

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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We wish to call special attention to the May Collection for Home Missions. We hope that all our churches and brethren in the Maritime Provinces will contribute.

The Home Mission Board are anxious to send more preachers to these parts. Send a good contribution to J. H. Hardin, Cincinnati, Ohio.

BRO. H. A. DEVOE has resigned his pastorate with the Tiverton church.

OUR brethren are now meeting regularly at Pictou, N. S. Bro. Weaver is preaching for them.

R. W. STEVENSON is doing a grand work for the Lord at Montague, P. E. I. A number of additions are reported.

OUR Evangelist, Bro. Blenus, is doing some successful work at Deer Island. See Home Mission notes and Church news.

KESWICK, N. B.—The brethren there are in earnest. We have seen a plan of their proposed church building. It has a very neat and substantial appearance.

A LARGE number of our subscribers are still owing their subscription. We beg to remind them that the money is overdue. Please send an early remittance to John E. Edwards, Box 56, St. John, N. B.

OUR churches in the provinces are now pretty well supplied with preaching talent. Much good seed is being sown, and we may confidently look to God for the increase. Our prayers should be, that God may give a bountiful harvest. Brethren, let us work and pray to that end.

We want our preaching brethren to do all they can to increase the circulation of our paper.

A person anxiously waiting for a steamer's arrival, sees with great joy the streak of smoke along the horizon, SIGNS OF that tolls of her approach. PROMISE. One who has been watching

through a long, weary night, hails with pleasure the rays of light that tell of the opening day. Those of our members who are interested in Foreign Missions (and who is not?) see in the returns that are coming in from the March collection evidence of progress and interest, and signs that tell of a good time coming. Great efforts were made to put this duty of reaching the heathen in its proper light. Information was scattered in profusion. Preachers and elders and members were urged to have a share in the grandest work of the ages. Every church was requested to give—as every Christian Church should, and every member of every church was, in the appeals sent out, invited to aid in the work. The result has been that many churches that have not before supported the work have been aroused, and no doubt many Christians have this year realized, for the first time, the blessedness of giving to this divine enterprise. The signs are full of promise for this year, and throw rays of brightness into the future that encourage our hearts. But even yet we are but "playing at missions." Not one-half of the churches give anything, and probably one-eighth of the membership gives seven-eighths of the amount contributed. Not until every member, young and old, rich or poor, of every church, gives in proportion to their ability, shall the good time have come for which many have prayed and are praying, and for which the Saviour has waited long, and is still waiting. We are pleased to see that some of our provincial churches have remembered this work, and it is not too late for the others to do likewise. Send to A. McLean, P. O. Box 750, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The strongest man is weak; his powers to benefit the world comparatively small, and his influence very circumscribed. He needs, continually, FELLOW-WORKERS. encouragement and support. His hands become heavy and

he blesses the man who comes to hold them up. He perhaps regards as a messenger of Satan the one who tries to bear them down. Among Christians, particularly, there should be a great deal of mutual helpfulness. Each should seek to aid the other and increase his power to do good. But when a spirit of detraction or of thoughtless or malicious criticism gets abroad, evil is sure to be the outcome; and the Lord's work will necessarily be hindered. It is wise to speak well of

the name of the Lord, and it is not unwise to speak well of his servants if there be anything in them that is commendable. If they be evil and evil continually, if there be no soundness in them from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot, it is better not to advertise their weakness and short comings too much. If their work has been a failure, holding it up to public gaze will not transform it into success. But there are few toilers in the Lord's vineyard who have not met with some success. Blind people do not see it. In every character there can be found elements of goodness; and those who cannot find them may in many cases be like the vultures, on the outlook only for carrion. It is much better to look for the good in men and in their work than the evil. It is more Christ-like to try to aid than to hinder, to try to raise up than to drag down. And anyone who tries to injure the influence of one who is seeking, in his own humble way to do good, or who tries to throw a cloud over his reputation, is doing the devil's work whether he realizes it or not, and with his fellow-servants shall in due time receive his reward.

Another call is being made on the churches in the United States and Canada, and this time it is for Home Missions.

HOME MISSIONS. The Home Mission Board, during the past year, has been able to assist many weak churches and establish others that, in a short time, are expected to be self-sustaining. But they had to refuse numerous calls for aid, and the consequences are that many inviting and promising fields have been neglected, and some weak churches have been brought to the door of death. A few no doubt have entered in. In these cases the verdict is not suicide, but neglect; and the neglect is not chargeable to the Board, but to the churches that failed to give a timely aid in answer to the many loud calls for help. The brethren whom the churches have asked to direct this Home Mission work cannot expend money that they do not receive. They could judiciously lay out one million dollars this year if they had it. The secretary of this Board—J. H. Hardin, whom so many of our brethren in these provinces know—has been working like a hero in order that the annual collection this year may enable them not only to carry on the work they are now doing, but to push out into new fields—and of these there is an unlimited number. There are large cities, some sections of which need the gospel as much as Pekin. There are country districts of wide extent where the gospel is seldom or never heard. Dr. Strong's "New