

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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P. O. Box 56
St. JOHN, N. B.

EDITOR:

DONALD CRAWFORD, —New GLASGOW, P.E.I.

OFFICE EDITOR:

HENRY W. STEWART, - - St. JOHN, N. B.

ARE our churches planning for a great work during the winter? Great success is not an accident.

THERE is still a cry for more church news. Nothing that goes into the paper seems to be more desired than this.

WE are glad to know of the good work done by some of our boys in Kentucky during their vacation. You will find the news in another column.

MANY subscribers made our hearts glad last month by paying their subscriptions. We thank them for their promptness. We are anxiously waiting to hear from those who have not yet paid. Are you among them?

THE paper on Missionary Extension, by Sister Freeman, Milton, which we published last month, was read at the annual meeting in Halifax; as also was the paper by Sister Ethel McDougall, West Gore, which we publish this month.

WHAT does "Nov. '96" on the address label on your paper mean? That you have paid one year in advance. What does "Nov. '94" mean? That you are one year behind. What does "Jan '90" mean? That you have paid nothing since that date, and owe for more than five years. What is the date on your paper?

WE give considerable space to the New England meeting at Lubec, because many of our readers live in New England and desire to know what was done; and also because the brethren in these provinces have the same desire. We are near neighbors, doing the same kind of work in the face of like difficulties.

The *Missionary Intelligencer* for October is an historical number. It tells about the organization of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society in 1875, and shows how the work has grown. Portraits of Isaac Errett,

W. F. Moore, B. B. Tyler, C. L. Loos, J. H. Garrison, W. S. Dickinson, and others, are given. It is a valuable number.

BRO. J. E. EDWARDS, who has been the financial manager of THE CHRISTIAN since the first issue, and to whom its financial success in large measure has been due, has tendered his resignation. We regret that circumstances are such that he feels unable to act any longer. The office editor will act as financial manager until some one else is appointed. Will those who send in the names of new subscribers, or pay their own subscriptions, please address their letters to THE CHRISTIAN, Box 106, St. John, N. B.

At the Association in Charlottetown in July, a committee was appointed to consider ways and means for carrying

A GOOD MOVE. on home mission work on the Island. It was thought an evangelist could be secured and

supported by the churches, especially as some of them were without regular preaching. At the annual meeting in Halifax, the matter of union of the three provinces in home mission work was brought up, and a committee appointed to meet with the Island committee on the subject. A joint meeting was held in Charlottetown in September, at which Bro. D. Crawford, O. B. Emery, Thos. Beattie, Theo. McDonald, M. Stevenson, R. W. Stevenson, and H. W. Stewart were present. After considering the matter, those present signified their approval of the contemplated union, believing that under the circumstances it is very desirable; and the question is to be presented to the Association of the Island churches, at Lot 48, in July, for their approval. If the three provinces should unite on home mission work, we believe that they would find no difficulty in supporting an evangelist, and a good one, all the time. By carrying the work on prudently and prayerfully, we think that soon two good men could be put into the field, and before many years there could be one for each province. With this union in mission work, there would naturally come a Maritime Convention of the Disciples of Christ, meeting sometimes on P. E. Island, sometimes in Nova Scotia, and sometimes in New Brunswick, but the general meeting for these provinces would not interfere with the Association that has become so time-honored on P. E. Island. It could be held yearly as usual, though we presume it would not be held in those years in which the general convention would meet on the Island. We hope those interested will consider this subject carefully, and be enabled to act wisely at the Association when the matter comes up.

A word of cheer costs little, but may be of untold value. Many a toiler has been so discouraged that it seemed useless

A WORD OF CHEER. for him longer to continue, but just as the last spark of hope was dying, a helpful word was spoken, hope blazed again, strength seemed to come to the fainting heart, the work was resumed and carried on to a glorious issue. The word showed that the worker was not alone, others saw his labors and were interested in his success. They were anxious to see him win, and this made him anxious. Most people have their struggles here, and many a time defeat seems to be inevitable. All have temptations, and many feel that they are fighting a losing battle. Who does not have sorrows to bear which seem to mock his strength? A word of cheer to such an one is worth more than an ocean of sympathy that never reaches and soothes the soul. Look at a boy struggling upward from poverty and ignorance. He meets undreamed of difficulties, but a word of encouragement gives him strength to push on. It is cruel to withhold it. See the young Christian whose feet have begun to tread the heavenly way. Often his heart sinks within him. The attractions of the world are so many and so great, and his strength to resist so small. He is tempted at times to give up the struggle. It is then he needs the word that causes him to gird up his loins and press along. Blessed is the one who speaks it. See the down-hearted preacher who has failed because the church has failed to help him. He had no hearty co-operation, and in consequence no spirit to work. He heard sometimes words of criticism, but never words of cheer. A little encouragement would have made a new man of him. It would improve his sermons, brighten his social nature, and make him work with a will. Many a church who desired a new preacher has found him in the one they had. Encouragement made the change.

There is a great deal of Christian union talk in the air, and no little disunion work on the earth. The great danger is to be afraid of AFRAID OF UNION. nominations seem to be afraid, not that their young people will lose their hold on Christ, but that they will become less sectarian and more fraternal in spirit. The denominations say kind words about one another and loud ones about the importance of duty, and then set themselves to the task of keeping the dividing fences in good repair. The Christian Endeavor movement was breaking down fences everywhere, the young people were