

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

Vol. VI.—No. 8.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., JUNE, 1889.

Whole No. 69

The Christian.

Published monthly, by Barnes & Co., under the auspices of the Home Mission Board of the Disciples of Christ of the Maritime Provinces.

TERMS: - 50 Cents Per Annum in Advance.

All communications, intended for publication, to be addressed:

"THE CHRISTIAN,"

P. O. Box 106,
St. John, N. B.

EDITOR:

DONALD CRAWFORD, - - - NEW GLASGOW, P. E. I.

CO-EDITOR:

T. H. CAPP, - - - - - St. JOHN, N. B.

FINANCIAL MANAGER:

J. E. EDWARDS, - - - - - St. JOHN, N. B.

Word reaches us that Bro. A. Ellmore is expected in these parts on or about the first of July next.

BRO. J. A. GATES writes that the Quarterly Meeting will be held with the church at Southville, on June 21st, at which time their new meeting house will be opened for public worship. A kind invitation to brethren and friends to attend the meeting accompanies the foregoing statement.

WITH this issue commences a series of articles from the pen of our aged Bro. Joseph Ash, of Rodney, Ontario, in which he will place in contrast the religious orthodoxy of fifty or sixty years ago with that of the present day. Our brother is 81 years of age and fully capable of presenting in a kind, loveable but forcible manner the subject as here intimated.

WE ask, as a favour, all those of our subscribers who are indebted to THE CHRISTIAN to make immediate payment. All our accounts have to be paid monthly, and we depend upon our subscribers to enable us to do so. Each subscriber can tell how much they owe by referring to their address label. Every subscriber should be paid up to the end of 1889 as our terms are in advance. If there is no agent where you live send by P. O. Order or registered letter to the Financial Manager, P. O. Box 106, St. John, N. B.

HAVING seen a notice in some of the secular papers that Bro. Clarke Braden, of Abington, Ill., was to visit Halifax during the latter part of June, we wrote to Bro. Messervoy a letter of inquiry and received in reply: "Yes, he is coming and will be here the last week in June. How long he will remain depends on the success attending his efforts. It will take nine evenings to give his course of lectures."

BRO. W. F. HUGHES has at last passed over the line that separates time from eternity. Something over two months since he came to St. John in a feeble state of health—still it was thought that with careful nursing he might rally and live for a year or two longer. Shortly after his arrival in the city he called at the store of our well known Bro. Christie, and being invited home to dinner accepted and went. He stayed that afternoon and evening—and feeling so much at home he wanted

to know if they would allow him to tarry until able to return to Deer Island. Brother and Sister Christie thinking it would be but for a week or two said, yes. But week after week passed away, and with occasional visits from the doctors and the kindest attention of Sister Christie there appeared, now and again, marked signs of improvement; but towards the last he suffered intense pain, and he prayed earnestly that God would take him from this house of clay. A short time (two or three days) before his death, when the doctor was examining and looking somewhat anxiously at him, Bro. Hughes said, Doctor, do you think I'll recover, you need not be afraid to tell, I have no fears—for lo, these many years, my peace has been made with God.

On Monday night (May 27th) about nine o'clock our aged brother passed quietly away—in his 86th year. And on Wednesday morning his remains were taken to St. George and from there to Letete—where but a few weeks before he preached his last public sermon. At Letete, Bros. George Leonard and George Richardson, of Deer Island, were there with a boat, and by the assistance of some of the Letete brethren we were soon sailing toward the Island—where we arrived a little after 4 P. M. The friends having been telegraphed to had everything in readiness, so that by a little after five o'clock his remains were placed as he directed—by the side of his wife who died about eighteen months ago.

We have some items concerning his life which we purposed publishing, but at this writing they are not to be found.

BE YE READY.—Death comes to us in so many ways and at unexpected times that we need ever to be ready. During the past week the world has been shocked with the sad calamity that has fallen upon the towns and villages of the Conemaugh Valley. The facts seem to be the following: About sixteen miles above Johnstown, where two mountains come together forming a somewhat narrow valley, was an artificial lake, formed by earth works, reaching far up the side of one mountain and then across the valley to the side of the mount opposite. The dam at the base about 90 feet, at the top 20, height 110; while across the valley it measured 1,000 feet. The recent rains upon the mountain had swollen the water of the lake, so that until it was about three miles long, a mile wide and about seventy feet deep. On Friday (May 3d) about 4 o'clock in the afternoon the dam gave way, and the water leaping from and through its prison walls in an indescribable manner went rushing down the valley carrying everything before it. With scarcely a moment's warning the town of South Fork (four miles from the dam), with its 20,000 inhabitants was no more. Mineral Point (eight miles) and its 800 people were swept away. Conemaugh, with its 2,500; Woodvale, with 2,000, and then Johnstown, with Cambra and Conemaughborough, with a total population of 20,000 shared the same fate. The loss of property will run up into millions of dollars, while the loss of life is estimated to be between twelve and thirteen thousand. The heroic acts of some in their attempts to save their fellow beings make them worthy of the highest honors; while others, by reason of rapine and mutilation of the dead for the sake of gold, merit the severest penalty that can be inflicted. The heart rendering scene at the time of the disaster and immediately after is beyond description. While our hearts go out in sympathy for the bereaved and suffering, let us thank God that no such calamity has visited our homes; at the same be ready for the time when a greater calamity will come upon those not prepared.

N. B. AND N. S. MISSION BOARD.

RECEIPTS.

Coburg St. S. S. school, St. John, N. B., \$10 30
Y. P. Mission Band, " " 1 20

EDUCATIONAL.

James Flaglor, St. John, N. B., \$1 00
A. D. M. Boyne, " " 50
J. J. Christie, " " 5 00

Total, \$18 00
T. H. CAPP,
Treasurer.

Miscellaneous.

Dear Mr. Editor: A copy of the May number of THE CHRISTIAN having fallen into my hands I noticed some comments, in the notes from Choccolate Cove, on a sermon preached by me on the subject of Christian Baptism. Would you allow me through THE CHRISTIAN to say that if the report is of the sermon preached by me in the above named place I am misrepresented throughout, as the statements attributed to me were never made in that place. If Bro. Burr is reporting the sermon preached by me at Leonardville, I denounce most emphatically having made the statement that "immersion was indecent," and that "I did not care what Paul said," the other statement is near enough the truth of what was said to pass. As I was not hard up for argument that was the only thing said that could be regarded as even bordering on ridicule. I did not preach the sermon to influence any one to be sprinkled, as the two referred to had already decided to be poured.

As Bro. B. and I have been on the best of terms since he came to the island, I regret that he found it necessary to, in this way, publicly misrepresent me. By giving this a place in your paper you will oblige, etc.,
W. B. THOMAS.
Deer Island.

NOTES.

It is said that first impressions are the best. I know that my first impression after reaching Summerside, P. E. I., was very favorable, for the first man that I met was a Murray; then one, two, three Linkletters. Those who know these brethren will know that I was well cared for. My first night I spent with Bro. Murray, of course; the second night with Bro. Isaac Linkletter, and the third night with Bro. Beattie. Taking these as a fair representative of the Island brethren I very naturally received the best impressions concerning the kind, sociable and hospitable qualities of the brethren on this island.

I remained in Summerside over Lord's day, preaching morning and evening. I was well pleased with the congregation. One very fine feature of this church, and let every church make a note of it, was the remaining of the brethren after the close of the meeting to get acquainted. One who is a stranger in a strange land among strangers feels very strange when the brethren act strangely. But when they give you a good warm shake of the hand you receive a blessing that will never be lost and the blessing never forgotten. The following