

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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All communications, intended for publication, to be addressed:

"THE CHRISTIAN,"

P. O. Box 56

ST. JOHN, N. B.

EDITOR:

DONALD CRAWFORD, — NEW GLASGOW, P. E. I.

OFFICE EDITOR:

HENRY W. STEWART,

ST. JOHN, N. B.

BEGINNING OF VOLUME XIV.

This number begins the fourteenth volume of THE CHRISTIAN. We desire to express our gratitude to the Giver of all good that it still lives. He knows the motives which moved its friends to start the paper, and also the efforts necessary to keep it up, and has graciously manifested his approval from the first day until now. To labor for the glory of God and the good of our race is reasonable and happy service, and the assurance coming from different quarters that THE CHRISTIAN is giving reasonable satisfaction is no small remuneration. The editor feels unable to satisfy himself with the editorials furnished and finds that failing strength, and attention to other duties, often admonish him of the justice and propriety of calling a halt. But the hardship of bidding the readers adieu and the advice of friends still keep him at that post which he must ere long resign.

We ask kind friends to still stand by our paper. Aid its circulation and fill its columns with useful matter. D. C.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Will the readers please notice that the heading of Bro. H. K. Cooke's article is not an assertion but a question. Some parts of the article we do not understand and with some other parts we do not agree; but we publish it, and every one may answer the questions for himself. But as our space is very limited and this is a practical age, it would not do to often insert long speculative articles.

Our leading papers are again telling of very successful meetings being held by our evangelists. At some of these meetings more than a hundred persons are added to the church. As the winter seems to be the most suitable time in the U. S. for special effort, we hope to read of thousands turning to the Lord every week during the next few months. From time to time we will make a note of some of the most successful meetings.

Bro. Ellis B. Barnes, who graduated from the College of Liberal Arts last June, is now pastor of the Christian Church at Normal, Illinois. He writes: "My work here starts off well. Our audiences are large, the attendance at prayer-meeting has more than doubled. The Christian Endeavor fills every seat and extra chairs. We receive new members into the society just as we do into the church—with the right hand of fellowship. The Lord's day services are well attended. We have had nine additions since beginning."

We regret to announce that the *Canadian Evangelist*, Hamilton, Ont., after a career of ten and a half years, has suspended publication and the editor and publisher, Bro. Geo. Munro, has laid aside his editorial pen. Bro. Munro has endeavored to faithfully serve the churches in Ontario, and at no small loss to himself, by giving them a paper devoted principally to their interests, but we have often thought, as we laid the paper down, that the preachers of Ontario gave him very little assistance in his efforts to make the paper a success, and we know the members of the churches withheld a deserved support. May both learn wisdom by the time another paper is started, and avoid their mistakes of the past.

E. W. Darst, as city evangelist for Chicago, is doing a wonderful work in that wonderful city. He is supported by the American Christian Missionary Society and in the last year he has held successful meetings at the North Side Church; at Evanston, where he succeeded in establishing a church of eighty members, thoroughly organized; at West Pullman, which resulted in an organization with forty members, at Douglas Park where twenty four were added and a building fund started; and in the Stockyard District where up to Sept. 20th. he had received seven confessions and found sixty-two brethren, only twelve of whom were connected with any Chicago church. Such success shows the wisdom of co-operative work and should silence those who oppose it.

A writer in the *Christian-Evangelist* says we have too many church services and too little Christian service. The Sunday and the week-day evenings are so crowded with going to meeting, that there is too little time for going out into the highways. It may be that of some city churches this is true; but it is not true of all, and it is probably not true of any country church. The latter too often suffer from a lack rather than a superabundance of meetings. It is noticeable, however, that those churches which have many meetings for the generation of spiritual power usually do most for the world. It is also demonstrable that the people in any church who neglect the most meetings are not the best workers. Those who do not attend church services very seldom find time for church work.

Jesus occupied the highest plain ever attained by a human being. He was the perfect man. But he wanted others to become like him. To this end it was necessary that he

should die. If he did not he should abide alone. By dying he brought many sons unto glory. Christians are too will'g to abide alone, and too little anxious to lead others to the Saviour. Because we have to sacrifice in order to save is no reason why we should fail in our duty. Jesus sacrificed his life. To abide alone was, from his point of view, failure. So the Christian who is not seeking to increase the number of the saved is making a failure, and the church that is content to abide alone, when it might multiply itself, is also making a failure. If churches had more of the spirit of Christ they would willingly make sacrifices in order that more churches might be established.

In the *Christian Standard* we find noted an encouraging incident which occurred during the great convention of the Disciples of Christ recently held in Springfield, Ill. It shows an order of things that is becoming more general, and fans to a brighter glow the hope that soon Wealth will heed the call of Need and give for Jesus' sake. But here is the incident: "After a stirring address by Mrs. Candace Lhamon Smith, Wm. Burford of Australia volunteered to pay Miss Oxer's expenses to India, which would be about \$400. Dr. H. Gerould of Cleveland, Ohio, offered to pay her first salary, \$600; and other gifts were made to the extent of \$1500. Miss Oxer goes as a missionary to Mahoba, India. We see, also in the *Standard*, that Bro. Burford sustains a missionary in China and one in Japan. Bro. Gerould has long been known as a generous giver. May all those who know how to use wealth be abundantly prospered.

There are some papers published by the Disciples the reading of which makes us blue, and if we read no others we would conclude that the great reformation inaugurated by Alex. Campbell and his co-laborers, had, after many years of success, failed in these latter days to such an extent that now only a handful are loyal to the old Book and walk in old paths. But we are glad to know, notwithstanding the pessimistic views of some and unchristian insinuations of others, that the churches of Christ are multiplying with a rapidity that has no equal since the days the reformation began, that they are as loyal now to the faith once for all delivered to the saints as they ever were, and that they are more deeply and more generally interested in the things of the Kingdom than ever before. The outlook is bright. Let any who have been imposed upon throw away their gloomy faces and with new hopes based upon the radiant facts of the past, and the glowing signs of the present, go forward.

A recent Sunday in St. John was very stormy. A cold, heavy rain was falling. The places of worship were not more than one fourth filled. The followers of Christ thought they would be running too great a risk by venturing out and remaining for one hour in comfortable meeting houses. The following Saturday was a much more stormy day. A gale was blowing and the rain was falling in torrents. A theatrical company