

# THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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## The Christian.

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ONLY 50 CENTS.—OUR subscription list is not as large as it should be. Brethren who have friends and relatives abroad can benefit them and us by sending them THE CHRISTIAN for one year at least.

H. A. DEVOR has moved his home from Tiverton to South Range, Digby Co., N. S.

BRO. T. F. WEAVER has removed to Halifax, N. S., for the purpose of attending Dalhousie College.

BRO. WM. MURRAY is visiting at Milton, N. S. There is some talk of his taking the work at Summerville.

BRO. FULLERTON is very anxious to commence the work in Pictou, N. S. More good workers are wanted for the provinces.

BRO. T. H. BLENUS spent one Lord's day in St. John during the past month and preached three times. Bro. B is a pleasing and fluent speaker, and his sermons were well received.

Brethren who have aided the work in Halifax will be rejoiced to know that Bro. Shaw and wife are now located there, and have entered into the work. We trust that their efforts may be greatly blessed.

SOME of our best churches in New Brunswick and P. E. Island are without preachers. This is a loss to the work in the provinces. Our churches should make every effort to have a worthy laborer to hold forth the Word of Life.

OUR preaching brethren should see that each church should send a report of what is being done by them each month. This was one of the objects we had in publishing THE CHRISTIAN. We hope our preaching brethren will look after this important matter.

MORE interest in working for THE CHRISTIAN means more work for Christ in our midst. The P. E. Island and the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia churches have been largely helping to spread the gospel through the earnings of THE CHRISTIAN. We trust our friends will remember this, and help increase its circulation.

During the past year the churches (or rather some of the churches) in N. S. and N. B. have sown some dollars in the United States, and each one has multiplied itself three times, and has come home again. That certainly was a good increase. For the \$81.10 which the churches sent to the General Christian Missionary Society, \$250 have been received from them for the provincial work. It is no wonder, then, that at the annual meeting at Milton it was resolved that we continue to co-operate with those who have helped us so liberally, and that each church be recommended to take up one collection during the year for the work of that society. This resolution and this recommendation were passed last year, but were not acted upon with that heartiness which should have been displayed. Only \$81.10 were raised by all the churches, and of this small amount \$65 were given by two churches, leaving only \$16.10 to embrace the total contributions of all the other churches. Some of the churches did not take up the collection, and some gave a very small amount in comparison with what they could have given for this work. Surely we should all have confidence in the American Board, when we see that they gave to us three times as much as we sent to them. When a farmer finds that a piece of land is particularly productive, he values it the more highly and tills it with greater care. Let us sow bountifully that we may reap bountifully. If they see that we are really in earnest in this matter of co-operation—and they will properly measure our earnestness by the number of churches contributing, and the amounts given by them—there is no doubt concerning their willingness to treat us even more liberally than they have hitherto done. If our churches fail to show an interest in the general work, we need not be surprised if the General Board refuses to help us. Nothing but a short-sighted, suicidal policy will prevent our churches from taking up this annual collection. Cast thy bread upon the waters.

**Giving and Receiving.**

Good resolutions may be passed and wise recommendations made, but unless they are followed by the corresponding

**Quarterly Collections.** act, it were better that they had no existence. When a resolution was passed at Milton, that the Sunday-schools be requested to take up quarterly collections for home missions, we believe a wise step was taken, and that every church will do well to act upon this request. We certainly want to see the work advance in these provinces. We want to see the present churches built up and new and flourishing ones established. We want to see an evangelist among us (and we would be glad to see two or three) in order that there may be a great advance movement. But this cannot be without money. We may talk as we please about money, but the one thing that is needed that the world may be won for Christ is money. The gospel is here and men are ready to carry it throughout the world, but how can they go unless they be sent? And money is needed to spread the work here. The amount of effort put forth by the Home Mission Board will depend upon the money forwarded to them by the churches. It is wise to enlist the Sunday-

schools in this matter. The hope of the future is in the young people of to-day; and if they can be interested in this work, the outlook for the future is bright. An annual collection would not have the educative influence that is desirable, and monthly collections would come with wearying frequency. To have them quarterly seems to be best. Every school, even the smallest, can do this, and if the superintendents and teachers, together with the officers of the churches, decide to follow the recommendation made at Milton, there can be no doubt but the amount contributed for home missions during this year will be in excess of what was given in former years.

Another resolution passed at Milton, was to the effect that we, as individuals, seek to increase the amount given for home missions. It is an easy matter to request other people to do something, but a resolution that comes home, and puts self to work, is one, which, if acted upon, promises the very best results. And why should not this one be acted on, not only by those who at the meeting pledged themselves to it, but also by every disciple in these provinces? It is certainly in the line of duty. A person can increase the contributions by giving more himself. And there the first effort should be made. Think of any one urging another to give when he himself gives nothing! We are sometimes more willing to draw dollars from the pockets of others than to take them from our own; and we are often more willing to pray than to pay. How different from the man who, when asked to pray for the spread of the truth, said, "I must give something first." He wanted to help fulfil his prayers. There is no law compelling a Christian to give sparingly to the Lord. Some seem to be under a false impression, like the sick man who gave a very small sum to a most worthy object, saying as he gave, "Well, there's the widow mite." The mite was there, but there was no widow. If he had given her mite he should have given all, for the mite was her all. Give first; then seek to get others to do likewise. Speak to them of the work that has been done, and of the open doors. Show them the importance of going up at once and entering in, and demonstrate the impossibility of doing this without enlarged resources. Make clear to them the importance of their doing something, of doing all they can and of doing it at once. Take an interest in the quarterly collection in the Sunday-school. Use your influence to have it taken up, and if you do not succeed at first keep on trying. See that the time is announced beforehand, that the scholars may be prepared to give. Pray that the spirit of liberality may seize the people, and that they may be willing to come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

**Individual Effort.**

As our readers well know, last month's CHRISTIAN was considerably delayed; and this gave the readers a good chance to find out whether or not they value its visits. The many inquiries that came to the business manager seem to show that the paper is appreciated. Many who did not write missed it greatly, and were glad when at last it came.

**A Special Interest.**