

# THE CHRISTIAN.

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

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## The Christian.

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## NOTES AND NEWS.

*Have YOU renewed your subscription yet?*

One of our subscribers, Mrs. Henry Corbett, Lakeville, Kings Co., N. S., is paid up to January, 1905.

Z. T. Sweeney has been holding a meeting in Buffalo. There were 70 additions to the church, among them two preachers. Since the meeting closed, two more preachers have been received.

If you do not desire to receive the paper any longer, write us to that effect and pay up all arrears, and we will not continue to send it. Do not expect us to stop the paper till all arrears are paid.

All the churches are requested to make an offering for foreign missions on the first Lord's day in March. Let there be a general and liberal response. Send the contribution to F. M. Rains, Box 750, Cincinnati, Ohio.

In eighteen months there have been 70 additions to the church in Normal, Ill., for which E. B. Barnes preaches. He has lately held a meeting at Paxton with 26 additions. The preachers at Normal and Paxton exchanged meetings.

The review of James M. Campbell's book, "After Pentecost What?" which appeared in the last CHRISTIAN was written by W. J. Lhamon of Allgheny City, Pa. We thank him for sending it to us. His name should have appeared with the article.

M. B. Ryan has been holding a very successful meeting Williamsport, Pa. When the meeting was but young there were 20 additions. He has the assistance of a solo singer. Williamsport is one of his old fields. It will be too bad if we lose Bro. Ryan. These provinces need such a man as he is.

The Christian Endeavor Society in Eureka, Ill., have their monthly business meeting on a different night from that on which their prayer meetings are held. After every business meeting a social is held. The plan has been well tested and found to give great satisfaction.

Three thousand one hundred and forty-eight additions to the churches are reported in the *Christian Standard* of Feb. 12th. Three thousand, two hundred and fourteen are reported the following week. There were 110 added to the church at Mansfield, Ohio, and 107 to the church at Noblesville, Ind., both meetings still in progress.

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be SAVED. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not BELIEVED? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not HEARD? and how shall they hear without a PREACHER? and how shall they preach except they be SENT?" If we cannot go we can help to send some one. Go or give.

J. H. O. Smith is holding a meeting with his home church—the Union Christian of Chicago. At the end of the fourth week there were 184 additions—26 coming on the last Lord's day. He is using no extra attractions, as he wishes to show that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation even in Chicago. This church has been organized only a short time, and since the 25th of last July, the membership has increased from 218 to 575.

In the United States the Methodists are divided up into 17 bodies, the Baptists into 13 bodies, the Lutherans into 19 bodies, the Presbyterians into 12 bodies. During 1897 the net gain of all the Methodist bodies was 77,616, of the Baptists 40,071, of the Lutherans 69,555, and of the Presbyterians 29,816. The Disciples of Christ are not divided—their net gain was 47,407. So says the *Independent*.

Which is better: to spend that we may be clothed in purple and fine linen, or to give that the heathen may be clothed in the garments of righteousness? Which is better: that we should feed on the fat of the land, or that the starving millions should feed on the Bread of Life? Which is better, that we should enjoy the pleasures of this life or that those now without God and hope should partake of the joys of heaven.

C. H. Devoe is still preaching in Richmond, Ind. The Sunday school there has had a revival lasting six days. On Sunday evening there was an address on "The Mission of the Sunday-school in the Religious World." The subjects for discussion on the following evenings were: "Sunday-school Management," "The Duty of the Church to the School," "The Sunday-school and the Unreached Multitude," "The Church and the Children," and "The Achievements and Possibilities of the Sunday-school."

In the *Christian Standard*, J. V. Coubbs tells of a young Christian who went from Michigan to Grand Rapids, Minnesota, to teach school. There she heard a Methodist preacher named John Trebar, who often from the pulpit said he was opposed to human creeds and party names. She gave him some

of our tracts to read. Soon after, he took his stand with the Disciples of Christ. He is now minister for the Second Christian Church, Terre Haute, Ind.

George Darsie has been preaching for the church in Paris, Ky., for twenty years. In his anniversary sermon he said they had been years of peace and harmony, of affection and friendship, of growth and progress, and of many changes. Among the valuable lessons learned were, that there is power in a long pastorate, that habit is a good thing in church life, that a slow and gradual growth in a church is a healthy growth, and that after all the chief condition of a church's prosperity is the pure and godly living of its members.

In Seward, Nebraska, the Disciples were not represented. That was a misfortune. Two evangelists, H. A. Lemon and C. R. Travis, went there to change the state of affairs. At first they received no encouragement. It was the same at the end of four weeks. But they went on. Audiences grew, people began coming to the Lord; for more room the meetings were held in the Court House, and at the end of eight weeks a church with 92 members was organized; also a Sunday-school and Christian Endeavor Society. An old church building has been secured, painted and papered, and makes a comfortable home for the church.

How much did you give last year for the salvation of one thousand million heathen? Did you give as much as you spent for that evening's amusement? As much as that new story book cost? As much as you gave for candy or ice-cream? As much as you paid for that concert ticket? Did you give as much as a pound of butter or a dozen eggs or a bushel of oats sells for? Some Christians unfortunately use tobacco. Did they give as much in one year to preach the gospel to the heathen as they spent in one month for tobacco? What will you give this year—and it may be the last year you will have a chance to give—that the gospel may be preached to the millions who have never heard of the Saviour?

Hard times reveal men's characters, by showing where they begin to reduce expenditures and where they stop. To use a common division, our expenses are secular and religious. When the pinch of adversity is beginning to be felt, how many reduce their contributions to the Lord's house before they think of cutting down needless expenses in their homes! how many give less to preach the gospel to the heathen who never dream of having less on their bill of fare! how many give up their religious paper but hold tenaciously to the political paper! And when hard times begin to give place to prosperity, the treasury of the Lord, which first heard of the scarcity of money, is the last to hear that good times have returned. Noble exceptions there are; Christians who do not reduce their gifts to the Lord's work till they have denied themselves, who do not increase their luxuries first, but last.