THE CHRISTIAN.

February, 1897.

Home Mission Lotes.

IN DEBT!

Such is the condition of our fund on Feb. 1st What are you going to do about it?.

When the brethren at the annual meeting passed resolutions telling our Board to pay the grants to Halifax, Pictou and Portland, they believed they were doing what was best for the cause in the provinces. Besides they said these places needed help and were worthy.

We talk about union; let us practice it more. Surely all can agree to back up the request of the annual meeting. If it is found to be unwise more wisdom can be displayed at our next meeting. Remember one thing, that the Board is only trying to carry out the wishes of the brotherhood as expressed at our most representative gathering.

We hope that no one will be disloyal to the call for more funds to keep up the preaching and worship at the points mentioned. To fail them now would be like lifting a man up high in order that he might fall farther and be fatally injured. You can injure the churches by simply folding your hands and saying "as for me and my house we will not help."

Let us act like full grown men in this matter and not as children at play. Let us be loyal, let us be liberal, and above all let us love one another.

"We share our mutual wees, Our mutual burdens bear."

Bro. Hines has requested that his contribution of \$12 should go towards the expenses of the meeting at Gulliver's Cove. His request has been complied with. This is in addition to the \$14 collected at the meeting.

Any church in N. S, N. B. or P. E. Island who desires a special meeting to be held, if they will correspond with the Secretary can secure one of our preachers who will rely on the church for whatever suppert they can raise. This brother has the time and disposition and ability so that you ne.d not be backward in asking for his services. Apply at once for further particulars if you want a meeting.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,		\$245	22
Leonardville, per Wm Kay,			00
Dorchester. Mass, S. Nelson,			50
St. John, Mission Band,	· · ·	5	06
Milton, per M G. Freeman,	• • • •	2	32
Picton, R. E. Stevens,	• • • •	5	00
" per "	• • • •	9	00

\$268 10

J. S. FLAGLOR, Secretary.

Post Office, St. John.

II. G. Weaver of Reading, Pa, a Congregationalist with considerable experience in pastoral and evangelistic work, becoming tired of denominationalism decided to take the Word of God as his only rule of faith and practice. In carrying on his investigations he found himself coming into accord with the Disciples of Christ; and after a brief correspondence concerning our position, he decided that we were indeed on apostolic ground. He now goes forth to plead for primitive Christianity, its doctrines, its ordinances, and its fruits.

foreign Missions.

Maritime C. W. B. M. Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God.

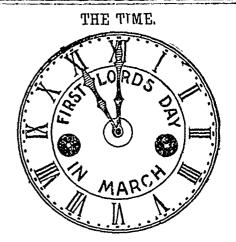
DEAR SISTERS—I have some extracts from a letter received from Sister Rioch a few days ago, which I am sure you will all be glad to see. MRS. J. S. FLAGLOR.

"When I first came up here to Akita and after getting rested from the journey I felt much better in this fine bracing air, and went right into work and study, though the Doctor toid me I should not; but I did, and the result is a relapse. So now I have had to drop everything, even reading and writing. I am able to go out every day for awhile. On, it just hurts me to think of being laid aside now, just when I could go out and hold meetings, and the need is so great here. Much more so than in Tokio. Tokio had many workers, but here our nearest mission neighbors are 100 miles away. We are the only Christians among a million of people. Is Japan not nearly Christianized, you ask 3

How did I first realize that I must be a missionary, you ask? Two months before I decided to go I had no such thought, although I had always been interested in missions. Many things influenced me in that direction, but I was not conscious of them at the time. One day a thought took poss-ession of me. It was this. Why don't you go? I tried to get away from the idea. I said, "Me, of all persons, to go as a mission-ary." Nevertheless, I could not shake it off. It stared me in the face wherever I wentwhatever I did. I was troubled. I did not want to go. I worked harder than ever to drown the thought; but to no purpose. For a month or more I fought this conviction. At last, when I was almost desperate, I heard a sermon that decided me. The text was, "He that having put his hand to the plough and looketh back, is not fit for the kingdom of God." That evening the battle was fought and won, though there have been many others to fight that I did not know of then; but it is a long story. The way was opened up. The only hindrance in my way was self. But thanks be to God who has made me to conquer through the strength of Christ. There were no family or any other ties that could bind me to America, and so I came as could bind me to America, and so 1 came as a missionary. Am I happy? Yes. There is no happiress for any of us, unless we go in the path that God wills. That I might always be willing to follow, is a constant prayer of mine. I long for the time when I shall have such faith in Him that I shall always be able to say, "Thy will be done." Lovingly, MARY M. RIOCH.

WOMEN'S WORK.

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OFFERING FOR FORLIGN MISSIONS. SOMETHING OF INTEREST.

PUPIL -- What is the March Offering ? TEACHER. -An offering by the churches for Foreign Missions. P.-When is it taken ? T.-The first Lord's day in March. P.-What churches are requested to observe it ? T.-All the Churches of Christ everywhere on earth. P .- How many churches have we in this country? T .- At least 7,200. P .-How many contributed last year? T .-- The number was 2,459. P .--- Why did not the others give? T.—I am unable to say. P.— What was the average contribution of the 2,459 churches? T.—The average was \$16. 2.459 churches? T.—The average was \$16. P.—How many missionaries have we in for-eign lands. T.—We have 144 including the native helpers. P.—How much did the Foreign Christian Missionary Society receive last year? T.—The receipts amounted to \$93,367.21. P.—How much are we expected to raise this year? T.—At least \$100,000. P.—Why this amount? T.—Because we have lately sent out air new missionaries have lately sent out six new missionaries, because all the missions we now have need to be strengthened, and because we are to enter Africa in a few weeks to plant a mission in this new field. P.-How many members have we in this country? T.-About one million. P.—How many gave anything last year? T.—About 125,000, having 875,000 who gave absolutely nothing. P.—What can be done to enlist a larger number? T.— More preachers and official boards must be first enlisted. P.—Are not all the preachers interested in Foreign Missions? T.—Not exceeding a thousand preachers took an active interest in the March offering last year. P.-How many preachers have we in this country ? About six thousand. P .- Is there a larger percentage of churches practically interested in this work than preachers? T.-Much larger. And some churches take the offering in spite of the indifference and opposition of the preacher. But it must be remembered that the 1,000 interested preachers have educated and enlisted the churches that are now giving. If we could double the number of interested preachers this year, we would go far beyond \$100,000 in the receipts. Each live, active preacher may be dependent upon to enlist from one to four or five churches. The preachers are the chief support of the work. P.—Is there a growing interest in the work. T.—Yes, indeed. The number of contributing churches has been about trebled in the past five years, and the annual receipts have increased about \$35,-600 during the same time. P.-To whom should this offering be sent? T.-To F. M. Rains, Treasarer, Box 750, Cincinnati, Ohio. who will promptly send a receipt for the same.

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