

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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ST. JOHN, N. B.

EDITOR:

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

OFFICE EDITOR:

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

NOTES AND NEWS.

Owing to the amount of space taken up in the last CHRISTIAN by the account of the annual meeting, we have on hand several contributions for which we cannot find room in this issue. We hope to give them a place next month.

The long winter evenings are hastening on. Are you planning to get some helpful books to be read aloud around the fireside? In the country the winter is about the only time that brings with it the leisure for much of this kind of profitable enjoyment.

Wanted for the next CHRISTIAN. What? Church news from every church in the Maritime Provinces. Give us that and we will give you a paper that will be full of interest not only to our home readers, but to those of our number who have gone to the United States.

Not long since Bro. Zachary, of Lexington, Ky., held a debate with a sectarian preacher at Akin, Ill. Of course both sides claim the victory. But evidently it was with Bro. Z., for after the debate he held a four-days' meeting with 51 additions, 39 by baptism and 12 from the denomination represented by his opponent.

Attention is directed to the tracts advertised on the last page. They are cheap enough for general distribution and interesting enough to command a careful reading. The one on "Heathenism" gives a vivid picture of horrible Chinese scenes. It is well for people in Christian lands to sometimes see how highly favored they are when compared with the inhabitants of heathen lands.

The annual convention of the Disciples of Christ in New England, will be held with the church in Worcester, Mass., October 2-4, 1896. Among those who have place on the programme are: Harry Minnick, R. H. Bolton, E. T. Edmunds, W. A. Belding, B. H. Hayden, and many others. There are to be papers on Home and Foreign Missions; Christian Giving, How and Why; and the importance of the Christian Press. We hope for a report of this meeting from Bro. Minnick.

It was a happy thought of the churches at the convention at West Gore, to select a number of brethren who would try to perfect means by which more of our literature shall be put into the hands of those in the provinces who are in sympathy with our plea and also those who are unacquainted with it. We look for gratifying results from this movement if it obtains the financial support which its merits demand.

We want to greatly increase the number of our subscribers. We can do so if our present readers will assist us. If you know of any one who would likely become a subscriber send us the name and address and we will mail him a sample copy. Or better still: When renewing your subscription pay for a paper to be sent for a year to some friend whom you will name. Some of our readers do that.

We see that the churches in New York state have determined to secure an evangelist who shall work with present congregations and enter new fields. They expect to get Bro. B. B. Tyler for this work. He will understand the needs and opportunities of the east and we hope to see him eminently successful in the evangelistic field. No one church could support him in this work but all co-operating can. It would be folly for the churches to refuse to act together; folly for any one to hold aloof.

St. John has recently been visited by a number of prominent Unitarian women. Their ostensible purpose was the advancement of women, but they seemed to be as much, or more, interested in the advancement of Unitarianism. At any rate they sought to give that unchristian system a boom. For refined infidelity commend us to Unitarianism. It is as cold as the North Pole, if not as poisonous as the upas tree. Let us be thankful that a system that denies the divinity of Jesus, and puts heathen philosophers by the side of the Son of God, is losing its hold where it was once most firmly rooted.

Would it be wise for the Churches in N. B., N. S. and P. E. I. to obtain a large tent, and during the summer months go into communities where we are unknown and present what we regard as the only feasible and scriptural basis of Christian union? We could thus secure a hearing that we perhaps otherwise could not obtain. With a tent, an able man, a good singer, and, most important of all, the old-fashioned gospel, great and lasting good could be done. There would, perhaps, at first be a prejudice against a tent, but that would pass away. This matter is worth thinking about.

Springfield, Illinois, is the meeting place of the National conventions of the Disciples of Christ in the United States, and October 16-23 the date. We think the Home Mission Board, which is aiding the work in Halifax and in Pictou, will be able to report more money raised and more work done than during the preceding year. The contributions

to foreign missions have largely increased and we hope to learn that the \$100,000 line has been reached. We will expect an account of this meeting from Bro. W. F. Shaw, Walnut, Ill. Will he please take notice and notes.

Some of our subscribers want to know to whom they should send money for their subscriptions to the CHRISTIAN. It is best to send it to Henry W. Stewart, Box 56, St. John, N. B., who will credit it on the books and send a receipt to the remitter. This advice is of course, intended for those only who cannot pay through an agent. There is a list of agents on the eighth page. Before the new year comes we expect to send bills to all in arrears, and our labors will be much lightened if those who are behind with their subscriptions, will pay up before that time.

One of the most worthy of the many appeals now being made to the churches is that in behalf of ministers who have given their lives to building up the kingdom of Christ, but who now in their old age and infirmities, find themselves without support; also in behalf of widows and orphans of ministers who are left unprovided for. The churches must be ungrateful indeed if these appeals do not awaken a hearty and prompt response. But we fear, from the way A. M. Atkinson, Wabash, Ind., the treasurer of the fund, writes, that the responses are neither numerous nor generous.

Bro. Martin, of Montague, P. E. I., has entered the College of the Bible, Lexington, Ky. We wish him and all our other young men who are studying for the ministry great success. Some of them will complete their course this school year. Will not some of our preacherless churches give them employment and ample remuneration? It is not because our young men do not want to come back that they do not return. It is more likely because the churches want them to make all the sacrifices. That is too much for any church to ask. The churches that will not make sacrifices for themselves should not expect preachers to make sacrifices for them.

We see by the *New England Messenger* that the Union Committee, appointed by the Disciples of Christ, of New England, and the Churches of God, of Maine, met at Searsport, Me., Aug. 31st, 1896. Both recognize that in the Christian system Christ is central and supreme. Both accept the word of God as their guide in matters of faith and practice, calling Bible things by Bible names. There are some differences which it is recommended should be adjusted so that both may ultimately become "one body in Christ Jesus." Great harmony prevailed and it is hoped that great good may come from the conference. The committees are going slowly, and some times that is the best way to go. We will watch with interest these efforts to come to "the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace."