parts, and we would advise some of

our churches to secure his services, and to do so at once. In engaging him they will make no mistake. It will not be his fault if he does not work among us.

In a private letter from one of our strongest preachers in the U. S. we find these words: "If our plea was right when it was first urged, it is right now. . . . I believe in the fullest liberty consistent with Christian principles; but at the same time I believe that the gospel is a definite, authoritative truth which men have to accept from God, without modification and without apology. Where we differ from other people, I believe we are right and they are wrong. This does not hinder me from having fellowship with them in all things that are common between us. With Paul, however, I must say, in the message to be delivered, I am no man's servant, else I could not be the servant of Christ." How does that suit you?

We are glad to hear that Bro. Minnick is still carrying on a successful work at Lübeck. Some are confessing the Saviour, and the audiences are very good, the best they have ever had. Besides this the church tries to have a part in almost every mission work. This is a good sign. The doing church is the one that God is pleased with.

The Disciples of Christ are increasing in the United States at a marvelous rate. In one week the *Christian Standard* reported 2,000 additions, though many preachers never report their work, and some never do in the *Christian Standard*. During the month of November 200 were added to the churches in Louisville, Ky. We see that a meeting has recently been held in Peru, Ind., with 97 additions; in Walla Walla, Wash., with 104; in Reeve, Iowa, with 83; in Moberly, Mo., with 64. With such bounds the good work goes on. We long for such success here. But longing for it will not bring it. We must work for it.

In many of the New England towns we have no church, but it would probably be impossible to find one of any considerable size in which there are not many who have once been, or now are, Disciples of Christ. Some have exchanged the name of Christ for a sectarian name, and they have settled down in a denominational church. Others have refused to thus trample on their good judgment, and they are still known by a name that honors their Lord. We see that an effort has been made in Springfield, Mass., to establish a church after the primitive pattern. Dr. Detcher, who was recently in St. John, has undertaken the work. He has found enough members for a good nucleus of a church. Success to you, Doctor.

Many of our subscribers paid up their subscriptions during December. We are glad to be thus remembered. A large number are still owing—some for several years—and we trust they will make an effort to clear away this indebtedness. In your generous New Year thoughts remember us. Perhaps "generous" is not just the word.