

# THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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## The Christian.

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## NOTICE!

The Annual Meeting of the Christian churches on P. E. I. will be held with the church at Cross Roads, Lot 48, commencing Saturday, July 11th.

G. A. JEFFREY, *Secretary.*

## ANNUAL MEETING

of the Disciples of Christ of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will be held with the church at West Gore, Hants County, commencing on Thursday, September 3, and continue over Lord's day.

J. E. BARNES,  
*Secretary.*

## NOTES AND NEWS.

Our readers are anxious to receive, and we are equally anxious to issue THE CHRISTIAN on time; and that neither may be disappointed, we feel like asking those who send material for any of the departments—church news, original contributions, etc., etc.—and who desire to have it appear without a month's delay, to mail it to us by the 23rd of each month. We shall then be able to bring out the paper on time and our contributors will not be disappointed over the non-appearance of what they have sent. Let us try to remember the date, act accordingly and the result will be satisfactory all around.

The Annual Meeting of the Disciples of Christ in Ontario will be held this year with the Cecil St. Church, Toronto, from Tuesday, June 2nd, to Friday, June 5th. A good programme has been prepared and appears in the last number of the *Canadian Evangelist*. Here are some of the subjects that are to be discussed: The relation and duty of the church to missions; Our needs in the province, and how to meet them; The religious reformation—its origin and its influence on the thought of today; Our position on the question of Christian union; Our encouragements as a people.

Every week we feel like pitying those who do not see the *Christian Evangelist*, and who in consequence are missing the series of articles on the "Characteristics of Disciples"

now appearing in its pages from the pen of Bro. M. B. Ryan. The articles are written in the very best spirit, and are short, clear, and convincing. We hope that the Christian Publishing Co. will bring them out in tract form. If they do we will tell our readers about it, and advise them to buy a good supply for distribution among thoughtful enquirers. The rapid growth of the Disciples of Christ and the conspicuous manner in which they are brought to public attention through the great International Convention of Christian Endeavor compels an inquiry that we should be ready to meet.

We are constrained to remind those of our subscribers who have not paid their subscriptions—and the matter has slipped the mind of some for years—that money is always thankfully received at this office, and just now is particularly desired. The amounts due from different subscribers is small and could be paid without inconvenience, but they aggregate hundreds of dollars. Will the reader kindly look at the address label on this paper or on the wrapper, and if the date shows that he is behind with his subscription, we hope he will, without delay, send the amount to THE CHRISTIAN, box 56, St. John, N. B. Prompt attention to this request will be greatly appreciated.

In a recent number of the *Christian Standard*, Bro. Ernest Crawford, who graduates this month from Bethany College, has beautifully written a most appreciative article on Alexander Campbell. The Disciples of Christ, while rightly refusing to wear the name of this great man, and desiring to give no occasion to the religious world for trying to fasten it upon them, have, we think, gone to the other extreme and too often have failed to give him the prominence to which his great work entitles him. Our preachers speak freely of Luther and Wesley, but Campbell was a man worthy to stand beside them, and some day his work will be generally recognized and cheerfully acknowledged. Let us not withhold from him his due.

Our brethren in the United States are entering heartily into the endeavor to push home missions to the front, and it is thought that the churches will respond in such large numbers and with such generous offerings, that the old indebtedness will be wiped out, and the taking up of new and necessary work made possible. An earnest effort is being made to enlist every church in this great enterprise of sounding out the gospel in the destitute portions of the home field. We hope that our churches, if they have not already done so, will claim their right to assist, and send a liberal sum to B. L. Smith, Y. M. C. A. Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

We direct attention to the notice in another column concerning the Association of the P. E. Island churches which meets on Saturday evening, July 11th, with the church at Cross Roads, Lot 48. We have not been informed whether any preachers from abroad are expected to be present; but we know that the home forces are fully competent to

conduct an interesting and profitable meeting. Bro. Cooke will be a new man at the gathering, and it is possible that by that date Montague will have a man in the field. It is expected that at this meeting the question of the three Maritime provinces combining in Home Mission work will be introduced; also the subject of a general meeting for the three provinces.

Bro. A. McLean in his tour around the world in the interest of Foreign Missions has been to Japan, China, India, Australia, and by this date he is probably with our persecuted brethren in Armenia. From that afflicted country he goes to Denmark and thence to England, where he will probably remain several weeks among our churches. He is expected to reach America about the middle of July. The churches that he will not be able to interest in missions to the heathen, when he tells them the story of what he has seen and heard, will probably be hopeless cases. His letters which have been appearing from week to week in the *Christian Standard*, *Christian Evangelist* and others of our papers, have been interesting and instructive.

We think that a good meeting with an established church ought to pay its own expenses, provided a collection is taken at each service for that purpose. During the meeting recently held at Danbury, Conn., the expenses were met by free will offerings and a balance of \$138.92 remained after all expenses were paid. The meeting, besides adding to the numbers of the church thus put a good sum into the treasury. There have been many such instances. The Danbury church, seeing the willingness of the people to give to the Lord, has decided to abandon suppers and such other objectionable ways of raising money. The best way to give is to give directly. He who pays for his supper does not give that amount to the Lord. He receives a *quid pro quo*.

Nothing can successfully take the place of the old gospel as a saving power. One reason why young men not yet through college, and others who have just graduated, meet with such success in turning sinners to the Lord is to be found in the fact that they preach first principles to the exclusion of almost everything else. They can tell the old, old story better than anything else. Sometimes they have little else to tell. But after a time they begin to regard it as a story that they have told with wearying frequency, and they throw it aside to take up the questions of the day, with the result that they see fewer persons accepting Christ in a year, than they before saw coming in one week. Success is not dependent upon the youth or age of the preacher, but upon whether he preaches the gospel or something else. So too we may often explain the success that often attends the early months or years of a minister's labors with a church, and the diminishing success with the increasing years of his stay. It is not a question of long or short pastorates, but of preaching the gospel or almost discarding it.