# THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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### SAINT JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY, 1890.

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## The Christian.

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CO-EDITOR: T. H. CAPP, - - - S1. JOHN, N. B FINANCIAL MANAGER: J. E. EDWARDS, - - - ST. JOHN, N. B.

On the 17th of January Charles Stevenson, of Tignish, P. E. Island, passed peacefully away, aged:88 years. He was the eldest son of the late John Stevenson, who, with a large family, emigrated from Scotland to this Island and settled at New Glasgow in 1820. (I am from home and dependent on memory for dates which may in some cases be a year or two inaccurate). Charles, with the rest of the family and such neighbors as were disposed, attended on Lord's days the meetings where his father read the Scriptures, talked to the people and prayed and saug praises to God. He was the first to confess the Saviour and be baptized and was soon followed by others. About the year 1833 a church was formed as the fruits of Bro. Stevenson's faithful labors, and Charles was a pillar in the church from the first until he removed to Tignish in 1881. The few Disciples at Tignish were glad to avail themselves of Bro. Stovenson's experience and talents, and from that time met for regular worship with him as their leader. They esteomed him very highly for his piety and ,talents, and he continued to meet with them till last fall when bodily infirmity and the cold of approaching winter con. fined him to his house. Being in that region in November I visited him several times. He showed but very little signs of mental decay. I never saw him more cheerful or more ready to speak of the goodness and glory of Christ. He was a striking illustration of the Apostle's words: Though our outward men perish yet our 'nward man is renewed day by day. While his earthly house was dissolving he seemed to be looking without a cloud or sigh to the house not made with hands. .

Brother Stevenson was a remarkable man. The world's affairs seems to give him but little trouble. Although his deportment was marked by Christian morality he had such a vein of humor and youthful vivacity that he was the agreeable companion of the young as well as of the aged. He seemed in this respect to be as young as when I first saw him fifty ye is ago. He was twice married. His first family are scattered in different parts; most of them are in the church so also are many of his grandchildren. He had two sons by his second marriage both members of the church and both giving promises of special usefulness in the Saviour's cause. The article in the last CHRISTIAN, under the caption "'Che Days Of Man," is from the pen of the eldest and his first piece in print. May the Lord's blessing rest on all of his children and His gracious promises be verified to Sister Stevenson and her sons. D. C.

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## Gorrespondence.

### HALIFAX LETTER.

Another month has come and gone. How the time goes. As the days and months and years of our lives roll by, we are continually encountering new duties-making fresh aquaintances. Each day brings its own experience, whother it be of sorrow or joy. If it be sorrow let us pray for strength to say, "Thy will be done." If it be joy, let us thank God that the lines have fallen to us in pleasant places. The last CHRISTIAN is before me and as usual is perused carefully. I have no doubt but what it is a welcome visitor to hundreds of homes: There is one thing very conspicuous about THE CHRISTIAN at times, and I think I will mention it here. It is this: the absence of any effort on the part of some of our good brethren to help make it more interesting by writing short original articles, or sending items of church news. My own opinion is that preachers should look upon this as part of their work. Of course I do not mean to exclude those who are not preachers; not at all. I am now referring particularly to those whose lives are devoted to the special work of preaching the Gospel. I can hardly conceive of a preacher who is so busy that he cannot afford two hours per month toward keeping up a paper that we know is eagerly looked for and read in hundreds of homes. My brother, make it part of your regular work. Bro. Oapp, as Co-editor, made an appeal at the annual meeting for this purpose. He said: "We want to make it intensely local." So we co. As I said in beginning, every day has a new experience for us,—as individuals, so churches, I hope we may have the latest from the churches. I hope that no one will charge me with finding fault with our paper now. Oh! no. I have seven different papers coming to me. I contribute articles to several besides THE CHRISTIAN, but there is not one that is more welcome than THE CHRISTIAN.

Woll, somebody says, that is enough about THE CHRISTIAN; tell us how you are getting along in Halifax. Well, we are getting along quietly; the meetings on Lord's day evenings are fairly well attended. Bro. James Wallace of West Gore worshipped with us one day, we enjoy having visiting brethren among us; we still need about \$5000 for our new meeting house; just when and how it is going to come, I do not know. I am sure of one thing, if the Lord wants a meeting house in Halifax we will have one. There is considerable excitement here now among the temperance work-The W. C. T. U. is at the bottom of it. ers, They beat the men. Success to them and overything that will drive rom from the land.

I spent one Lord's day in Newport the meeting

were well attended. I hope that during the coming spring and summer the church here may take a fresh start and that the work of the Lord may proper and advance in their midst. I am sorry to have to say that Sister Wm. Bailey was very ill. I was unable to visit her, but hope ere this she may be restored to her family, and to the church.

I have also to chronicle a very pleasant visit to Shubenacadie where I spent one Lord's day. On the Saturday evening preceding I was enjoying the hospitality of Bro. J. W. Wallace, when I was presented with a respectable sum of money a as Christmas present from the church at Shubenacadie. Sistor Rachael Weir was the prime mover in this pleasant event. This is my first experience in the way of donations. Would I like to go through the ordeal again? Well, ahem, try. But really it is encouraging to know that when I am absent from brethren in other places, that they are thinking about my welfare.

I will close the present letter by hoping as the days and months go by, whether our lot be cast among the sorrowful ones, or among the bright and happy, or a mingling of both, that we will do the right and trust God. Longard Road, Halifax, N.S.

Dear Bro. Capp:-I purposed writing for THE CHRISTIAN, February number, but lately I have not been quite as well as usual, and, therefore, not very ambitious about doing anything which I could reasonably avoid. I did not even keep up my usual private correspondence, or fully attend to the work in my home district. In addition to other troubles, influenza has also laid us under tribute. Health, in every way, however, is improving, and I hope to be fully able to attend to all matters as usual. There is a great deal of sickness on P. E I. The doctors are more than busy, but the influenzs here does not seem to take a fatal form, which is a cause of great thankfulness, but from other causes, some of our friends are passing away, some are lingering under the pressure of disease and all are tending to the great "Unseen" from which no traveller returns. The stream flows on-one by one they pass over the line which separates time from eternity. Some express a hope of a glorious immortality, others do not express such a hope. but leave the gloomy impression on the minds of orthodox believers that all is not well, and yet they who remain seem perfectly satisfied in its being so, supposing perhaps, if that soul is lost, they, themselves will be saved, and so it will be all right.

When we think with what indifference the saved think of the unsaved, and even of the hopelessly lost, it seems worderful,—that is, if we really contemplate what hopelessly lost means—*eternally lost*.

It is true, wo preach, but do we preach carnestly? We hold evangelistic meetings; is the salvation of souls our chief object? When I say the salvation of souls, I mean souls saved in Christ, and not merely in our congregation in opposition to some other congregation; not merely to swell our church, in opposition to some other church. And when we sound abroad to the world the news of our success, is it that God, in Christ, may be glorified or that we may have the glory?

I confess I am sometimes a little perplexed, when I think of the love of our heavenly Father, a expressed in the gift of His son and the Gospel of His grace: How Jesus humbled himself so low