

it would have done their missionary spirit no harm to have listened to the noble appeals made for the furtherance of that object. It was resolved that each church be asked to aid monthly the Home Mission cause as far as they were able. A good plan is for each church to take a monthly collection for that purpose, and if the preachers have not interest enough in the cause to bring it before their respective congregations, we would ask the elders or deacons to do so. Do not plead poverty, brethren. We are all able to do something. There is that which we withhold that tendeth to poverty. Let every Church do something.

Yours fraternally,

B—, ,

Sept. 18th, 1888.

Dear Christian: In your issue for August appeared an article from Mr. Messervey under the caption, "What do ye more than others?" Many points in it are noticeable, but I will notice only one or two. He says "we have no organ, yet we have received nothing from those who profess to be apostolic in everything." I do not know who professes to be apostolic in everything, but I do know that many who contributed to the Halifax fund are opposed to the use of the organ in the worship of the Lord. David said in his haste, "All men are liars," and Bro. Messervey in his haste has written equally unadvisedly. One moment's reflection would have shown him that he did not know the sentiments of many of the contributors, as he had no opportunity to do so; yet he publishes to the world, "All we have received is from those who are called progressives." This charge that we, who are grieved at the innovations brought into the church for which Christ died, are looking on and not making an effort to spread the true religion, has been made again and again with just as much truth as in this case. Such unfairness tends to shut the brethren's pockets. For myself I felt, on reading it, I would give no more to the Halifax fund.

I hope in the future our good brother will temper his zeal with discretion, as such things are mischievous in their effect. I have been for years trying to solve the problem, "What can we do more than others?" If we adopt the practices of others, where is the need of our struggling to build churches and church houses. In such a case, those who love the Lord Jesus as much as we do, have nothing to gain by mixing with us that I can see. Another prominent brother says: "Those who are as loyal to Christ as I am." Love and loyalty to Christ covers all the ground, and Bro. Messervey may give up the struggle for a separate existence.

JOHN LORD.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTES.

Thirty-four years ago the Disciples of Christ of the two provinces held their first annual meeting in Milton. There were six visitors, or delegates, at that meeting. This year we had, on Lord's day, at least 200 visitors. On Lord's day, in the afternoon, there were 450 in the house and 200 outside. Nova Scotia sent a splendid delegation as to quality, but the quantity was too small to mention. The entertainment was ample and cheerful. The visiting friends will retain with grateful recollections their kind and generous hospitality.

Maine gave us a number of visitors from Princeton, Calais, Eastport and Lubec. It is more than probable that Eastern Maine will be associated with us in the work of the mission.

The fellowship one with another was delightful—very little murmuring or complaining. The fact is, the day of wrangling has passed away; the heart that loves his God, loves his brother. It is the love of God in our souls that destroys the cranky

condition of our natures. A crank is a good thing for a grindstone, but a terribly unfortunate thing for a Christian; every revolution is the same, hence no progress. Everything must turn the same way, as according to our cherished notion; hence the crank "wears out life with his religious whine until his religious whinny wears out him." This one-sidedness makes the code of religious truth bend to our pet notion, and like the Ephraimite cakes, they were baked too much on one side and not half enough on the other side.

The spirit of work seemed to actuate every heart. Consecration of heart and hands, talents and money, was the topic inside and outside of the house, in consequence of which the business meetings were well attended, and in perfect harmony with the spirit of the occasion.

The reports show that more money was collected than at any previous meeting. Monday, in this respect, was a "red-letter" day.

The exchange of thought was a very fine feature of the meeting. Many are the new ideas received upon subjects concerning church work that are very much needed. This feature ought to be made still more prominent at our annual gatherings. Every meeting ought to make us wiser and better.

There were some questions handed in to the meeting for solution relative to the Sunday-school and the mission work. This was just as it should be. We have different views in regard to the ways and means of labor, and the best—and, in fact, the only—time to settle the differences and harmonize our views, is when we are together. We can understand each other better face to face than when a hundred miles away. We think sometimes that our objections and obstacles are mountains high. Distance not only lends enchantment, but also dimension. We find, however, when we come together, and have a friendly, brotherly investigation, that our mountains are not so high or great that they can't be removed. It is the association of kindred spirits and the warm, genial sympathy of Christian hearts that so strengthens our faith and love for the cause of Christ that we are enabled to climb over the difficulties we can't remove, and are, therefore, not hindered in our progress in the work of God.

Our Monday evening mission meeting was something GRAND. This don't express it, but for the want of a stronger word, we give it with double emphasis. The house was crowded; the speakers were in their best. Bros. Capp and Barnes were called upon to make some remarks respecting the Sunday-school, in answer to a question handed in, "What Scripture authority have we for the Sunday-school?" Their remarks were clear and to the point. There is power and weight in the presence and words of a man who is a successful business man and yet a successful Sunday-school worker, and deeply interested in the education and reformation of the youth of our land. May the Lord give us many more such men.

If there are any who are not able to see a marked, increased interest and an onward, advanced movement in the cause of Christ in our provinces, we would recommend that 365 applications of the prescription found in Rev. iii., 18, and an attendance at our next Annual.

A vote of thanks was taken for the kindness received from the hands and hearts of the brethren in Lord's Cove and vicinities, after which Bro. Ward made a warm, appropriate speech in behalf of the Lord's Cove church for the good they had received from the annual gathering.

Then the closing hymn, "The Sweet By-and-Bye," and then the parting, never to all meet again on earth. But, it is safe to say, we will all remember for many years the pleasant meetings and happy greetings of our 34th Annual Meeting.

H. MURRAY.

AN APOSTOLIC CHURCH IN HALIFAX.

Bro. W. J. Messervey, in the July number of the CHRISTIAN, writes as follows: "Now, who who wants an Apostolic Church in this city? It can't be those who are opposed to the organ; we have no organ, yet we receive nothing from those who profess to be apostolic in everything. What we have received has been from those who are called progressive."

1st—All those who are apostolic in faith and practice desire to see an Apostolic Church built up in this city of Halifax; and the same in every other city and community in the world.

2nd—"We receive nothing from those who profess to be apostolic in everything. What we have received has been from those who are called progressive." Let us spread the mantle of charity over this statement, and suppose that the writer knew not what he said. The church in Halifax has always had our sympathy, and a part of our money, too, and Disciples elsewhere have been and are now contributing of their means to support and build it up. Many of these contributing Disciples, whose names have appeared in the published reports of money received, we know profess to be apostolic, and we have no knowledge, nor has the writer of the above any ground for assuming, that any more than a very few class themselves with "those who are called progressive." One congregation in this county of the apostolic order has given in one year, in aid of the Halifax church, about one hundred dollars. This church is itself poor in this world's goods, and at present laboring under obligations at home, which it is bound to meet before again engaging in operations abroad. But the Halifax brethren have been assured of liberal assistance, when the proper time comes, if they continue worthy. It is not grateful or wise to cast stones into the well which has quenched our thirst.

3rd—"Honor to whom honor is due." It is right that these Disciples should have justice and the credit which is due them.

4th—What assurance are the brethren in Halifax ready to give that they really want an Apostolic Church built up in Halifax. The body of Disciples in these provinces are yet loyal to apostolic order, but some are beginning to ape the sectarian churches in some things, and teachers are now sometimes found among us who try to seduce the Disciples from their steadfastness in the simplicity of Christianity. We suspect that Bro. M. has recently been under the tutelage of one of these, and being very young in Christ, very ardent in zeal, and unsuspecting, has been imposed upon.

5th—We hope the brethren in the Maritime Provinces will take no offence from the utterances of this brother, or withhold their aid on this account; we believe him to be a good man, and one who is willing to learn what is right, and ready to do it.

I do not know as I would have answered the article of our brothers had it not been for a note of Bro. Burr's of said article in the next number of the CHRISTIAN, saying it was worth its weight in gold. I opened my eyes very wide just then and thought, is it possible that Bro. Burr puts so little value on gold as to compare it to such a precious metal? My thoughts run back to what God said to Job after he had tried him and proved him and restored him to his former prosperity: "Job, where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth and gave the seas their bounds, and so on?" Where were you and I, Bro. Messervey, when the pioneers of this reformation dug up these sacred truths from under the mists and rubbish that Babylon had heaped upon them, and established the pure worship of God, and left their watchman on Zion's walls, and charged them to walk about