

*The Christian.*

ST. JOHN, N. B., - - SEPTEMBER, 1895.

## VISIT TO ST. JOHN.

On invitation we went to St. John on the 12th July and remained five Lord's days during Bro. Stewart's absence from the city. Our intercourse with the brethren in St. John has always been cordial and Christian since our first visit forty-five years ago, and this one has not been an exception.

In looking over that congregation a feeling of sadness was stirred when so many of those we remembered and loved were absent to meet no more on earth. But this feeling found the blessed hope of again meeting them in the place which Jesus has gone to prepare for his own redeemed family, where all sorrow—even death itself—shall be swallowed up in victory, and the joy of meeting him and them will be "a pleasure for evermore."

Our stay, as of old, was in the happy household of Bro. James E. Barnes. But O, there was one we missed! The sister, so dear to the members of the church—to the many friends who shared her cheerful hospitality—so especially dear to a devoted family—had gone—gone to be with Jesus.

It must have gladdened the heart of Sister Barnes to see her children, one after another, come into the church and take a leading part in its labors for Christ. There is much reason to hope that every member of the family will meet the loved one in the Father's kingdom. May the Lord grant it.

Bro. Barnes is enjoying good health and able to attend a quiet, honest and prospering business. He is still anxiously and hopefully engaged in the affair of the church of Christ. The Saviour is always true, and never more so than in these words: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." He wishes us to be careful and active about his affairs that he may, with other blessings, give us wisdom to successfully attend to our own. How happy to feel that we are suffering with Jesus and he is suffering with us.

The present outlook for the cause in St. John is very cheering. The church is growing in numbers, and, we trust, in usefulness. Bro. Stewart's labors are greatly blessed among them. He is held in high esteem by the church-members, and is well thought of by them that are without. When a church and a preacher have an affection for and a confidence in each other, and unitedly labor for God's glory, he waits to be gracious and to crown their labors with abundant blessing.

It was very encouraging to hear the brethren speak so highly of Bro. Stewart and his work. Bro. Capp, too, is not forgotten by the church. Many speak very tenderly of his zeal and success in increasing the membership and in bringing the church building to its present completion. A church is

highly favored which secures the labors of such men as Bros. Capp and Stewart. Both of them have, under God, done grand work in St. John.

A pleasing indication of success was the zeal with which the members attended the weekly prayer-meetings and their readiness to take part and make them interesting to all. The fact of more than one hundred attending one of these meetings in the hot season, when so many were from home and in the country in search of health and comfort, showed a commendable interest in the cause.

The church at Silver Falls meets regularly on Lord's days in their new and handsome building. They also hold a weekly prayer and social meeting in which old and young participate. These, with the Sunday-school, gives them Christian work and enjoyment. A preacher's visits and labors are highly appreciated.

The church in the city teach a large Sunday-school in their hired hall at the North End. Bro. Stewart also preaches there every Monday evening, and it may be that a church will be organized there in the near future.

May the Lord continue to prosper his cause still more abundantly in St. John, and guard and guide his people there and in all places, so that they always hear him say, "What I say unto you, I say unto all—*Watch!*"

D. C.

## Annual Meeting—Concluded.

Sister D. A. Morrison of St. John, who is one of our most successful workers among children, and who, as superintendent of children's work, has a position of wide-reaching influence, presented her report of the past year's work. The young, as you will see, are being interested in the things of the kingdom. Let the report speak for itself:

## CHILDREN'S WORK.

*To the Maritime C. W. B. M.*

DEAR SISTERS,—A second year's report of our children's work shows increased interest and the blessing of God upon our efforts. Last year we numbered ten bands; two new ones have been organized since our last annual—one at Woodville, Digby Co., N. S., the other at St. John (North End). But while we have gained two we have also two losses to report. Owing to the absence of the leaders, the bands at Leonardville and Lord's Cove, Deer Island, have discontinued their meetings. We regret this much but hope to see the Leonardville band reorganized in the near future, as their leader writes me that she will attempt to do so.

While the enrolment of a number of the bands has dropped somewhat, I think, judging by the Treasurer's report, that the diligence and earnestness of our workers have not abated in the slightest.

The "O Gin San" band, Halifax, N. S., numbers thirty-seven, all active members. The amount collected during the year is \$6.01. This band is now working at sewing, from which they expect to raise money additional to their dues.

The "Cheerful Gleaners," East Rawdon, number eighteen, all young children. It is hardly a year since this band was organized, but in that time they have raised about \$6.50.

The "Golden Rule" band, West Gore, shows an enrolment of thirty-nine and an average attendance of twenty-four. They have raised since Sept. 1st, 1894, \$12.00. They have been trying a plan which it might be well for our other bands to imitate, that of "talent money" to be invested for the Lord. One of the most encouraging items in

the report of this band is that within the past few months four of their members have taken their stand for Jesus.

The Westport "Willing Workers" show an enrolment of thirty, with an average attendance of twenty-three. Collections during the year amounted to \$4. They have adopted a "birthday box" also.

The Milton "Daily Workers" show the large membership of fifty-four. They have the mite boxes as well as their regular band dues. During the year they held a children's concert, realizing \$7, and a mission band birthday party, at which each member contributed as many cents as she or he was years old, making \$3.39. These amounts, added to their dues, give us \$10.58 from the Milton band.

The "White Star" mission band, Summerville, Queens Co., N. S., numbers twenty-seven. Some of the members of this band have been trying the true plan of giving, that of earning what they give. They have contributed \$7 during the past year—two for home and five for foreign work.

The "Golden Circle" band, Kildare, P. E. I., numbers thirteen. This little band was organized in April, 1894, with nine members, and a faithful nine they have been. Now that their numbers have increased to thirteen I think they will prove to us that, in their case at least, thirteen is not the unlucky number. They have raised \$5 during the past year.

The "Busy Workers," Woodville, N. S., one of the recently organized bands, have held but four meetings. They have an enrolment of eleven members and have collected \$1. A marked feature in their report (and we trust it will continue so) is the fact that every member has been present at every meeting.

At St. John (North End) a band of about twenty-two was organized in May. They have some funds on hand but have not yet sent to the Treasurer. They propose holding a concert shortly.

The "Wide Awake" band, St. John, N. B., numbers about eighteen. They have also adopted the birthday box. Their dues during the year amounted to \$8.86, from mite boxes \$2.95, and the proceeds of a sale and entertainment \$14.15; total \$25.96.

Summing up we see that the Milton "Daily Workers" leads with a membership of fifty-four, followed by the "Golden Rule" band, West Gore, with thirty-nine. The largest average attendance, twenty-four, is claimed by the "Golden Rule" band, closely followed by the Westport "Willing Workers" with twenty-three. The largest amount raised for the year is by the "Wide Awake" band, St. John, N. B., \$25.96, and the Milton "Daily Workers" come second with \$16.58.

We have also been aided in our children's work by some outside the bands who have become interested in the support of O Gin San. At Maitland, Hants Co., three little brothers, children of Sister MacDougall, have raised \$1, and promise to continue working in the future. From Sister Crawford, New Glasgow, P. E. I., I received \$5, the gift of sixteen little ones of the New Glasgow church. Martha Morton, a member of the Coburg Street church, St. John, N. B., held a sale last fall and realized \$12, of which she gave \$6 to Home Missions and \$6 to our children's fund.

A word in conclusion to the parents of these little mission workers. You have seen what blessed results have attended the work of the children. It was with much anxiety and fear that we undertook the adoption of our little girl in Japan two years ago. Our numbers were small, but we felt that unity meant strength, and definite work would awaken more interest, and so we started. Our Treasurer's report shows how nobly the children have worked and how abundantly God has blessed their efforts. But we must not leave the work for the children to do unaided. Remember that they need our help and our sympathy. We have a part in the children's work; there are many little things which we can do. The children need to be interested; they must be reminded constantly of the meetings; we can encourage them by our presence at their band meetings. We must remember that the children's mission bands are the auxiliaries of the future; and God will surely continue to bless our efforts as He has so abundantly done in the past.

Submitted in Christian love,

MRS. D. A. MORRISON,

Supt. Children's Work.

August, 1895.