

Correspondence.

Dear Christian,—That the brotherhood may be encouraged to come up to the support of the work now being done under the direction of the Mission Board of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, it is thought only necessary to lay before them the facts, believing, as we do, that when the brethren understand the nature and necessity of the work, they will come up to its support with an earnestness that will ensure success. The following churches are now being assisted, at the rate of \$10 per month, to keep a preacher laboring with them either a part or the whole of his time. The church at Kompt, Queens Co., N. S., at LeTote and Back Bay, Charlotte Co., N. B., at Gulliver's Cove, Digby Co., N. S., and at Halifax, N. S. To meet the necessary expenses of this work, about \$500 will be required. Let it be observed also that the churches thus assisted are such as have made application to the Board, from the fact that they were not able, without such assistance, to maintain a preacher of the Gospel among them. Let it also be noted that in all of these churches we have brethren good and true, who have long stood by the cause of Christ and are anxious to have the work sustained in these localities, believing, in the near future, that the churches will become self-sustaining. In taking on this work, at the earnest solicitation of the brethren directly interested, it will be seen that the brethren who constitute the Board are but the servants of these churches, and can thus confidently appeal to the Christian brotherhood for aid to carry on this much needed work. Already, since our last annual meeting, some sixteen additions have been reported as the first fruits of this year's work under this arrangement. This arrangement has two sides, both of which are worthy our best support; for, besides aiding to build up the cause in localities where we have small churches with houses in which to worship, we are at the same time and with the same money assisting a few wanting young preachers, who, without such assistance, would either have to seek other fields, or take on other work, besides the work of saving precious souls, in order to support their dependant families. To lose those young men from the work of the ministry at this present time would be a loss that the churches could hardly estimate. But a hearty co-operation of the brethren in the support of these weaker churches, and the sustaining and encouraging these young preachers will give the work such impetus and success as will gladden the hearts of all who love the work of saving precious souls and maintaining the truth as it is Jesus. Let those interested in this work, and who are willing to sustain it, see to it that their contributions are sent at once to Bro. T. H. Capp, St. John, N. B., the treasurer of the Board, or pass it to your preacher who will be pleased to forward the same. The Board agrees to make monthly payments when the report of labor has been given. To do this it will be necessary for the churches to get in their contributions as regularly as possible.

I have thus laid before you, brethren, the facts concerning our work. What do you propose to do about it? The Board have only power to act, as the brethren interested in the work place the means in their hands to carry on this work. My confidence in the brotherhood is this: that when they see the work going on they will be found ready to aid according to their ability. In this confidence the Board has taken on this work, and are now assisting four churches that need assistance, and assisting at the same time a few young preachers who may thus become encouraged to remain in these provinces, where laborers are so much needed. It remains for the brethren to say whether this confidence is misplaced. May God help us all to see our duty and do it.

E. C. FORD,
Chairman of Board.

Port Williams, Dec. 27, 1889.

FROM SYRACUSE.

It is now very many months since I have written anything for THE CHRISTIAN, but having received a hint in the direction of hunting up a correspondent from these parts, I thought that I might, in the meantime, act as a substitute and send a short letter which may not be out of place.

Last May we (Mrs. Stevenson, Gertie and myself) came from Mankato, Minn., to Syracuse, N. Y., to take hold of the work, which change makes us feel as if we were very near our old home and friends, whom we hope to see before long, the Lord being willing.

Syracuse is a city of quite large proportions, having a population of 87,738 inhabitants, an increase of 4,198 over A. D. 1888. The size of the city is four and a half by five miles, with railroads diverging in nine directions and canals in three from the city. It is situated on Lake Onondaga and the Erie and Oswego canals. From its central location and having been the scene of many large public gatherings, political, religious and otherwise, it is called the "City of Conventions." It contains many large and elegant buildings, both public and private, such as the Court House, City Hall, State Arsenal, Syracuse University, John Crouse Ladies' College, the Home for Old Ladies, bank buildings, twenty-eight public schools and sixty-eight churches, with a seating capacity of 37,710. There are twelve street railways, aggregating forty-three miles of tracks. There are also 4,500 persons doing business here and the products of the manufacturing industries, wholesale, jobbing and retail trade, amount to over \$75,000,000 yearly. The real estate transactions in 1888 realized about \$3,500,000. The assessed valuation of property is between forty and forty-five millions of dollars. The city affords thirty-two daily, weekly, Sunday and monthly papers and magazines, which keep the citizens posted in the occurrences of the day. Here, also, are the great salt works, which produced as early as 1874 6,029,300 bushels of salt, but what they have been enabled to manufacture each year since then I have not been able to determine.

Syracuse, besides being a great business centre, is for the most part a beautiful city. The streets are lined on each side with beautiful shade trees, well kept lawns and elegant residences. The only unpleasantness we experienced since coming here is what we think a super-abundance of rainy weather during the summer and fall, but we have been informed that this is an exceptional year in that direction.

Now, I suppose you would like to know something about the church of Christ in this city. Well, the church of Christ has a membership of over 200, if we are acquainted with all, and I do not suppose we are, if what Bro. Tyler and others say in reference to the church of Christ is true. We have a very nice house of worship, nicely finished and furnished, well located and entirely out of debt. It has a seating capacity of between four and five hundred. Our Sunday-school is in a flourishing condition, with an attendance of 150 scholars. Besides, we have an excellent young peoples' prayer-meeting on Lord's day evening, just one hour before the regular services. Our Wednesday evening prayer-meetings are fairly good and improving. The attendance on Lord's day morning is always good; the evening audiences have been quite small until lately, they have increased until they are almost as good as in the morning. The prospects for building up the cause of Christ in this large and growing city are real encouraging at present. Of course the work needs push, prayers and patience to have it prosper in this or any other city. We reside at 108 Seymour street, and will be pleased at any time to see our friends who may be passing through the city.

If the Lord shall be pleased to grant us a con-

tinuation of health, strength and other such favors as we'll need, we will visit our friends at home next summer and will do all the preaching I can while permitted to stay. If any place on the Island wishes a meeting held, let them begin now to prepare for it by practising appropriate songs and praying for its success, and I, although not a prophet nor the son of a prophet, prophesy great good as a result. Let me know if you decide.

Yours in one hope,

R. W. STEVENSON.

HALIFAX LETTER.

My last "Notes of Travel" were written in Halifax, and my itinerancy being over for awhile my communications will come from that place. I have made arrangements to spend the winter studying and also to preach for the church in Halifax. This will account for the change in the heading of my letters. I spent one Lord's day in Newport during the present month (December), and at the evening appointment in the school-house at Union Corner, one made the good confession and was immersed. There is quite an interest at this place and there is some talk of a new meeting-house.

While in Newport, the sad news came to me that Bro. John Vaughn was dead, having fallen from one of the hay mows in his barn, injuring himself so badly that he did not live an hour, being unconscious during that time. He was well known to most of the preaching brethren in the provinces, most of whom have visited his house and partaken of his hospitality. We laid him to rest in the old burying-ground, by the side of the Kennetcook River, where his companion through life lies sleeping—there to await the resurrection call. While at the same time we commended those who remain to the God of love and to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world. One by one the old landmarks are passing away. Let us live so that we may never die.

I spent one Lord's day in Shubenacadie. The meetings were well attended, and the brethren are adding to the comfort and benefit of their new meeting-house. This church deserves to succeed, and I verily believe it will. The remainder of my time was spent in Halifax. Bro. W. J. Messervey is in Newfoundland and we miss him from our meetings; we expect him back shortly. The prospects in Halifax are rather favorable, and we sincerely ask the Divine blessing upon our work.

Between studying and preaching I am kept very busy—in fact do not have any time to spare. I hope to come out in the spring strengthened physically and mentally, so that I may be able to do more efficient work for the Master. The Lord has blessed my labors in the past. I hope to be more abundantly blessed in the future. From private sources I learn that the brethren in South Range are progressing with their new meeting-house and have the outside about finished and intend pushing it right along. Brethren, read the 41st chapter of Isaiah.

Before these lines meet the eyes of the reader we will have entered upon another year. We can not recall the past, even if we would; but we can profit by it. My brothers or sisters, as you read these lines, if you think of some brother or sister that you have not been as friendly to as you ought to have been, that you have a hard feeling towards, go to them and begin the New Year in a brotherly way, and remember the words of inspiration: "If a man say he love God and hate his brother, he is a liar." If we do not forgive one another, God will not forgive us. Now, what say you? Will we begin the New Year with a good resolution. That

Whereas, Human nature is weak, and man by nature is proud and disobedient; and
Whereas, God in His mercy has provided a means: