

# 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 following additions to the churches are reported this month:

Southville .....	1
Shubenacadie.....	1
St. John.....	1
Halifax.....	4
South Range.....	9
West Gore.....	16
Keswick.....	20

Total..... 52

We are glad to report such good results from the work in our midst.

Bro. S. W. Leonard has returned from Lexington and will spend his vacation preaching for the church at Leonardville. Bro. Leonard is much pleased with the Bible college.

R. E. Stevens spent two Lord's days with the St. John church, and preached most acceptably during Bro. Stewart's absence.

The brethren at Keswick, N. B., organized with a good corp of officers. Bro. Boone, who was chosen as the elder, is reported as being well qualified for the position.

Silver Falls brethren will organize next Lord's day afternoon. Some of the St. John brethren will be present and assist them in starting to keep house for the Lord.

Bro. Lhamon and family have settled in Toronto. Bro. Lhamon is much pleased with the church and the city.

Bro. Ford's work in Halifax is prospering finely. Bro. Ford goes to Cornwallis at the end of this month. Bro. Rowison will preach for the Halifax church for two months.

The committee appointed to locate the next annual meeting should get to work. It ought to be definitely announced in next month's issue.

Bro. Howard Murray goes to P. E. Island this month to assist Bro. Crawford. We hope to hear of some good work being done.

Those of our churches who have not taken up a collection for general mission work should do so at once. These brethren have helped us greatly in the provinces, and every effort should be made by us to sustain the work. Send to J. H. Hardin, V. M. C. A. Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

A work which does not enlist the young people, is in danger of failing. A church which does not give them something to

Where do is digging its tomb, and will to Begin, soon tumble in. If we want the assistance of young manhood and womanhood in the work of the Lord, the necessity is upon us of turning the minds of the children in that direction. If the children are won, the interests of the kingdom of God shall be safe in the hands of the men and women of the near future. We are beginning now to work upon this principle. We do not wait till people are matured before we urge upon them the importance of becoming Christians, and we do not wait till old age begins to weaken them before we ask them to do something for the cause of Christ. Wisdom has told us to seek to win the children to Christ, and try to put them at work for him at once. If the boys and girls are properly trained, they will find as much happiness in working for the Lord as any miser ever found in hoarding up gold. They will find as much pleasure in giving of their means for the spread of the gospel, as the votaries of pleasure find in lavishing wealth upon themselves. They will find as much joy in the exercise which comes from visiting the poor and the needy as others will find in the enervating motions of the dance. They will find as much. Will they not find more? and will it not be of a more abiding character?

Among the Disciples of Christ, the first Lord's day in June has come to be regarded as Children's Day. It is the day when

Children's the children in the church, are Day. asked to make their offerings to the lost ones in heathen lands.

How appropriate this is! For nothing can touch a sympathetic soul with a much greater thrill, than the story of child life in heathen lands will touch the heart of a Christian child, and a heart so aroused wants to do something and wants to have a time in which to do it. What more appropriate time than in June—this month of sunshine which may tell us of sunshine in the soul, this month of flowers which may well remind us of the fragrance that surrounds us in a Christian land. Children's Day is of but recent origin. It shows the small seed from which a mighty, beautiful, and fruitful tree may grow. In 1880, when Bro. J. H. Garrison, editor of the *Christian Evangelist*, St. Louis, was going to the meeting of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society, held that year in Louisville, Kentucky, his little ones came to him with their money boxes and emptied out the pennies and nickels, which in months of self-denial they had saved. In all there was only \$1.13, but they gave that, saying, "We want this to go to the children who know nothing about Jesus." Bro. Garrison accepted the gift, although at that time there was no mission carried on by the Disciples where the offering could be applied; for while the Foreign Society was organized in 1875, it had sent no missionaries to the heathen, but was carrying on its work in European countries. This small offering turned the thoughts of the brotherhood toward the heathen in a practical way, and it was decided to ask the Sunday-schools to contribute funds for the evangelization of the heathen. The following year the first offering was made, amounting to \$750. In 1893 more than 1,500 schools contributed and their offerings amounted

to \$19,000. This year \$40,000 are asked for, and if the amount is going to be raised many more schools will have to fall into line and march to the rescue of perishing souls.

If we keep our eyes and ears open we will see sights and hear sounds which must impress us with the fact that not in

The Orphan's heathen lands alone should sympathy be shown; for the unsaved and the unfortunate and the

lonely and the fatherless are still with us, and their cries come loudly and repeatedly to our ears. Probably the sympathies of children in happy homes go out to the orphan as they go to no other class, and it seems well that these desires to help should have a chance to show themselves in some tangible way. We must not be hobbyists. We should not seek to turn the attention of the children to the needs abroad in such a way that they will overlook the work to be done at home. Let both duties be held up before them. Just now an enterprise is being pushed in St. Louis, and, that it may be pushed to successful completion, a call is made for the help of the children. The work is the erection of an orphan's home—a large four storey brick and stone building, where little ones whose parents are dead may have the comforts of a home, the instruction that will fit them for the duties of this life, and the training that will prepare them for the life which is to come. This is a Christ-like work. It is thought that the birthday offerings of children will be sufficient in one year to complete the building. As the suggestion to which we owe children's day can be traced to a little boy, so birthday offerings for this home were suggested by a little girl. On the 18th of March last, Maud McFarland having during the preceding week celebrated her twelfth birthday, brought as an offering to the home the sum of twelve cents—a cent for each year. The committee who are raising funds for the building, thinking that many other children would like to commemorate their birthdays this year by giving to this object, suggest that a birthday box be put in such a place that the young people in the church and Sunday-school may place their offerings in it. Those whose birthdays are already past, making their contribution at once; those whose birthdays are yet to come, making their gift on that day, or on the Sunday following it. It will be interesting to notice how this plan will succeed. It will be a good thing to help make it a success. May the twelve cents grow to twice twelve thousand dollars.

Jesus in a wilderness was thronged by a hungry multitude, but he would not send them into the villages to buy bread.

A Growing He took five loaves and two Loaf. small fishes, he blessed and brake and gave to the disciples; five

thousand men, beside women and children, ate, and twelve baskets full of fragments were gathered up. So Jesus can increase the offering for the heathen, for the orphan, or for the hungry. During the past winter there were many children, and grown people, too, in the large cities who were almost starving—and some did die for want of food. The Central Christian Church in Cincinnati, for which Bro. J. A. Lord preaches, determined to do what it could for the distressed in their midst. Dr. C. B. Moull was sent out by a committee to collect