

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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NOTES AND NEWS.

If your subscription has expired, do not fail to renew it this month.

Some communications have been received, for which we are unable to find room this month.

We again remind our subscribers that all the profits from the publication of THE CHRISTIAN are expended in home mission work. The editors and contributors do this work on the paper gratuitously.

It is cheering to know that so many of the churches made a gift to foreign missions last month. Churches that had not given before have been enlisted, and the contributions of many of the other churches have been increased.

In this paper you will find many short, interesting articles bearing on the May offering for home missions. Read them with care; then act like a Christian. "Freely ye have received, freely give." "God loveth a cheerful giver."

The church in Canton, Mo., made the foreign mission offering in March. The amount was \$55.05. It is significant that a poor Chinese laundryman gave \$10.00 of the amount. No doubt many who could better afford to give largely than he felt satisfied when they had given twenty-five cents, or half a dollar.

The first Sunday in May is the time selected for the annual collection for general home missions. The churches ought to do as well for this work as for the work in the foreign fields. If the churches are multiplied at home there are more to help send the gospel to the heathen. \$100,000 are called for this year. The full amount is needed.

Hunnell, Kan., has a population of 300, but no place for worship. Toward the close of last December H. W. Newly began a meeting in a school-house, and after a few days a tabernacle was put up to accommodate the congregations. At the close of three weeks thirty had come forward to take their stand in the cause of primitive Christianity. The number increased to eighty, and in February a church was organized. A Sun-

day-school with seventy members has been started; also a Christian Endeavor Society. A suitable church building is being erected.

The meeting in the Union Christian Church, Chicago, held by J. H. O. Smith, closed with 255 additions. The meeting in Noblesville, Ind., lasted four weeks and two days. There were 345 additions to the church. Scott and Scoville were the evangelists.

Last year the amount sent to the Foreign Christian Missionary Society during the first twenty-one days of March was \$13,467.87. In the same period this year the amount received was \$19,451.67. The increase is great, and greatly gratifying to those who helped to swell the sum. If any churches or individuals have failed to make an offering they still have time to do so.

The names of some new subscribers are being sent in. W. H. Harding has got four of the ten he promised to secure this year. Why can we not have one hundred new names before the Tiverton meeting in August? Send upon a post-card the names and addresses of Disciples of Christ who do not get THE CHRISTIAN, and we will send them sample copies. Do it at once.

The American Christian Missionary Society has well-founded claims upon us. For years it has been giving aid to weak churches in these provinces, notwithstanding it has had to refuse numerous and urgent appeals for help from churches and districts in the States. We should show our appreciation of this interest by sending liberal contributions. Cast thy bread upon the waters and you shall find it before many days.

The Roman Catholic and Episcopal churches have been busy keeping Lent. Soon they will be observing Good Friday and Easter Sunday. They will be glad to have us endorse their practise by observing one or both of the last-named days, even though we have not fasted since Ash Wednesday. If the thin edge of the wedge gets in, they will hope to see the wedge get through after a time.

The readers of THE CHRISTIAN will be glad to have a note about a former editor, T. H. Capp. He is still preaching for the church in Plattsburg, Mo., and is one of the proprietors and one of the editors of the *Church Register*, a very excellent paper. One who ought to know, says of him: "He is succeeding beyond all ideas." We have an idea that, if he tried hard, he would succeed in sending THE CHRISTIAN a message for his many friends in these parts.

Few churches are able to meet the demands of the local work and also send an evangelist into the needy places in the home land, establishing churches and setting in order the things that are wanting. The best thing, under such circumstances, is for the churches to co-operate, and by their united contributions do what one church could not accomplish. The churches in the provinces—none

of them very strong—have appointed a Home Mission Board to receive their united offerings and expend them as directed.

E. C. Ford makes "a suggestion" in this paper which should be carefully considered by the churches. As you will see, he is not proposing that the attendance at the annual meetings be cut down, but that each church be represented by members authorized to speak for it. The writer believes the suggestion is a good one. When he finished reading the article he impulsively said, Amen. After he had thought over it for some time, he again said Amen. Let us hear from others, briefly, on this subject.

John A. Williams is writing "Reminiscences" for the *Christian Leader*. He relates that L. L. Pinkerton, the orphans friend, once made a touching appeal to a certain congregation on their behalf, and then requested the deacons to pass through the crowded house to receive money or pledges. None was given. He looked at the congregation, arose to dismiss them, said with intense sincerity: "May the Lord have mercy on your poor stingy souls," and hurried away.

Paul desired that the churches should have fellowship with him in the matter of giving and receiving when he was on his missionary tours. He praises the church in Philippi because they sent, once and again, to his need while he was in Thessalonica. He gently rebukes churches to whom he has given spiritual things, because they did not give him carnal things. The Philippian church sent its gift to Paul by Epaphroditus. He would gladly have carried the offerings of other churches if any had been entrusted to him. When the churches in Macedonia and Achaia sent their contributions to the poor saints in Jerusalem, they did so by the hand of Paul, just as we to-day can send our united contributions through the missionary secretary appointed by the churches.

Here is a report, written by S. M. Martin, Mason City, Ia., which we take verbatim from the *Christian Oracle*: "Our meeting of thirty-six days with Evangelists Harlow and Hawes closed last night with 189 added, 165 confessions and baptisms, six by letter, six by statement, five reclaimed, and sixty-nine from the denominations. All but forty-seven were over eighteen years of age; at least two-thirds were heads of families." Here are suggestions for a long article. See the large proportion added by confession and baptism. Notice that church letters—each fished from the bottom of a trunk, perhaps—are presented; besides Christians who have no letters (though they should have had them) are received, on their own statement that they have obeyed the gospel, and on the church's knowledge that they are walking worthily. Then those who were once Christians, but have fallen away, are reclaimed; and not least significant, more than one-third of the total number added were professing Christians who, during the meeting, were taught the way of the Lord more perfectly.