

fession and was baptized last Sunday afternoon. He will be a great help to the church. The three months are drawing to a close and still very little done. The field seems dreadfully hard. The rest next month.

R. W. STEVENSON.

DELAND, FLORIDA.

DEAR BRETHREN,—I have no doubt many of your readers will be pleased to learn of our safe arrival in Florida after a very pleasant voyage. Truly our Heavenly Father has watched over us while we journeyed on the land and the mighty deep, for which we bless and adore His great and holy name.

We left Halifax on Wednesday night Nov. 2nd, and arrived in Boston on Friday morning, remained in that city several days visiting friends. On Lord's day morning went to Paladio Hall, heard Bro. Ray preach, and gathered with the members of Christ's body around the Lord's table; in the evening we went to Everett and had the privilege of hearing our beloved brother, R. H. Bolton, discourse to the people; at the close an invitation was given and one young man came forward and made the good confession. We were permitted to speak a few words to the people at the close, and were made to feel that we were truly among the Disciples of Christ, for such a warm welcome we received will not soon be forgotten. Bro. Bolton is truly doing a great work among the people there, that eternity alone will fully reveal. May God spare our beloved brother long to sow the good seed of the kingdom, is our earnest prayer. On Wednesday, the 9th, we took steamship Chattahoochee for Savannah. We arrived at New York on Thursday about noon, but owing to heavy rain did not go ashore to see our friends. We arrived in Savannah about noon on Lord's day, but just too late to be with the Church of Christ in that city to worship. In the afternoon we called upon Bro. Bosworth, who is the pastor of the church in that city; he and his wife received us very cordially, and the only regret was that our stay was so short, our train leaving at 5.15 p. m. for Jacksonville, where we arrived at midnight. Next morning we called to see Brother and Sister Blenus, who were glad to see us; they both look well. Bro. Blenus took us around to the different places of interest in that city, and also made us acquainted with several of the brethren, who appear to be deeply interested in the work of the Lord there. We remained two days in that city, then took cars for DeLand, where we arrived in about four hours. We met with a very hearty welcome from Bro. Langdon and the members of the Church of Christ in this town. The Disciples have a fine brick house of worship here. Bro. Langdon is a very active, earnest minister of Christ, and is spoken of very highly by the people.

DeLand is a very beautiful town of about 2,500 inhabitants, and the several denominations are fairly represented here; also a fine

university. To-day being Thanksgiving we were present at the dedication of a beautiful large public school. The addresses were fine. Florida State has suffered severely from frosts the past twelve years, and it will be some years before this country will regain its former prosperity. It is certainly pleasant to come here and see the trees clothed in their beautiful garments, and the roses and flowers blooming as in June and July in Nova Scotia. We can hardly believe this to be the last of November. We have not met with one intoxicated person since coming here. There is not one liquor saloon in this town. The people truly are blessed who are free from this curse. If persons who are engaged in that unholy traffic could but see the evils they bring upon our race I think many of them would abandon their business. O the misery, wretchedness and woe it brings upon the people in any city or town where it is permitted to be sold. May the day soon come when the people will arise in their might and declare that it shall cease. Then shall righteousness, love and peace prevail, and the earth soon shall be filled with the glory of God. Let us who bear the name of Christ pray and labor to this end, is the fervent desire of your brother in Christ.

HENRY CARSON.

DeLand, Fla., Dec 24th, 1898.

Original Contributions.

A HARD QUESTION.

H. MURRAY.

The question has been asked repeatedly, "Why is it that when others refer to the Disciples of Christ or Christian Church, they will misrepresent them?" The Disciples claim to be Christians only, and yet we hear others calling them by a name that they repudiate, and will not, under any circumstances, recognize.

They believe in the work of the Holy Spirit in the conversion of sinners, and in the sanctifying of saints, as firmly as any people; but notwithstanding this, we hear it again and again, that they do not believe in the influence and work of the Spirit.

They believe and teach a radical change of heart in conversion, but for all this, many will persist in saying they don't believe it.

You will hear it said that they baptize persons before they have a change of heart, when the truth is apparent that they demand both a change of heart and a change of life before baptism.

Again it is said, they believe in "water salvation," when in fact they have no faith whatever in the efficacy of water to save a soul; they believe salvation is in Christ and it is their faith in Christ that leads them to accept of baptism and to do any and all of Christ's commandments. But why people will stigmatize the Disciples with these false names and false doctrines, is more than we dare attempt to answer, for fear we may judge them unjustly. We will have to leave

this hard question to wiser heads to answer. We must confess, however, our astonishment that such false and pernicious statements are repeated about a people whose zeal and devotion to God and His word are second to none.

It is not at all surprising that those who believe these reports should think the Disciples of Christ were destitute of religion and very dangerous, and keep as far away from them as possible. But if, with this false reputation, the Disciples have had a wonderful and phenomenal increase, what will it be when the truth is known. The fact that the principles and position of the Disciples are not known in our provinces to any very great extent, should induce them to wake up to the need of a more faithful vigorous distribution of their literature.

Home Missions.

[Address all communications and remittances to W. A. Barnes, Secretary, 229 St. James Street, St. John, N. B.]

Bro. Stevenson did a good work with the churches at Back Bay, Letete, and Mascarene. It is true that there were not additions which is always looked for at protracted meetings; but additions will surely follow.

A good brother, writing of the work done there says, "that he did a far more necessary and far-reaching work than gathering a few converts would do. He just stirred all this section, and the end is not yet."

Bro R. E. Stevens is engaged with these three churches, and entered on his work the first December. He had one addition at Back Bay.

Bro. Stevenson closed the meeting at Mascarene, on Nov. 30th, with one addition.

He commenced a meeting at Tiverton, N. S., Lord's day, December 4th. His sermons were very powerful and eloquent. They were very helpful to the members as well as to others. There were a number of additions, among them a leading business man of that place. He preached one sermon at East Ferry.

Bro. Stevenson is holding a meeting with the church at Westport, N. S., at this writing.

His engagement with the Board expires on the third of January. The work so far has met with the approval of the brethren, and it has been earnestly desired that he be kept in the field.

We have been in correspondence with Bro. Floyd, of Indiana, for the work in Pictou, N. S., but the Board is not in a position to guarantee his support at present.

Our receipts this month have fallen off considerably. This is the season for giving gifts, and we should have had generous offerings to the Home Mission Fund.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	247 18
Coburg Street, Mission Band,	2 10
Milton, per M. G. F.,	9 35
Main Street Sunday-school,	3 81
Mrs. S. C. Jarvis,	50
Samuel E. Foote, pledge at annual,	2 00
John Sollows, Tiverton, N. S. "	8 00

\$267 94

W. A. BARNES, Secretary.