

THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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The Christian.

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THIS number begins the ninth volume of THE CHRISTIAN. In its first number it claimed to advocate Christianity and it alone. It contended that men and women can, by the grace of God, become Christians and enjoy the full blessings of His salvation without becoming sectarians of any kind; and that a church can be a church of Christ without being a sectarian church, and its members can hold fast the faith of the Gospel independent of any humanly formulated creed in Christendom. It still advocates the same.

It pleads for the name of Christ, for the Spirit of Christ, for the church of Christ and for the word of Christ. What Christ has done in His death and resurrection to save the world, and what He has said in His last message of love and mercy to all the world, THE CHRISTIAN labors constantly to let all the world hear and understand that they may be saved by Him. That the saved may grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus, THE CHRISTIAN is constantly bringing before its readers Bible subjects, especially the teaching of Jesus, on prayer and other matters of vital importance, and it strives to encourage such discussions as lead to Godly edifying rather than to strife or vain glory.

THE CHRISTIAN has been greatly encouraged. Correspondents have come to its aid, both in reporting church news and other useful information, and contributing useful scriptural articles for its columns. Subscribers and agents have worked to keep up its expenses. We feel thankful for this and would ask all to kindly continue to do what they can for it.

We have assurance, increasing every year, that THE CHRISTIAN is doing good, and in more ways than one. This cheers us in our efforts to keep it up, not knowing but our time and work may close together. D. C.

A TELEGRAM from Bro. Stewart, from his home, Southport, P. E. I., brings to us the sad news of the death of his mother, which took place on the evening of the 21st ult. We sympathize deeply with our Bro. in his sorrow. May the consolations of the glorious gospel sustain the sorrowing family in their sore affliction.

WHAT WE WANT.

We want to improve THE CHRISTIAN.
We want you to suggest how this can best be done.

We want to raise its voice so it can be heard afar off.

We want a paper that learned and unlearned will delight to read.

We want a strong, active, progressive and aggressive paper, dealing death blows to sectarianism, the rum power and wickedness wherever found.

We want all our preaching brethren and all others to write brief, pointed, startling items that will hit the nail on the head instead of on the finger.

We want church news, religious items that will be of general interest, discussion of important themes, some readable and representative articles on the peculiarities of our plea.

We want to double the number of subscribers.

We want several in every congregation to help us by writing for it, talking it up, getting subscribers.

ITEMS AND NEWS.

HAVE you said a good word for THE CHRISTIAN to your friends?

SPECIAL attention is directed to the series of articles on "The Disciples of Christ," written by our esteemed editor, Bro. Crawford. They are well worth a careful reading.

THE devil is seeking to make sin appear respectable. Look out for that sin which does not appear exceedingly sinful.

BRO. WALLACE is still preaching in Hants Co., N. S. Twelve have obeyed the gospel at West Gore. Bro. Wallace is now conducting a series of meetings at East Rawdon.

We seldom mention any of the "good words" that come to us from our subscribers, but we get lots of them. Here is a specimen from a Brother in New York State: "I like the paper; enclosed is a dollar; send me two copies." These are the kind of "puffs" we want.

BRO. H. MURRAY has commenced a series of meetings at Sheffield's Mills, N. S., under direction of the Home Mission Board.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—We shall shortly send out bills to those of our subscribers who are in arrears. Hundreds of dollars ought to be paid in by those who have simply neglected it. We need the money now. Brethren, please take the hint. Send your remittance to J. E. EDWARDS, Box 106, St. John, N. B.

BRO. GORDINIER has been preaching during the past month at Letete and Back Bay, N. B. These churches have been without a preacher for some months. We trust that Bro. Gordinier's labors may result in awakening a greater interest among these brethren.

THE printing press which Voltaire set up in Ferney to demolish Christianity is now used to print Bibles in Geneva.

ARITHMETIC FOR CHRISTIANS.—If you gave to God in proportion as He gives to you, how much would you give?

If God gave to you in proportion as you give to Him, how much would you get?

IT'S POSSIBLE — That a work begun in obscurity may end in eternity.

STRANGE, BUT TRUE. — To be good is to be great, no matter how obscure you may be.

We have received the report of the Foreign Missionary Society, submitted at the annual convention held at Allegheny City, Pa.

The report from the foreign fields are very encouraging.

China reports a net gain of 25 members.	
Japan " " 66 "	
India " " 11 "	
Turkey " " 27 "	
Scandinavia " " 10 "	

Total present membership of churches sustained by the board, 1,726. Receipts from all sources during the year, \$67,556.50.

Our space this month only allows us to give this brief abstract from the very excellent report of the work done by the society during the past year.

The following is a summary of the report of the General Christian Missionary Society for Home Missions:

Number of Missionaries and agents for whole or part time,.....	61
Number of days' labor,.....	15,796
Number of sermons and addresses,.....	7,890
Number of conversions,.....	1,287
Number of accessions by letter,.....	914
Number of other accessions,.....	548
Number of churches visited and assisted,.....	181
Number of new places visited,.....	82
Number of churches organized,.....	26
Total amount raised, \$37,413 43.	

We have had Pan-Anglican Synods; we have had Pan Presbyterian Councils; last summer the first International Congregational Council was held in London, and now we have the second in the series of Ecumenical Methodist Conferences. What do these large world-gatherings indicate if not the growing spirit of Protestant unity? Many may despair of the final unification of all Protestant bodies. There does not seem to be much likelihood that the four points proposed by the Protestant Episcopal Church will be accepted in the near future, but something practical in the direction of Christian unity—if not Christian union—is more than likely to grow out of these great international gatherings. There is a great work in Christian unification needing to be done between the members of the various denominational families. The consolidation of Presbyterian branches, of Methodist branches, of Baptist branches, must come before the ultimate question of the union of Protestant bodies can become a real, practical question. So many branches of the Presbyterian persuasion imply a waste, a wanton division. Methodists and Baptists have multiplied their denominational families excessively; and it is one of the great uses of the periodical meeting of such a conference as that in Washington to show how needless and how harmful such divisions are.—Independent.

That is the kind of doctrine the Disciples of Christ have been teaching for about seventy years. It is gratifying now to realize that the religious world is beginning to acknowledge its truth.