

golizing? It is just here, to my mind, the president's letter is lacking. He rightly says that "any individual member might have received the money and paid the bills." This is not its principal work. To raise money, not to spend it, is the work for which every missionary board is appointed. The present Board has inaugurated a new method by appointing canvassers in each congregation. This is a good move, and will doubtless eventually do much, but this is not enough. One recommendation at the last Annual meeting was the employment of an evangelist, part of whose time should be given to visiting every church in the interest of Home Missions. If the Board had earlier "walked by faith," had secured their evangelist at the beginning of the year and had sent him on an active canvass of the churches, THE CHRISTIAN for July would have had a different letter from the president.

But not one-sixth of the amount pledged at the last Annual has been received. Does this mean that the members of our churches have so little self-respect that they will pledge themselves and not keep their promises? This would be a sad and humiliating state of affairs, but I do not think that this is the condition. Certainly the pledges were "given at moments of exaltation:" would any one expect to receive many freewill offerings at any other time? Would you succeed better during seasons of indifference or times of depression and discouragement? If we cease to use times of religious fervor and exaltation to present the claims of evangelization of the world, we will soon be without funds for the "regular payments to different churches" as well as "handicapped in the organization of any aggressive work." What is needed is more moments of exaltation and these in every congregation, and added to this a careful, systematic and persistent following up of the work done at these times. The taking of pledges is but the beginning of the work. This needs to be followed by one, two, three, or a dozen letters to the individuals. Keep the memory refreshed until the promise is a fact.

DEDICATION DOUGLAS AVENUE CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

The North End Mission notes will no longer be entitled "Main St." At last the good news can be published that this congregation is worshipping in its own building. This is a matter for praise and thanksgiving, at least it is such to those who have labored and sacrificed for it.

July 29, the last Sunday in the month, was the day of dedication. The following account of the day's service is taken from the *St. John Daily Sun*:

After almost seven years without a house of worship which they could call their own, the north end Christian church yesterday dedicated their new building, on Douglas avenue, to the service of God. The pretty little auditorium was more than comfortably filled at the morning service. The congregations of Silver Falls and Coburg street church had united with the north end Christians, and there were besides a number of others who had come to see and participate in the opening services. The new building, though not at all pretentious, is yet exceedingly pretty, and is fitted in splendid taste,

At the morning service there were on the platform, the pastor, Rev. J. C. B. Appel, Rev. A. Martin, Rev. Dr. Ray, Rev. U. B. Miller and Elder Murray. Each took some part in the opening services, which were of a nature specially suited to the occasion. In introducing the speaker of the morning, the pastor, Rev. J. C. B. Appel, said that the day was the climax of a series of efforts. On the 23rd of January, 1893, a Sunday school was organized in the Temple of Honor hall by the Coburg street church. It was found shortly that the field was large enough to warrant holding regular services. Later on the congregation moved into Union Hall, and in January, 1896, it was regularly organized. That year the present pastor assumed charge, and now all may look at one of the results of their efforts. He then introduced Mr. Martin.

The speaker took as the subject for the dedication sermon, the words found in I Tim. iii: 14, 15: "These things write I unto thee hoping to come unto thee shortly. But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

As we are here today, said Mr. Martin, the question arises, why have we built this church and organized this people? There is no doubt that every stone and timber used in the construction of this edifice represents a self-sacrifice on the part of some of the church. Why is it we are thus struggling, battling against the tide. It is because there is a great principle at stake. When the Word of God was first preached it was as clear and pure as the great heart of the Father, as vitalizing as the blood of Jesus Christ, but after a while it became mixed with human traditions. Different reformers have tried by their own terms to remove these inventions of men, and have succeeded partly. Some seventy-five years ago bodies of men, our fathers, belonging to different denominations, in different countries, came almost simultaneously to realize that purity could only be obtained by returning to the New Testament, by ascending the hill of Zion. And they found that there was but one church of Jesus Christ. Every denomination and every sect, other than that is the result of uninspired man's teaching. There can be but one church, otherwise Jesus Christ, her husband, has been made a polygamist. Our fathers found but the one church, with its foundations laid broad and deep in the divinity of Christ. Other foundations can no man lay. Christ alone, is the central figure of the entire system of Christianity; on Him the church must be built, and after Him it must be called. And so we found the church governed by the book of God; Christ the creed; the Bible the discipline. Today whatever we have of creed not in the New Testament, we will eliminate, and what we have not that is in that book we will take in addition. And on this basis we will unite. The time when all shall stand together will come, and in twenty-five years the church will march on in unison. Our fathers found, again in the New Testament, that the church was called by several names, and we are willing to be called by these and by no others. It does make a difference about the name, and that very thing is doing more to keep the different bodies apart than anything else. And further they found that faith, repentance and baptism were true, and that baptism does not change the heart, faith does that. And so the fathers gave up infant baptism, and studying further, gave up performing the ordinance by sprinkling or pouring. It was like tearing the heart strings asunder, but they believed they were right and they broke away from the customs in

which they had been brought up, for conscience's sake. And in the last seventy-five years this body of believers has increased until it now numbers 1,200,000. It is

"On the rock of ages founded,
Who can shake its sure repose."

Together with the plate collection, over \$200 was pledged by those present toward the building fund.

At the close of the service the ordinance of the Lord's Supper was administered. Elder W. A. Barnes of the Coburg st. church presided and he was assisted by Elder Murray and Rev. J. C. B. Appel.

The afternoon service was largely attended especially by members of the other north end churches, who by their presence gave a token of the good will in which the Christian church and its pastor are held by them. On the platform were: Rev. J. C. B. Appel, Elder Murray, Rev. D. Long, pastor of Victoria street Free Baptist church; Rev. R. P. McKim, rector of St. Luke's; Rev. A. H. Foster, pastor of St. Matthew's; Rev. Dr. Ray of Coburg street Christian church, and Evangelist A. Martin and U. B. Miller, of Iowa.

After the opening services, conducted by Rev. A. H. Foster and Elder Murray, Rev. Mr. Appel welcomed the audience to the new house of worship and read a letter from Rev. George Steel of Portland Methodist church, in which he expressed his regret at being unable to be present, and wishing church and pastor God-speed.

Rev. Dr. Ray, pastor of the Coburg street church, of which the north end body is an off-shoot, was the first speaker. He emphasized the importance which gathers around an event of such a nature as the opening of a church, and dwelt especially upon the unique position the clergyman is in, compared with other professions.

He was followed by the north end clergymen who spoke briefly words of encouragement and congratulation to the Christian church and its pastor. Each presented the greetings of the body which he represented.

The evening service was of an evangelistic nature, the first of a series to be conducted by Rev. Mr. Martin, who preached last night. The congregation throughout the day taxed the capacity of the auditorium. But as soon as the school room is finished additional seating for at least two hundred people will be at the disposal of the church.

HOME MISSIONS.

PRE-EMINENCE OF HOME MISSIONS.

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In considering the subject of home missions, we see so many reasons why it should receive the hearty assistance of all Christ's followers, that we are at a loss to know which to give prominence. Thus pondering, the words of the Master spoken centuries ago to His followers, rise up before us—"Ye are the light of the world . . . Let your light so shine," etc. (Matt. v, 14-16). If we are "the light," whence cometh this light? and how shall we "let our light shine."

We look out upon the silver moon shedding her mellow light upon mountain and valley, forest and waters, city and country,