

# THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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## The Christian.

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"THE CHRISTIAN,"

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St. JOHN, N. B.

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T. H. CAPP, . . . . . St. JOHN, N. B.

A NOTE from Bro. Ryan informs us that he is in good health, and that his labors are being blessed of the Lord.

Bro. Gates writes that at his appointment yesterday he confessed Christ and was soon to be buried with the Lord in baptism.

We have on hand three or four complete copies of THE CHRISTIAN from its first issue (Nov. 1st, 1883), which we will furnish to any of our readers at fifty cents per year.

SINCE the 20th of December we have had some cold weather, the mercury reaching eleven below zero. The high winds and the want of snow causing our citizens to exclaim,—Well, isn't this a sudden change and so fearfully cold.

BRO. W. J. MESSERVEY is in St. John in the interest of the Halifax building fund. He is en route to the States for the same purpose. Our best wishes go with him and hope he will meet with the success that has heretofore crowned his untiring efforts.

THE notice of Sister Hughes' death will not be a surprise to those acquainted with her. She has for a long time been a great sufferer and death to her was a blessing. The patience and untiring devotion of Bro. Hughes to his invalid wife won for him the sympathy of those acquainted with the case. Bro. Hughes, while missing her, is consoled with the thought that she is better off.

ANY one wanting books will remember arrangements have been made with the Guide Publishing Co., so that our friends in these provinces can have at United States, published prices, any of the books written by our brethren. By sending to THE CHRISTIAN, box 106, St. John, N. B., you will be supplied without further trouble on your part.

THE following should not be read hastily—though a short paragraph, it furnishes material for sober reflection:

We have 23,000 licensed places for selling liquor in Canada, and an army of 750,000 moderate drinkers, 50,000 drunkards' children, and every year 5,000 poor creatures fall into a drunkard's grave. In this Canada of ours we dole out \$372,000 to Christian missions in a year, and in the same time we spend \$80,000,000 in drink.—J. W. Lambly.

EVERY spring we hear of persons leaving these parts for the States. Many of them leave a comfortable home, a slow but sure way of making a living—with no other idea than there is before them a short and easy road to the city of fortune. But soon, and oh, how soon, they are doomed to disappointment. Even though fortunate to obtain work at, perhaps, an increase of salary—the increase is more than offset by the extra cost of living. The religious atmosphere of the new surroundings may have in it elements not conducive to their growth in the divine life. To those contemplating such a move, we commend a careful reading of The Starving Poor, (on page 6), and would remind them that what is true of New York is proportionately true of all large cities.

### N. B. AND N. S. MISSION BOARD.

Receipts since last report.

Back Bay, N. B., . . . . .	\$1 63
Y. P. Miss. Band, St. John, N. B., . . . . .	1 50
Mr. D. F. Lambert, Lord's Cove, Deer I., . . . . .	3 00

### EDUCATIONAL FUND.

Clara A. Sprague, Princeton, Mo., . . . . .	\$2 00
A. Friend, Charlotte Co., N. B., . . . . .	5 00
H. Wanamack, Nauwigowauk, N. B., . . . . .	1 00
A. McIntyre, St. John Co., N. B., . . . . .	1 00
C. H. Leonard, St. John, N. B., . . . . .	5 00
J. J. Christie, St. John, N. B., . . . . .	5 00
Ladies' Aid Society, . . . . .	10 00
A. Friend, St. John, N. B., . . . . .	10 00

Total, . . . . . \$35 23  
T. H. CAPP,  
Treasurer.

### EDUCATIONAL FUND.

During the past month a letter (not from New Brunswick or Nova Scotia) came to hand, having, among other important suggestions, the following.

"About that educational fund. I have been thinking that you might lay the foundation for our doing something generally for that fund by inserting an item in the January CHRISTIAN, stating there is such a fund, and showing the necessity of educating our own young men for the work in these provinces. . . . If you will lay the foundation I will faithfully do what I can," etc., etc.

Now, judging from the hurriedly manner in which the above suggestion was thrown out, I thought its author would be a good one for this work, and upon seeing his name was convinced more than ever of his ability in this line. But seeing that such help was to be gained by complying with so reasonable a condition, and thinking that others, too, might be waiting for some words in reference to this fund before engaging in this work, I thought it would be wrong to allow opportunities of this kind to go unheeded.

In these provinces we have felt, and still feel, and that keenly, the need of more preachers. We may have in a given community a neat place of worship—from seventy-five to one hundred brethren—watched over and cared for by God-fearing officers, and yet very little progress is being made, from the fact they have no preacher. The fathers and mothers in Israel, and the young men, "because ye are strong," will of course meet ever Lord's day to "break bread," but the young men, not yet gathered into the fold, find but little to interest them in such meetings, and if permitted will stay home or go elsewhere. This of course is

to be regretted. But we must look at things as they are, and not simply as we would have them be.

I have travelled through many parts of the United States, and visited most of the churches in the Maritime Provinces, and have found churches, some dead, some dying, others alive, but not one making real progress without a preacher.

We all feel the need of having schools in our midst. However educated the father or mother may be, by reason of other duties, the education of their child is dependant upon a teacher, one that gives his time and bonds his energies to find out, not simply the principles of the text-book, but the best methods of presenting them so as to arrest the attention of the scholars and make them see, feel and understand the importance of the principles set forth. Yes, we all feel the need of such schools and teachers; ye are willing to be taxed for them; and we shudder as we picture to ourselves the consequences that would follow were there no such schools. Yes, and the same is true religiously. How many of us are witnessing our young people going in paths not mentioned in the Bible; drinking in for doctrine the commandments of men, and yet to lead them or teach them otherwise we are comparatively doing nothing. Oh, says one, we are so poor. Well, I don't wonder at it—the wonder is that we are not poorer—that we have not long since been dismissed from our stewardship, as was the unjust steward mentioned by the Saviour. Says another: I feel sad when I call to mind the numbers of good men and women who feared God, and like Stephen of old were full of the Holy Spirit, that have within the past few years passed away to their home prepared in heaven, and then look around and see their children living in and for the world, and no effort made to arouse them from the lethargy into which sin has thrown them. Can't we do something to present to these and others "the faith once delivered to the Saints," and thus turn them from darkness to light, from the power of sin unto God?

Now, in view of the foregoing we have a few words to say in reference to the educational fund, which enables us to answer yes to the question, "Can't something be done?" etc.

The Mission Board of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia has been doing a good work in this direction. It has encouraged into a new life several churches thought to have been dead; rescued from the ranks of Satan between two and three hundred souls; and in Nov., 1883, published THE CHRISTIAN, which has more than met the expectations of its promoters. From this and the letters which every now and again come to hand, we feel justified in saying the paper is meeting a deep felt want, getting us interested and acquainted with places and people, and yearly growing in favor and usefulness.

The Board has tried on several occasions to supply this lack of preachers by bringing on foreign help—but with little success—from the fact, that the men wanted here are wanted elsewhere, and these, for reasons best known to themselves, these stay or go. Then came the question—What are we to do? Said one—We must educate our own young men, men that understand the lay of the country, the customs of the people, men of piety, that have at heart the cause of Christ in the lower provinces, young men that show signs of future usefulness.