

of our cities are estranged from the churches. It is astonishing that such a notion should ever have gained currency, in the face of the palpable fact that so much money is contributed every year for the support of the churches and the prosecution of their charitable and missionary enterprises.—*The Century*.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

ST. JOHN ITEMS.

CORBURG ST. CHURCH.—Lord's day services at 11 A. M. and 7 P. M. Sunday School at 2.15 P. M. Young People's Meeting, Tuesday evening at 8. General Prayer Meeting, Thursday evening at 8. Brethren visiting the city cordially welcomed. The Ladies' Sewing Society meet every Wednesday evening at 6.

Good audiences and a good interest at all our services.

Bro. Capp presided one evening during the Week of Prayer held by the Y. M. C. A. of this city. He spoke on "Opportunities Improved," basing his remarks on the Conversion of the Eunuch.

Bro. Stevenson and family passed through our city, en route to St. Thomas, Ont. He remained over Lord's day and preached for us.

Bros. Dwyer and Hughes also favored us with a call.

Our Sunday School has just received a very handsome library of 300 volumes from London, Eng.

Our St. John brethren are much pleased with **THE CHRISTIAN**. A goodly number of subscribers have been secured in the city.

Any of our Sunday Schools, wishing to secure a good library at a very low figure can do so by applying to John E. Edwards, "THE CHRISTIAN" Office, St. John, N. B.

Three new meeting-houses in course of erection in New Brunswick.

BACK BAY.

DECEMBER QUARTERLY.—For good and sufficient reasons, which will be easily seen by those who attend, the December Quarterly will not meet till the Friday before the second Lord's day in January, when we hope to see a goodly number of our friends with us.

We expect to open our new house for worship at the Quarterly. Come to the meeting, one and all.

J. A. GATES.

Back Bay, Nov. 17, 1883.

P. S.—Parties coming by the Grand Southern R. R. will please drop me a card, and I will arrange for teams to meet them at St. George.

J. A. G.

NOVA SCOTIA.

NOTES FROM E. C. FORD.

THE first number of **THE CHRISTIAN** came duly to hand, and I am much pleased with its appearance and general make-up, and feel assured that it will be well received by the brotherhood of these Provinces. That we need such a paper is admitted on all sides, and that we have those at the head who are calculated to make it a success will hardly admit of a doubt. Having, then, this new enterprise so favorably launched, let every brother and sister in these Maritime Provinces take hold of it with a will. The Editor is too well known to need a word of commendation. He understands the truth and knows how to present it. The very neat appearance of the paper, and the general make-up of this first issue, assures us that the publishers and those who have this department in charge, will do their part well.

It is to be hoped that our preaching brethren will take a lively interest in this enterprise, both in securing large lists of subscribers, and in assisting to make the paper interesting. But when it comes to writing, like Artemus Ward, I am willing to sacrifice the blood of my most distant relatives to "persecute the war," but I would love to be excused. Bros. Emery and Murray open out well in this first issue. I hope they have not exhausted themselves. I see no good reason why **THE CHRISTIAN** should not be just what we need. Let us all, then, by the blessing of God, do our best to make it such.

I am now spending a few weeks laboring with the brethren in Cornwallis. This church is one of the oldest among our brethren in Nova Scotia. During the last fifteen years it has sustained very heavy losses by death, many of its strong members being thus removed, quite a number right in the prime of life. But there are yet good and faithful ones left to labor and to wait. I spent the month of July laboring in these parts, since which time they have enjoyed a short visit from Bros. T. H. Capp and T. H. Blenus. These brethren preached one Sunday each. The balance of the time the brethren have met regularly for worship, and I am pleased to learn these meetings have been very well attended. Bro. Cyrus Webster, the only elder now in the church, assisted by Bro. J. N. Wood, one of the deacons, has taken the lead, and though he lives some seven miles from the meeting-house is generally found at his place on Lord's day morning. Bro. James A. Wood, who for many years was the only acting elder, has been sick for more than a year, and only to-day has passed to the spirit land. Thus another of the old land-marks has gone. May God raise up faithful men to fill the place of those taken, that the cause of the Master may prosper in this beautiful valley.

Bro. T. F. Dwyer is now preaching for the churches at Westport and Tiverton. He will remain there, at least, till my return. We hope Bro. D. will do good work, and feel encouraged to remain and labor in those parts. There is much need of preaching in Digby Co. Besides the churches at Westport and Tiverton, there are churches at Southville, South Range, and Gulliver. At the last named places there had been but little preaching since Bro. Gates left them.

The church at Westport have provided a very nice home for their preacher, thus taking a long step towards permanency in their work. They have, besides this, a good meeting house, and with faithful work there is no reason why the cause of our Lord should not continue to prosper among them.

At Tiverton we have a nicely finished meeting-house and a good congregation, with at least two-thirds of the community in sympathy with our plea. This is one of the few places where we are orthodox. These brethren are warm-hearted, and with encouragement will do faithful work for the Master.

This communication is, we think, sufficiently long for all it contains, so will close up with the promise that possibly we may be compelled to write again. Cornwallis, Nov. 15th, 1883.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

THE brethren of P. E. Island will be glad to learn that Bro. and Sister Stevenson arrived safely in St. Thomas, Ont., on Friday, Nov. 9th. How long they will remain depends largely upon Sister Stevenson's health. If it does not improve by the summer a doctor has advised them to move to some of the Western States, or to some drier climate. While he seems pleased with the people and country, he has not forgotten his Island friends nor the cause of Christ in their midst. Writing in reference to the recent efforts put forth to get more preachers on the Island appears the following:

"There is nothing that would afford me so much pleasure as to see an evangelist on the Island. I am sure that the church at Montagu feels very lonesome. I have been thinking very much about it of late. I wish the brethren there every success, and hope and pray the Lord may send them a faithful servant to strengthen them. And I hope that **THE CHRISTIAN** may flourish and become a power for good in the land."

In our next issue will appear the names of persons, accompanied with the amounts given for P. E. Island Mission.

PERSONAL.

D. O. THOMAS has left Knightsville, Ind., and will spend the winter in Indianapolis, where his address is 77½ Illinois street.

T. H. BLENUS, of Nova Scotia, has accepted a call from the church at Gordonsville, Va., and has entered upon his labors at that place.

STANDARD TIME.

It may be of interest to some of our readers to have a few words of explanation in reference to the new Standard Time now adopted in the United States and soon to be throughout the Dominion.

The object sought by its adoption is to have, for all business purposes, but one recognized standard of time throughout all the cities and villages within certain given meridians, to do away with much of the inconvenience and annoyance experienced by persons desirous of catching certain trains. How often we have been puzzled to find out the difference of a certain railway time and city time. How often have we walked leisurely along, intending to catch the train, but on arriving at the station we were too late, pulling out our watch would say to some official, "Why, it wants five minutes to the time?" and the reply, "Yes, sir! but yours is city time!"

For this purpose the country has been divided into five grand divisions, each division being bisected by a central meridian, these meridians being equi-distant by 15 degrees, or one hour's time. These divisions will be known as the Intercolonial, Eastern, Central, Mountain and Pacific.

The central meridian of the Eastern Division is the 75th west of Greenwich, and when it is noon, solar time at this meridian, all the time-pieces throughout the States and the Provinces of Canada lying within 7½ degrees on either side of this meridian will point to 12 o'clock.

The time for the Central Division, whose meridian is the 90th, 15 degrees west of the eastern meridian, and consequently one hour nearer the setting sun, will be one hour slower, and this will be true of every time-piece in cities and villages falling within 7½ degrees on either side of the eastern meridian.

The Mountain Division has for its meridian the 105th, which will give the time two hours slower than the Eastern to all the country lying 7½ degrees east and west.

The Pacific has for its meridian the 120th, and will show time three hours slower than that at New York and the East.

The Intercolonial Division, which consists of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and the islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, will be cut by the 60th meridian, and the time will be one hour in advance of the Eastern time.

C.

AD-BRETHREN, if you would have the Department of Church News interesting, you must send along items of interest relating to the church or locality in which you live.