

and many other good effects are apparent, showing the effect of "our plea." 2nd. When our missionaries go into heathen lands it is to the eye of the unenlightened as though we were only a sect among sects; "our plea" is not of very much force. With these two facts before us we must see that if the \$100,000 asked for by the Foreign Mission Society was turned towards home and 100 evangelists turned loose in Canada for a few years, that "our plea" would be made known in "our field." Many weak churches struggling for life would become strong and able to help others. The influence of our plea would be felt by sectarian churches, and the sectarian missionary would go out more enlightened, and in the end we would do more for home and foreign missions by turning our efforts to make our plea known in our field. There are churches in our provinces that are dying, there are others maintaining a feeble warfare. Sectarianism is bound to crush us out if it can. But when our churches grow strong and become influential, they are respected, and there are greater inducements for people to take their stand with us.

Brethren, I am not opposing the efforts to do foreign mission work, but I am pleading for our weak, struggling churches. I want to see our plea more widely known in our field. But I have said enough on mission work for one letter.

We want a blacksmith in West Gore. A good stand for the right man. A member of the Christian church preferred.

My address for the future will be West Gore, Hants Co., N. S. W. H. HARDING.

CORNWALLIS, N. S.

THE CHRISTIAN for October comes to us freighted with good things. We were much pleased with the very accurate and interesting report of our grand annual, written by Bro. H. Murray. It is to be hoped that those who were not permitted to enjoy this good meeting will, by the reading of this excellent report, receive some of the inspiration that come to those who were there to enjoy this feast for the soul.

The articles, too, on first page, on "our plea," "our field" and "our duty," written by Bro. H. W. Stewart, of St. John, N. B., deserve more than a passing notice. The thoughts here suggested should awaken the brotherhood to a sense of their responsibility. But, it sometimes appears as though we were too well satisfied with our plea, and altogether too selfish in our enjoyment of it. There does not seem to be that deep anxiety to get this plea before the people that should characterize people claiming to be so apostolic. We have, beyond doubt, the apostolic plea. Now let us cultivate apostolic spirit and practice. As soon as the apostles got the plea, they put forth every effort to get the people to hear it and bring them to Christ.

We have nothing particularly new from here. We are still working as best we can to advance the interest of the work in these parts.

Our friends made us their annual visitation last Friday evening. The house was taxed to its utmost to accommodate the large company. Upwards of eighty refreshed themselves with the bounties prepared by the sisters for the occasion. The evening was spent very pleasantly, and the company left expressing themselves as having enjoyed a very pleasant evening, and the preacher and his wife were made good-natured by the reception of a very liberal purse, and with the assurance that they had met a host of friends who were in sympathy with them in this great work in which we are engaged.

We are to be with the brethren in Halifax for two weeks from this date, and then, the Lord prospering us, we expect to go to Queens County to assist Bro. Murray in a meeting in Summerville, after which we hope to return to our work here and settle down to steady work for months at least. E. C. FORD.

Art Williams, Oct. 24, '93.

NORTH SOMERVILLE, MASS.

Although there has been no report from North Somerville for some time, it is not the fault of the writer, as letters have been mailed, but I suppose are now in the dead letter office.

North Somerville is still living, however, although we cannot boast of having done wonderful work during the hot summer weather.

Our Y. P. S. C. E. are getting into working order and preparing to do a good work during the fall and winter months. We have found it necessary to take one hour and a half for our meetings instead of one hour, as our time was too short to permit all the members to take part who wished to take part. We have also decided to hold our business meetings on Wednesday evenings instead of on the Lord's day evenings, as we have been doing.

Bro. and Sister Britain and myself attended the annual meeting at Worcester, October 6th, 7th and 8th. We had the pleasure of meeting Bro. Stevens, of Lord's Cove, N. B., and with all the other delegates we were royally welcomed and enjoyed the meeting together very much. Although a stranger among the New England brethren, I was not permitted to be a stranger very long.

Bro. Stevens will make mention of the meeting in his letter, so that I will not take any more space than to say that the Disciples of Christ in New England increased in membership twenty-three per cent last year, Christian Endeavorers in the New England churches increased over thirty per cent, Sunday-school membership also showed a good increase. A great many of the additions to the church were from the associate membership list of the Y. P. S. C. E.

A committee of two, Bro. Darst, of Boston, and our Christian Endeavor General, G. Wilton Lewis, of Everett, were appointed to make enquiries concerning the advisability of publishing a monthly paper, and everyone hopes that such a step may be decided upon, as we need something to bring us nearer to each other. The speeches by Bros. Teagarden, of Danbury, Philputt, of Philadelphia, Prof. Toof, of New Haven, Smart, of Somerville, and Levi Marshall, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, were all of a high order. This is the first annual I have ever been permitted to attend, and it is needless for me to say it will not be the last, as any one who attends such a meeting as we had in Worcester and received the welcome the delegates to Worcester received, will want to go to another annual.

R. C.

NEW ENGLAND MEETING.

The twenty-eighth annual meeting of the Disciples of Christ in New England was held with the Church of Christ in Worcester, Mass., October 6th, 7th and 8th. There were present preachers Allen B. Philputt, Philadelphia; Levi Marshall, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; E. J. Teagarden, Danbury, Conn.; E. W. Darst and A. Flower, of Boston; Geo. T. Smart, North Somerville; H. Mills and E. Dinmore, of Haverhill, Mass.; Prof. J. T. Toop, New Haven, Conn.; R. E. Stevens, Lord's Cove, and A. B. Chamberlain, Worcester, Mass., and about fifty-five delegates. The first session opened on Friday morning at 9.30 with a live social meeting, conducted by Hezekiah Mills. After the reading of a short selection from Rom. xii. and a few pointed remarks by the leader, about twenty took part in the meeting. Bro. Hunt, secretary of the New England Mission Board, told us that the increase in the New England Churches during the year had been 377, or more than twenty-three per cent gain, and that the Disciples are at present building four new houses of worship, and he doubted if any other religious body in New England could show half that gain per cent for the past year.

At 10.30 came a short address of welcome by Bro. Chamberlain, followed by committee meetings till 11.00, when Bro. Hunt took the chair and opened a discussion on "How shall we work the New England field the coming year—by a general evangelist or by assisting local churches?" The general opinion seemed to be "we should get out of obscure places and plant our churches in the centres of population, and having started in a good central location, concentrate our efforts there until a church is established with strength to do its own work."

Manton, R. I., North Somerville, Mass., Princeton, South Lubec, and East Machias, Me., were spoken of as churches needing help, and Springfield, Mass., Eastport, Me., and Hartford and New Haven, Conn., as places where churches should be established at once. Especial emphasis was given to the need of having a church in New Haven under the shadow of Yale University, where there are ten or fifteen of our young men in attendance every year.

At 1.30 Bro. Teagarden gave an address on "When is it advisable in the history of a church to establish local missions?" followed at 2 p. m. by a discussion in which the leading thought seemed to be "the Christ spirit is the missionary spirit; hence, the church that does most in missionary effort possesses most of the spirit of Christ." "By their fruits ye shall know them."

At 2.30 came an address by Bro. Smart, on "The support of the New England work," followed by a discussion. At 3.30 was an address, "The Christian Endeavor—a movement, not a separate organization," by A. B. Philputt. At 6.30 the children assembled to listen to Sister Darst, but as she was lying sick in a distant city they were denied the privilege of hearing her. They were, however, called to order by Sister Burnum, and after singing Onward Christian Soldiers and repeating in concert the 100th psalm, they were addressed by brethren Chamberlain and Darst. Following this was a social service at 7.30, and at 8 a powerful sermon by Bro. Philputt, on "The primitive method of preaching the gospel."

Saturday morning we were greeted by heavy showers. Notwithstanding this, quite an audience had assembled, and promptly at 9 a prayer and praise meeting was opened by Bro. Dinmore. At 10 came an address by Levi Marshall, on "Home Mission Work," and at 11 "Foreign Missions," by E. J. Teagarden. The business meeting convened at 1.30, and the Christian Women's Board of Missions at 3.30. At 6.30 Bro. Robert H. Gross, of Boston, read the reports from the various Sunday-schools, and a very interesting paper on "The relations of the Sunday-school and the home," and at 8 Prof. Toof gave us a sermon on "The Gospel of Christ,"—such a sermon as only a man with a great mind can give.

The Lord's day opened bright and beautiful with a 6.30 prayer-meeting, led by Bro. Remington, of Maunton, R. I. At 9 was a praise service, with brief verbal reports from the churches, conducted by A. D. Buttrick, of Worcester. Following this was a sermon, "The Historic Christ and the Church," by E. J. Teagarden.

The communion service at 2.30 was conducted by brethren Orrin Wood, of Worcester, and F. O. Ellis, of Swampscott, Mass.

At 3.30 the Christian Woman's Board of Missions presented some very interesting papers and addresses.

The young people's meeting was conducted by G. Wilton Lewis, of Everett, Mass., at 6.15, and at 7.30 old Bro. Flower, of Boston, took the stand, and notwithstanding he has passed his three score and ten milestone, he gave an able and beautiful presentation of "the true basis of Christian union."

The 8.20 farewell meeting consisted of short speeches by a number of preachers and others present.

Among other things discussed relative to future work was the advisability of having a paper published in the interest of the New England work, with a corresponding editor in each of the principal churches. And from the interest manifested in this meeting, we think such a paper will soon be before the brethren. R. E. STEVENS.