

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.

1898.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

"Time wasted is existence; used is life."
—Young.

"Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time; for that is the stuff life is made of."
—Franklin.

"Observe a method in the distribution of your time. Every hour will then know its proper employment, and no time will be lost."
—Horne.

C. H. DeVoe closes his work at Richmond, Ind., on Dec. 31st. He has been there for about four years and did a good work. He now enters the evangelistic field where, we think, he will accomplish even greater things.

We regret the occurrence of numerous typographical errors in the December number of THE CHRISTIAN. Geo. D. Weaver's article suffered the most. But the thoughtful reader could generally make the necessary corrections, and the careless reader would perhaps not notice the mistakes.

A glance at the proper column will show that another of our young preachers has taken unto himself a wife. This is the third case of the kind in about six months. If we remember aright some years have passed, prior to this period, without our being permitted to chronicle such an event. An epidemic now seems to have broken out, and we shall be glad to hear that a certain young man in Charlottetown and another in north St. John have not escaped.

W. F. Shaw's many friends will be interested in his letter which we print this month. He has been laboring heroically to clear off the debt and also to have the meeting-house remodelled. We heartily congratulate him on his success, and hope that the church, now unencumbered and better equipped, will start on a new era of greater prosperity and far-extending influence.

One of THE CHRISTIAN'S truest friends, who not only subscribes for the paper and gets others to do so, but who pays for four extra copies which are placed where they will do good, sent \$5 last month, and the following message: "I always enjoy THE CHRISTIAN, and want to read it right away when it comes. But I think the last copy surpasses most of the others, there are such good things in it. 'The More Excellent Way' and 'Thanksgiving' are indeed excellent."

In the present issue we give a large amount of space to the account of the Jubilee Celebration. But the circumstances are so unusual as to fully warrant this. Few of our readers, perhaps none of them, will ever again read an account of a similar celebration in honor of another who shall have spent fifty years of almost uninterrupted labor in the ministry of the Word in these provinces. Those of our preachers who are oldest in the service will be very much older before their half century of labor will be rounded out.

Here is an interesting item from the *Christian Standard*: "During fourteen ballots at the Chicago convention [for the nomination of the republican candidate for president of the U. S.] James A. Garfield received but one vote each ballot. This lone vote kept his name before the convention till the tide turned in his favor. The vote was cast by Milton Wells who now preaches at Urbana and Prairie Creek, Ia. After the election Bro. Wells received two letters in the same mail—one from a small congregation in Wisconsin, calling him as pastor at \$600 per year; the other from President Garfield, offering him the governorship of Arizona. He chose the former."

Clergymen of all denominations will immerse when a person of sufficient influence desires to be (so) baptized. Recently, Dr. W. H. Steeves, of Fredericton, N. B., was immersed by Very Rev. Dean Partridge, the ceremony taking place in the Episcopal cathedral in that city. Rev. Sub Dean Whalley, and a few friends of Dr. Steeves' family, were present. As the cathedral, unfortunately, has no baptistry, it seems that the magnificent St. John river, near by, would have been the most suitable place for the administration of the beautiful and instructive ordinance. But for some reason a portable bath tub was proffered, and we fear that much of the impressiveness of the solemn service was sacrificed; for the doctor is a large man, and his complete immersion at any one time was, under the circumstances, impossible. In order to be prepared for the decorous and proper administration of the ordinance we would suggest that the cathedral authorities have a baptistry put in their sacred edifice.

J. H. Fuller, in reporting a meeting, says in the *Christian Oracle*: "Some people who think one church as good as another were much afraid that some persons would unite with the other." Yes, and when they find a Disciple of Christ in a community where there is no church of his brethren, they will

say, "Oh, your people and ours are so much alike, you better unite with us." But let one of their members desire to unite with the Disciples of Christ, and some of these same people who said there was so little difference, will contend that the differences are entirely too great to allow such a step to be taken without the sacrifice of truth, principle, etc., etc. It is wonderful how objects seem to increase or diminish in size as you look at them through the small end or through the large end of a telescope.

THE CHRISTIAN hastens to extend hearty congratulations to Geo. D. Weaver and Miss Laura Fullerton, whose marriage took place in Pictou, N. S., on Tuesday morning, Dec. 28th. After Jan. 9th they will be at home, New Holland, Ohio, where he has been preaching with great acceptance since his graduation from Kentucky University. May these two talented consecrated workers have many years of happiness, usefulness and success.

Why is it that some church members who can well afford to give, even if they cannot afford to give largely, enjoy an easy conscience while failing to do what they should for the spread of the truth? That is a question as easy to answer as to ask: Their hearts are not right in the sight of God; but they think all is well. Jesus sacrificed all the joy of heaven that the world might have the gospel, and some people who think they are Christians will not give five dollars when they ought to give fifty, and some will not give one when they ought to give ten to have the gospel preached in the closed house of worship in their own community.

We are glad to see that the American Home Missionary Society is making a call for \$100,000 this year. The needs of the work demand that this much be raised. The brethren who are guiding the work say that, if they receive this amount annually, they will organize one hundred new churches a year. We in the provinces are being generously treated by this society, and should plan to give our share of the \$100,000. More money has been appropriated for this year than ever before in the history of the society, and the churches are relied on for help in this enlargement of the work.

The heroes are not all dead nor away in the foreign mission fields. A faithful preacher laboring in Florida writes, as reported in *The American Home Missionary*: "Up to the time of the late frosts I travelled at my own charges, but I have since been reduced to hunting for a postage stamp. To be a foundation stone buried out of sight has some compensation; but at the same time I have surrendered my insurance policy to devote the premium money to keep the cause moving." We admire the self-sacrificing spirit of the man, but will not write what we think of the churches that made such sacrifice necessary. There is a day coming for the settling of accounts.

News of the Churches.

ST. JOHN, N. B.

COBURG STREET.

Bro. Frank Erb, a member of the University Sophomore class, at Fredericton, N. B., has been awarded the Asa Dow Scholarship by the trustees of the Fund, Col. Vince and Judge Vanwart. The Scholarship is of the annual value of \$50 and is tenable for three years.

Bro. Wm. Murray attended the Young People's Meeting on Tuesday evening, 14th.

Bro. J. Barry Allan will assist Bro. K. W. Stevenson in a special meeting to be held at Pictou, N. S., commencing on the 11th of January, 1898.

Bro. H. W. Stewart left by the I. C. R. on Monday morning, Dec. 27, for Pictou, where he will assist in an important event, particulars of will be found in another column.

Sister Mary Knott Wilson, mother of Sister George F. Barnes, passed away on Dec. 14th, at the age of 78. She was one of the first members of the church when it was organized in this city January, 1835. W. A. B.

MAIN STREET.

Bro. Appel has been engaged as pastor for another year.

Bro. Wm. Murray was at our prayer meeting on Wednesday evening, Dec. 15th, and gave us a very interesting talk.

The Ladies' and Junior Aid Societies held a Christmas sale of fancy and useful articles on the 16th and 17th of December. The proceeds are for the building fund.

At our Lord's day evening service (12th), Bro. Barry Allan sang a solo, "Saved by Grace." N. W.

SILVER FALLS, N. B.

Bro. Wm. Murray spent Lord's day, Dec. 12th, with the church at Silver Falls and started for Charlotte Co. Dec. 16th. O. B. S.

NAUWIGEWAWK, N. B.

Bro. Wm. Murray spent about three weeks in Nauwigewawk and vicinity during November and December. He got the brethren to meet Lord's day and observe the Lord's Supper, held meetings in different localities during week day evenings, and we have reason to believe greatly strengthened the members. O. B. S.

KEMPT, N. S.

On September 26th Bro. F. C. Ford commenced his work here where he will labor half the time, every alternate month. Bro. H. Murray was with us in a week's meeting at New Grafton the last week in October. Not having had a sermon preached by one of our own preachers for over a year, would be against any special interest being aroused at the time; but we believe there was much good done, and are expecting to realize it in the near future.

Bro. Ford is full of life, and is fast working into the hearts of the people, and his labor here will result in great good.

At the close of this year the people are making greater efforts to do more for the cause in the future than they have in the past. I. C. C.

MILTON, N. S.

Our work here is still encouraging and full of hope. Every department of church work, but the preaching, is improving. The new recruits who came into the church last summer are a great help to the church. They not only entered the church, but have entered into the work of the church. Their case is well illustrated by the son of a sea captain. The little fellow got on deck and out on the "yard arm." One of the sailors rushed down into the cabin and said to the captain, "Your boy is out on the yard arm, and if he lets go he will drown." But, says the captain, as he looked up unconcerned, "He won't let go." We are very much pleased down this way with THE CHRISTIAN. We can heartily congratulate the editors and publishers for the bright, interesting paper that comes to us every month so promptly.

Of course, as must be expected, some things will appear that will not please all. To try to please everybody will please nobody.

Our mission on earth is to encourage every good work, and to have all the "sunshine" we can, not only in our "souls," but in our daily life. Bacon has wisely said, "That there is no man who imparteth his joy to another, but himself joyeth the more." It is much better and wiser to say good things to our friends while they are living than to say them in obituaries and on tomb stones. H. M.

WESTPORT AND TIVERTON, N. S.

Bro. Geo. McDormand has returned from the St. John hospital. He is looking and feeling much better.

The sisters in Westport were very successful lately in raising money; they realized \$97 00. This was quite a help in reducing the church debt.

Bro. and Sister W. F. Ossinger had a very narrow escape from death recently. Both were thrown from a wagon upon the rocks by a runaway horse. No bones were broken, but they were badly shaken up.

The Sunday-school in Tiverton gave a "Harvest Concert," Monday night, October 13th. It was one of the best concerts given. The sum of \$9 30 was realized to apply on repairs to the house.

In Westport Thanksgiving Day was observed by union services. At 10 30 the writer made the leading address in the Baptist vestry, followed by Rev. C. E. Pineo, pastor Baptist church. The theme in the morning was "Praise." At night Rev. Mr. Pineo preached the thanksgiving sermon in the Bethel. He preached a splendid sermon on "National and Christian Union." A large audience was present.

Happy New Year to all. J. W. BOLTON

SUMMERVILLE, N. S.

We had the pleasure of helping Bro. Frank Ford in his meeting at Summerville. He had a fine, interesting, profitable meeting, — the best, in some respects, ever held here. The house was well filled and often crowded, so that chairs had to be brought to accommodate the overflow. The church was greatly revived and put in a good working condition. He baptized seven happy souls. Others were deeply interested whom we hope will soon obey the gospel.

The future of this church is very encouraging. Bro. Ford is settled here half his time. His labor and preaching have already won the confidence and appreciation of the church and all the community.

A very pleasing feature of the meeting was the visits of a number of the Milton church, whose singing and talks to the people were a great blessing to us all. On two occasions they came with a loaded two horse team and made their headquarters at Bro. and Sister Davis', who entertained them royally in their hearty and hospitable style, all of which gave a very pleasant annual-meeting touch to the situation. We have every reason to hope for better and brighter times for this little Zion by the sea. H. M.

HALIFAX, N. S.

The Junior Y. P. S. C. E. assisted in a special service Sunday night after Christmas.

The writer exchanges pulpit service with the pastor of the Coburg Street Presbyterian Church January 9th.

Our organist was the recipient at Christmas of a piece of silver plate, as a testimonial of the value of her services.

The writer will hold a union service at Elmsdale with Mr. Morash, the Presbyterian minister there, on Monday, January 3rd, of the week of prayer.

We have been most earnestly solicited to assist in the formation of a new church next month in our old field of labor in Florida. From snow and ice to orange blossoms and balmy air would be a change.

With the history of men and women the passing years are the chapters, and as one is finished, and we start to take up the next, it is perfectly natural that the thoughtful mind should have reflective thoughts.

Christian character and Christian successes are more largely due to sacrifices of one kind or another than to ease and quietness. We need a revival of sacrifice before we can expect a revival of religion; with the one will come the other.

While we most gratefully thank all those who so promptly responded to our appeals for assistance on the Halifax church debt, we are very much disappointed at the number responding and the amount raised, and feel that it will be useless, for us at least, to urge this matter further—in the manner tried. We were told, when we issued our first circulars, by an Ontario preaching brother, that we would be fortunate if we received enough to re-pay postage. We have exceeded his expectations at least, and although not meeting our own anticipations, we shall hope and pray that in the not distant future men and means may yet be raised up to further the accomplishment of this much desired end.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I.

CENTRAL CHURCH.

Bro. M. B. Ryan was with us on Lord's day, November 22th, and gave two very able and helpful discourses. He attended the prayer-meeting the following Wednesday and spoke words of good cheer. Owing to ill-health he could not stay to take part in the jubilee, which was greatly regretted.

Sister Morrison left Charlottetown for her home in Iowa on December 7th. She was greatly improved in health by her sojourn on the Island. We miss her presence very much. She would have made a splendid city missionary for the cause here at this present juncture.

Bro. R. W. Stevenson, on his way to the jubilee, met with the congregation in the prayer-meeting. His talk inspired us all to nobler efforts and greater activities in the Master's vineyard.

Bro. Emery assisted Bro. Ryan in the morning and evening services. His continued presence at almost every meeting, and the help so willingly given, together with his wise counsel, is doing much to show to the community the righteousness of the cause which we have espoused.

The Sunday-school held their Christmas celebration on December 23rd. Though the time for preparation was exceedingly short, a splendid programme by the little ones was rendered. A double quartette of grown folks gave two good selections. A number of friends were present and expressed their delight at the evening's performance. A collection for home missions realized \$4.73. GEORGE MANIFOLD.

SUMMERSIDE, P. E. I.

The Christmas season has come again. Jack Frost has built his bridges over the harbors and lakes, and the noise of busy feet upon the docks, and chiming of horse bells, say that winter has set in. Time flies like a mighty current, carrying its millions towards the unseen. One year of life's calendar numbered with the past. Could we recall the past how different we would spend our moments! The week of prayer will be observed as usual—in a union of the church congregations.

I lately visited the church at Tignish and spent a very enjoyable time. On the evening of the 8th the home of Sister Benjamin Haywood was filled with friends and a pleasant and profitable evening was spent. Dialogues and recitations of a pleasing nature were given. Miss H. Mann, of New London, and Mr. Pearly Haywood, of Tignish, presided at the piano. The music was of a high and classical order. Singing by Miss Hattie Clark and Mr. Hardy, of Alma, P. E. I., was appreciated by all. Recitations by Mrs. Charles Casely and Miss Irene Raynor, Miss Casely, and Mr. Benjamin Raynor was timely and well delivered. Mr. Leonard Casely, Mr. Elijah Raynor, Mr. Pearly Haywood also took part in the programme. At the close Mrs. Benj. Haywood, in a neat speech, presented the writer with thirty-two dollars, and the evening's pleasure ended. I shall ever feel my indebtedness to the kind and true friends of Tignish.

We were pleased to find among our best friends Bro. and Sister Silas Raynor, Bro. and Sister Archy Haywood, Sister Herbert Bell, of Alberton, P. E. I., and Bro. William Haywood.

May the blessing of God continue with all who love the Lord.

The Crawford jubilee passed pleasantly, and all who gathered to pay honor to whom honor is due enjoyed the service. Bro. Crawford has been a power in the army of our God. We owe him more than we can pay. But joy awaits him in the great jubilee of the redeemed, and our Heavenly Father will make up for our lack. H. E. C.

Correspondence.

FROM WALNUT, ILL.

Sunday, Nov. 28, was a time of general rejoicing in the Walnut Church of Christ. Our entire indebtedness on the church building—more than eight hundred dollars—was wiped out of existence, and enough was pledged to meet all other expenses for the present year. Before the day of rededication we had secured over nine hundred and fifty dollars in notes, pledges, and cash, with the faithful assistance of three of the deacons.

Nov. 28, Brother J. H. Hardin, whom we all love, was with us, preached two splendid sermons and helped us swell the amount to \$1,200. That evening, in his own sweetly impressive way, he rededicated the building to God, while the officials solemnly reconsecrated themselves to His service. Our prayers, toil and tears, have not been in vain.

About 40 have united with the church in the past twenty months, and more are listening to the plea for union in Christ than to any other plea in this community. Our sincere thanks to all who have assisted us in sympathy, prayer, and finance. They shall reap if the Lord spares our lives.

Knowing that many of our friends will rejoice with us in this prosperity of our Lord's cause, I could not keep still. Even Mrs. Shaw and Dale are happy.

WILL F. SHAW.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

The old year is dying, and as I write its sun has nearly reached the horizon; by the time you read what I have written, another year will have been born. There is a tinge of sadness in the thought that our life is slipping away, but then the hope—the glorious hope of immortality—we shall never die.

I take this opportunity to wish all my readers A very Happy New Year. May the experiences of the past be very beneficial for the future. Not being satisfied with present attainments, let us seek a higher plane of spirituality and an extended sphere of usefulness.

I want to tell you something that I think will interest you. You know that for some time the readers of the *Christian Standard*, one of our leading weeklies, have been making a special effort to increase its circulation, and they are succeeding, to a certain extent. Now why not make a special effort to increase the circulation of THE CHRISTIAN, our own paper? What is there to hinder our doubling its subscription list during 1898? This is one way to get out of "the rut." I do not think we have tried as hard as we might to do this, so I am willing to start the ball rolling by pledging myself to get ten new subscribers during the year. Are we to have a move all along the line?

Since I last wrote I have visited Halifax, and have preached in different places in this (Hants) county. Although there are six churches in the county, as far as I know only one has a preacher regularly employed, and wherever I have gone I hear the brethren wishing for a different condition of things.

I close these notes with the hope that the coming year may be a successful one in these provinces—yes, that many everywhere may turn to the Lord. For ten years there has scarcely been an issue of THE CHRISTIAN but

in it there has been something from my pen, and for nearly ten years I have been preaching as best I could. There have been many discouragements and some trials. Most of all, I have been discouraged with myself. Still I am hopeful for the future, although I know not what is in store for me. God knows.

W. H. HARDING.

West Gore, Hants County, N. S.

DEER ISLAND LETTER.

For the past three months I have been absent from Deer Island, and so have scant news concerning the work here. The month of September I spent in Nova Scotia visiting relatives in Hants County and resting. October and November were spent in P. E. Island at various points. The readers of THE CHRISTIAN have recently heard of the work in Hants County, so that it is not necessary for me to speak of it. Suffice it to say that we have in these churches many of the most zealous and steadfast disciples of the Lord, intelligent and virtuous men and women, whose friendship it is an honor for any man to possess. They have a fine opportunity before them in their own county to extend the plea for the New Testament faith. May they improve it to the uttermost.

My stay on P. E. Island was pleasant in the extreme, notwithstanding the elements conspired to make it gloomy during November. October was spent in the yoke with R. W. Stevenson in a meeting at Montague. Those who know Bro. Stevenson need not be told that not once during the month did he prove himself the proverbial *off-ox*. In his pleasant home everything was done by the whole family for my personal comfort, and I endeavored to show myself not unappreciative by putting on ten pounds of extra flesh and gaining steadily in strength.

Bro. Stevenson has an excellent congregation to work with, and pastor and people are mutually suited and appreciative. The work has never been in better condition, and is steadily growing in proportions and in its hold on the community.

The first three weeks of November were spent with the church at East Point. Bro. Hiram Wallace, of West Gore, had been with them a good deal through the summer, and I found the brethren much encouraged and strengthened by his work. Extremely unfavorable weather hindered us from holding any except the Lord's Day meetings and an occasional meeting through the week. Those brethren are to be commended and imitated for their faithfulness to all the interests of the Lord's work both at home and abroad. I am especially indebted to the families of Theophilus McDonald, William Young and Alfred Morrow, with whom I made my home for the most part, as well as to all the rest who showed so much kindness.

A week was spent in Charlottetown, including Lord's Day, Nov. 28. The little band constituting the Central Christian Church there are making a heroic stand for the purity and the freedom of the truth of Christ. Bro. Manifold has the confidence and esteem of the brethren, and is surely and steadily gaining the respect and confidence of the public. He deserves the prayers and the encouragement of his brethren everywhere for his faithfulness to an important cause under very trying conditions. The Central Christian Church will succeed by faithful and united effort of pastor and peo-

ple. It is simply a question of holding on and working on for a sufficient time. God's blessing will rest on a faithful defense of His truth. My home in Charlottetown was with Sister Shaw and her son-in-law and daughter, Bro. and Sister Chandler, whose many kindnesses placed me under great obligations.

A few days were spent at New Glasgow in the hospitable home of Bro. D. Crawford, where so many travellers have found a welcome and a blessing. I left them in pleasant anticipation of the jubilee, which is now a matter of history. This first visit to P. E. Island has left many pleasant memories with me. I reached home to find all well, and to settle down for a little, and help in the work on this island. A valuable member of this church has recently left us, Miss Lillian Richardson, who married Mr. Charles Sullivan, of Worcester, Mass. M. B. RYAN.

Lord's Cove, N. B., Dec. 20th, 1897.

TENT FUND.

Acknowledged,	....	....	....	\$92 23
Westport—				
J. W. Bolton,	....	....	....	1 00
Per Mrs E. A. Payson,	....	....	....	5 00
St John—				
Main Street, Mrs. Morrison,	....	....	....	1 00
				\$99 23
T. Lockwood was credited with \$2 last month; should have been \$2.50.				

Married.

HAMBLETON-ELLIS—In St. John, Dec. 8th, 1897, by Henry W. Stewart, David Hambleton of Hampton, N. B., and Mrs. Ann Ellis of St. John, N. B.

NORTHROP-McCAW—In St. John, Dec. 15th, 1897, by Henry W. Stewart, Murray J. S. Northrop and Annie A. McCaw, both of St. John, N. B.

SAUNDERS-DOREY—In St. John, Dec. 22nd, 1897, by Henry W. Stewart, George Saunders and Nettie Dorey, both of St. John, N. B.

WEAVER-FULLERTON—On Dec. 28th, at the residence of the bride's parents, by R. E. Stevens, assisted by Rev. W. T. D. Moss, George D. Weaver of New Holland, Ohio, and Laura Fullerton, youngest daughter of David Fullerton of Pictou, N. S.

Died.

WHITE.—Alfonzo, youngest child of Bro. and Sister Mansfield White, died in Lake May, December 13, 1897, aged 4 years and 5 months. Funeral service conducted by F. C. Ford.

FORREST.—At his home in Grafton, on November 21st, 1897, Bro. Robert Forrest, aged 49 years. Deceased was only sick a week. Bro. Forrest was a member of the Christian Church until a few years ago, when he united with the Baptists. He was an active worker in the church and will be greatly missed. A wife, six children and a large circle of friends are left to mourn the loss of a kind husband, father, and a true friend. F. C. FORD.

WILSON—In the death of sister Mary Knott Wilson, which took place at the home of her son-in-law, Geo. F. Barnes, St. John, on Dec. 15th, the Disciples of Christ have lost one who was quite prominent in the earlier history of the Church of Christ in this city. At the time of her death she was in her 78th year, and had probably been a member of the church longer than any of the few aged ones who still remain. For many years she has not been able to attend the house of the Lord or to take any active part in Christian work, but in the days of her strength few were more willing to spend and be spent in the service of Christ. Owing to the nature of her affliction she has had but little enjoyment for years, and when the end came, it was the end, we believe, of sorrow and clouds and darkness, and the beginning of a life which knows nothing of the infirmities that are to be found here; and so even those who loved her most, and for whom she had toiled and sacrificed, were not unwilling to see her depart to be at rest. Life here had ceased to have any pleasures or duties for her. To die was gain. Her husband, the late James Wilson, who, like her, had long been an active member of the church, was called to his reward about seven years ago. Of the family there remain four sons and two daughters, who sorrow not as those who have no hope, but rejoice that life and immortality have been brought to light through the gospel, and that for the tired toiler, to depart to be with Christ is far better than to abide in the flesh. H. W. S.

The Christian.

ST JOHN, N. B., - - - JANUARY, 1898

EDITORIAL.

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FACTS.

Although requested to furnish an autobiography for this number of THE CHRISTIAN, I think it more expedient to give a few facts only which may benefit some of the readers, as the paper has already so much personal matter.

If I was from my youth, at times, very anxious to be a Christian, but always failed to receive the "blessing" which others professed to receive at "Revival meetings."

When about the age of 20 I felt deeply on the matter and prayed long and earnestly for the power to come to Christ. That power I could not define. It might be a sudden flash of light or a terrible conviction of sin, or something else. But I thought Christ was keeping back that power and that I could no more come to him without it than I could create a world. The gloomy struggle between hope and despair of those days I cannot describe or forget. It appeared as if I had committed the unpardonable sin. But I resolved that before I gave up all as lost I would carefully read all I could about Christ in his history. In doing this I was greatly astonished to find him always ready to save every one who wanted to be saved just as he was. In no case could I find him refusing a sinner for lack of that conviction I thought so positively essential. He was always pleading for the lost to come unto him and declared that he came to seek and save that which was lost, and in his last commission clearly said, he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.

About that time many of God's promises, both in the Old Testament and in the New, seemed unusually precious. The Saviour seemed nearer to me than he ever did, and I saw nothing to prevent me from coming to him just as I was for nothing could make me better but Jesus and his salvation. I believed in him and was baptized and never since doubted that I was saved. It was to me a joyful discovery that Jesus was waiting to save me from all my sins without any fitness on my part, only to accept it all entirely free.

I felt very anxious to tell others of Jesus' pardoning love, especially those who were keeping back from him because they felt unworthy to come. Surely many could be glad when they read his plain plan of saving sinners, even the chief, and would come to him. So I began to talk privately to others, then in small prayer meetings. Sometimes at the request of preachers I spoke after they had preached. Then I began to go to destitute settlements on Lord's days and speak in school houses and sometimes in private dwellings. I worked on the farm through the week and on Lord's days drove from ten to thirty miles to preach. Everywhere the people seemed pleased to meet and hear me

with few exceptions, where their minds had been poisoned against me by false reports.

I was much encouraged by the people and by a few, very few preachers. The late Alex. McDonald, who died near St. John in 1851, was my true friend while he lived. About the time I began public speaking I saw the late Dr. John Knox and received much encouragement from him. His earnest, elegant and clear preaching of the gospel I found most helpful. He was a kind and cheerful companion, and during the long years of our acquaintance and co-operation, he always seemed happy when the people were satisfied with my labors and contributed of their means for my support. In the autumn of 1849 I left all and preached that fall and winter on this Island. In June 1850 I went to St. John and that summer to Cornwallis. The next four years were spent in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Much of this time was spent in the county of Digby. As none of our preachers had ever preached in this county there was a good deal of clerical opposition. But wherever I went fields seemed to open, friends rose up and kind treatment awaited me. I only organized one church in Digby county. A few were baptized in different places and a number of warm friends gathered around the cause.

I came to New Glasgow, where we had a church, in the fall of 1854, remained on this Island till the spring of 1855 then crossed to Nova Scotia, and on the 11th of September was married to Harriet Melvenia Wallace. Soon after this we crossed to the Island, had a house built at New Glasgow, which has been our home ever since. During our stay here I have preached here and at different parts of the island, and at every one of these places have baptized some.

We have had cheerful visits at our home from nearly all our preaching brethren in the provinces and not a few from preachers in the United States. We always feel better for their visits and thankfully bid them God's speed. I always find that much depends in the success of a meeting on the sympathy and assistance of church members. When members are united and earnest the preacher will be heard and be believed.

When a series of meetings were held with the little church at Summerside in 1866, in which H. T. Morrison, A. McLean, Neil McLeod and others who are now successfully preaching the gospel in different lands, were brought in, the members had as much to do, under God, with the success of the meeting as the preacher. Such at least were always my impressions. The gospel is God's power unto salvation to believers, but much depends upon the members in getting people to hear and believe the gospel.

Many more of our subscribers paid up during December. Now if all who are in arrears will do likewise in the next thirty days, we will not write another note on this subject for a year. But if they do not,—well, we will probably write another next month.

HONORED BY THE BROTHERHOOD.

At the Annual Meeting of the Church of Christ, held in Leonardville last August, the suggestion that some public and general notice should be taken of Bro. D. Crawford's long and faithful service in the ministry was promptly acted upon. A committee was appointed to attend to the arrangements, and for several months the matter was kept before the brotherhood. On December 16th the celebration was held in the meeting house at New Glasgow. Notwithstanding the disagreeable weather and bad state of the roads a large congregation, made up of persons from different parts of the island, gathered to enjoy the occasion, and to do honor to the man whose faithful service so well deserved a hearty recognition.

While it was not possible for many (if any) to attend from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, we are glad to report that the churches in these provinces did not fail to make contributions to the purse of gold that was presented to Bro. Crawford.

All the island preachers were present. O. B. Emery, Charlottetown, presided most acceptably, and in his address said many things about the aged servant of God that were as true as they were pleasing. The singing was an attractive part of the programme. Miss Ella Bagnall, New Glasgow, was organist. H. E. Cooke, Summerside, gave thanks to God for his goodness in sparing the man who had done so much as a minister of Christ, and prayed that God's favor might be continued toward him. The following appropriate selections of scripture were read by Geo. Manifold, Charlottetown.

SCRIPTURE READING.

Praise ye the Lord; praise ye the name of the Lord; praise Him, O ye servants of the Lord, ye that stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good. Sing praises unto His name, for it is pleasant. O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good, for His mercy endureth forever. I will extol Thee, my God, O King; and I will bless Thy name for ever and ever. Every day will I bless Thee; and I will praise Thy name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall praise Thy works to another and shall declare Thy mighty acts.

I will speak of the glorious honor of Thy majesty, and of Thy wondrous works. The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and of great mercy. The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works. All Thy works shall praise Thee, and Thy saints shall bless Thee; they shall speak of the glory of Thy Kingdom, and talk of Thy power; to make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His Kingdom.

Many, O Lord my God, are Thy wonderful works which Thou hast done, and Thy thoughts which are to us-ward; they cannot be reckoned up in order unto Thee if I would declare and speak of them; they are more than can be numbered. I have preached righteousness in the great congregation; lo, I have not refrained my lips, O Lord, thou knowest. I have not hid Thy righteousness within my heart; I have declared Thy

faithfulness and Thy salvation; I have not concealed Thy loving kindness and Thy truth from the great congregation. Withhold not Thy tender mercies, O Lord; let Thy loving kindness and Thy truth continually preserve me.

But thou art my strong refuge; my mouth shall be filled with Thy praise, and with Thine honor all the day. Cast me not off in the time of old age. Forsake me not when my strength faileth. But I will hope continually, and will praise Thee yet more and more. My mouth shall tell of Thy righteousness, and of Thy salvation all the day, for I know not the numbers thereof. I will go in the strength of the Lord God; I will make mention of Thy righteousness, even of Thine only. O God, Thou hast taught me from my youth, and hitherto have I declared Thy wondrous works. Now, also, when I am old and gray-headed, O God, forsake me not, until I have shewed Thy strength unto the next generation, and Thy power unto everyone that is to come.

In everything commending ourselves as ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities; in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments; in tumults, in labors, in watchings; in fastings, in pureness, in knowledge; in long-suffering, in kindness, in the Holy Spirit; in love unfeigned, in the Word of truth, in the power of God; by the armor of righteousness, on the right hand and on the left; by glory and dishonor; by evil report and good report; as deceivers and yet true; as unknown and yet well known; as dying and, behold, we live; as chastened and not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things; in journeyings often; in perils of waters; in perils of robbers; in perils by mine own countrymen; in perils by the heathen; in perils in the city; in perils in the wilderness; in perils in the sea; in perils among false brethren; in weariness and painfulness; in watchings often; in hunger and thirst; in fastings often; in cold and nakedness. Besides those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

And one of the elders answered, saying unto me: These who are arrayed in the white robes, who are they, and whence came they? And I say unto him, Lord, thou knowest. And he said unto me: These are they who come out of the great tribulation, and they washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and they serve Him day and night in His temple, and He that sitteth upon the Throne shall spread His tabernacle over them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more, neither shall the sun strike upon them, nor any heat, for the Lamb which is in the midst of the Throne shall be their Shepherd, and shall guide them unto fountains of waters of life; and God shall wipe away every tear from their eyes. *Amen.*

Letters of greeting were sent by the different preachers in N. B. and N. S., and the reading of these added not a little to the interest of the occasion. While they were highly complimentary they were not more so than the occasion justified. Not only from the home preachers did such messages come, but also from the many island preachers who are now occupying prominent and responsible positions in the United States and other parts of the world, and from the younger men who are entering upon lives of great promise.

Many of the older men, and many of the younger, are Bro. Crawford's children in the gospel, and part of his reward is in seeing them doing so grand a work in the name of Christ.

The messages were so numerous that we cannot give them all, but make room for the following from M. B. Ryan, Lord's Cove, Deer Island, N. B.

Hail! servant of the living God,
Upon whose head the kindly dews
Of nearly four-score years abide,
We greet thee. Thou hast well deserved
Our kindly recognition. All
Thy life is an open book,
Its contents shedding light upon
The life of each of us.

How now
Shall we dispose of life? Before
Each man the question comes. Answered
It must be, not in words alone.
The parting of the ways, lies in
The answer, and the deeds of life.
One chooses the world's way. Wealth lures
Him on, and pleasures spur him to
The race. Power and place bid for
His thought. His feet aspire to climb
The dizzy heights of fame. He would
Be rich, and great, and happy, as
The world can give. His life is laid
Upon the altar of the world.
Himself the priest, he decks the gift
With bowers filched from other lives,
Spills over it the sacred wine
Of friendship; an unholy fire,
Lit from the underworld, consumes
The whole.

Another hears a voice;
"Seek first my kingdom, and these things
Shall added be." Strong faith is his,
And unseen things more real to
Him than the seen. He holds his life
A trust, sacred to him who gave,
And whose it is. The things the world
Offers in shadow, here he finds,
In substance given. To do good
Is pleasure, unalloyed and true;
And righteousness is riches, while
To serve, is to be great; and, not
Alone is service greatness, but
The path from glory unto glory
Pursuing these, his way shines more
And more unto the perfect day;
His life grows daily richer in
The wealth imperishable, and
The thing called Death is but the door
To vaster treasures.

Choice of these
Confronts us all. And not but once,
For life is lived by hours; and with
Each hour we choose anew, the worse
Side or the better. Thy life speaks,
In accents sure the better part
Commending.

Thou hast proven the worth
Of that consistent truth, that, he
Who loses life for Jesus' sake
Shall find it manifold. And from
Thy fifty years of ministry,
And longer years of Christian faith,
As from a liberal sowing, springs
A harvest making glad the earth.
Lives touched by thine have blossomed out
In fragrant blessing, and borne fruit
For sustenance and succor to
The souls of men. And in each life
Thus quickened by thine own, thine own
Has found new lease, and latitude;
And shall, through these, go to bless
The world when thou hast gained thy rest.
Now from this summit of thy life,
This mount of prospect looking o'er
The past and future, thou canst view
The Race, the victory, the crown,
And yet we pray that still thy feet
May gain new heights, that glories new
May burst upon thy vision, e'er,
Like Moses on the mountain top
God's hand shall lay thy body down,
And take thy spirit home.

So come
We here today with wishes kind,
And joyful hearts; our lives enriched

By thine; our hands made stronger that
Thine own have wrought, We come to keep
Thy jubilee with joy; to wish
Thee Heaven's benediction, and,
Departing hence, to crave thine own.

The presentation address was delivered by R. W. Stevenson, Montague. He was the man for the occasion. Having known Bro. Crawford so long—even from boyhood—and consequently holding him in such high esteem which grows into admiration, and is interpenetrated with gratitude, he spoke out of a full heart and with a power that cannot be transferred to paper. His address was as follows:

Elder Donald Crawford.

DEAR SIR—We, your brethren in Christ, and fellow-laborers with God, have met here to-day to congratulate you on the length of your ministry, and to pray that you may be permitted to enjoy many more years of successful service in the church of the living God—"the pillar and ground of the truth."

Your ministry has covered the most important part of the century, and the most eventful period of the world's history. It has been a time of great changes and wonderful improvement. A great domain of nature has been won. In the last fifty years Great Britain has doubled her colonial area, until now she has over 11,000,000 square miles with 350,000,000 of a population. Even in Canada new provinces have been built where were only trees and wild animals and the unprogressive redman. Towns and cities have sprung up all over the best portions of British North America. Many miles of canal service and thousands of miles of railways thread the country, until now it is filled with the hum of commerce. Wonderful has been the increase of knowledge. Applied science has transformed the world. The application of steam and electricity has secured the means of rapid communication.

Fifty years ago nations and communities were far distant from each other. In the meantime they have been drawn to within speaking distance of each other, and we go to China and Japan in less time than, fifty years ago, our grandfathers crossed from England to America. By the splendid system of telegraph wires, railways and ocean steamships the waste places have been changed into the highways of commerce, and the vision of the ancient Seer of Israel seems to be fully realized; the wilderness is blossoming as the rose—yea, blossoming abundantly, and rejoicing even with joy and singing.

You have witnessed marked improvement in the religious world; many becoming tired of sectarian strife have turned from their unrighteous rivalries and unholy contentions to study and work for the peace of Zion and a united brotherhood in Christ. The growth of the Disciples of Christ, whose plea is for the union of God's people, from a small, despised band to the magnificent proportions of over one million in North America, is marvellous. In the history of religious movements, this is an increase of unparalleled prosperity. The triumph of this movement over sectarian bigotry and misrepresentation is another achievement for which we are profoundly thankful to Almighty God. To keep secure this wonderful prosperity and this respectable recognition from the world about us you have labored and sacrificed.

During the latter years of your ministry the Disciples of Christ have become a decidedly missionary people. To-day we can count our laborers on the different mission fields of the world by the hundreds, and our

yearly contributions have reached the magnificent sum of \$454,000. This Heaven-approved work has ever received your influence and assistance. In every good word and work you have abounded.

We recognize in the work of the ministry of the Word of God a most noble calling in life. The men so engaged are treading in the footsteps of the Captain of our salvation. A minister in the Kingdom of Jesus Christ is a benefactor; his mission is to go about continually doing good. You have labored long and faithfully in word and doctrine. Your brethren in Christ, having learned of your long service, have delegated us to come to you and express the high appreciation of your most valuable services, your purity of life, your faithfulness and constant devotion to our blessed Lord. Over fifty years in the ministry, always in the front of the battle, with an unblemished reputation, is something of which your brethren feel truly proud and will most humbly strive to imitate.

By all your ability in the work of the ministry is recognized. You have ever shown yourself a workman that need not to be ashamed rightly dividing the Word of truth. Your pulpit services have been of the highest order. On all occasions your brethren have felt confident of your ability to represent the cause of Christ. Never at any time have you given an uncertain sound. Most faithfully have you declared the whole counsel of God to saint and sinner, and through your ministry of love the Lord Jesus has seen many enter His holy service. You most surely enjoy the promise, "And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever."

You have labored extensively in the Kingdom. From one end of this island to the other you have preached the gospel. Your name has become a household word. Your children in the gospel are in all the churches. You have visited the sick, prayed with and encouraged the dying, buried our dead, comforted the surviving, and married our young people. You have gone everywhere preaching the word. Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have been blessed by your labors in the gospel, some of whose churches are monuments of your earnestness and efficiency in the work. The language of Dryden may be applied to you:

"Wide was his parish, not contracted and close
In streets, but here and there a straggling house,
Yet still he was at hand without request
To serve the sick, to succor the distressed."

Your contributions to the press have been many during the fifty years of your ministry, and they have won the respect and approval of your brethren. In the world of polemics your adversary always found "a foeman worthy of his steel." Through the press, as well as from the pulpit, you have given to others your best thought, and helped to a better understanding of the Word of God. If your conclusions have not always been accepted, your articles have had the happy effect of stimulating your readers to more vigorous thought and to deeper and more thorough research.

Your brethren in the ministry can not allow this opportunity to pass without noticing the sympathy and help extended to young men entering upon and engaged in the work of the ministry. Amid the discouragements and hardships they have had to encounter, you have ever proved yourself a wise counsellor and a kind friend. For this service of love you have our undying respect and heartfelt thanks. Love can never die nor prove unfaithful. Then, by the help

of God, may we ever be your friends in every time of need.

But what shall we say of your Christian home? Here we feel like pausing ere we enter its sacred portals. It has ever been a Christian home—a place where Christ has been enthroned in the hearts of all; a holy shrine; a home for the orphan; a meeting place for kindred spirits. To your home you have ever extended a most hearty welcome to the brethren in Christ, and especially to those engaged in the work of the ministry—to them it has ever been a comfortable, Christian home.

We do not mean to close this address without making mention of our well beloved Sister Crawford, who has so nobly walked by your side through the majority of those fifty years. She has proved herself a helpmate indeed. Her loyalty to the cause of Christ has always been most apparent. She has shared your discouragements and privations and rejoiced in your triumphs, and helped in every way possible to make your ministry a complete success. By all who have been favored with her acquaintance she has been loved and respected. Our prayers to God are that she may long be spared to enjoy with you many years of increased happiness in the Kingdom of Christ, that your last days may be your best, and, when the end comes, may you have a peaceful hour in which to enter the rest and home for which you both so faithfully labored in the Lord. God bless you both. And, as a faint expression of the love and esteem of your brethren in Christ, please accept this purse of gold.

Bro. Crawford had the hardest part of all to fill. The Christian, as he is great, is humble. He naturally feels that the kind words of friends are too kind, and the value they put upon his services is too great. We feel sure the readers will be pleased to have the opportunity of reading the reply by Bro. Crawford, which we here insert.

DEAR BRETHREN—In response to your kind address, and the astonishing demonstration of Christian affection and esteem behind it, I ask you, and the many friends you represent, to accept of my most hearty thanks. I think you have, as is apt to be the case, exaggerated my feeble attempts to do good, for when I contrast what I have done in the cause of Christ with what I might have done, the words come, with ringing emphasis, "I am an unprofitable servant."

With you I rejoice that in the marvellous march of civilization of the last fifty years, the increase of gospel light has led the van. Many nations which sat in darkness now have the true light shining among them. Even Christendom is changing, growing weary of sectarian strife and hungering and thirsting for Christian union. Very many in different communions who love the Lord are longing for the time when they can sit down in full fellowship with everyone who is spiritually related to the Son of Man. Men are finding out slowly but surely that things outside the Bible and not things in the Bible are separating the people of God, and that the Bible without the aid of human creeds is the only safe guide to Christ and through Him to heaven.

Fifty years ago the people known as Christians or Disciples of Christ were few in number, and although their grand plea was for the union of all the people of God, they were misunderstood; yet they struggled on, pleading with the unconverted to be reconciled to God. They urged them to believe with all their heart in Jesus, and to obey Him, that

they might have His promise of pardon and of the Holy Spirit. Many heard and believed in the Saviour and turned unto the Lord like men did at first as recorded in the Acts of Apostles.

They contended that Christians should be united in one body with no name but the name of Christ, no spirit but the Spirit of Christ, and no creed but His creed, so that being thus united in love they might labor together for the salvation of the lost. Many examined their plea and united with them, and thus their numbers were increased.

When Disciples do wrong they must suffer for it, but when they do right God blesses them and they grow in number and in influence. Contending only for the religion of Christ it commends itself to men's conscience in the sight of God.

As the time is drawing near when I shall have to give an account of myself to God, especially for the labors of the last fifty years, it may not be amiss to give my present impressions of these labors. And, first, I see many imperfections and shortcomings in my life as a Christian. Through Divine mercy I expect all these blemishes to be washed out in the Blood of the Lamb, and to enjoy the eternity of a sinner saved by grace. But in a retrospect of my preaching and teaching I see no particular reason for change further than in greater earnestness. When pleading with men to be reconciled to God I have stood behind the Cross and the Saviour's last commission and spoken of Jesus and His love. When pleading with the saved to abide in Christ and gain eternal life I have stood behind the Sermon on the Mount and there have spoken of Jesus and his love, and now I can see no reason for material change.

What I owe to God for giving me a measure of success in such a work I can never express.

For the present substantial token of the approval of brethren and friends, I can only pray that it may not be overlooked by Him who has said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." It is no small favor to be thus remembered by nearly all the churches where I have labored from the beginning, as well as by many friends in other lands.

In the address you have kindly mentioned her whom a Gracious Providence has made my life companion, and alluded to our joint labors, such as supporting mission work, entertaining Christians, especially those who labor in word and doctrine; encouraging young men who are struggling for fitness to preach the gospel, etc., etc. We would say in reply, as time is short and so much to be done, we esteem it a great privilege to engage in these things and the doing of them a blessed luxury, for which we thank the Father in heaven.

Again, kind friends, we ask you to accept of our sincere thanks for this generous meeting, and unite with us in "thanks unto God for his unspeakable gift."

The chairman called upon George Manifold, who said that the influence of this man of God had girdled the earth, as his sons in the faith were preaching the gospel in home and foreign fields.

Elder H. E. Cooke spoke approvingly of Donald Crawford as an expounder of the Scriptures, and of the benefit and help he had received from his instruction.

The singing of "God be with you till we meet again" by the choir, and the pronouncing of the Benediction by Elder D. Crawford brought this memorable jubilee celebration to a close.

In the evening the home of this worthy couple was crowded with guests, who whiled away the happy hours in songs and happy conversation.

TURUA, Auckland, N. Z.,
20th November, 1897.

ELDER D. CRAWFORD, New Glasgow, P. E. I.

My Dear Bro.—By a notice which appeared in THE CHRISTIAN, I find that the church and the brethren are about to make a presentation on the occasion of your jubilee as a preacher. I need hardly assure you that we were very much pleased to see this spontaneous action on the part of those who have so long been the recipients of your labors, and we feel that we would like to join in the movement.

The time fixed in which to communicate with Bro. R. W. S. is too short for our contribution to be sent to him so as to be added to the fund which he will receive; but to be as near in time as the mail arrangements will allow, we have decided to send direct to you.

I enclose a P. O. O. for £5, contributed by the brethren here, and with it we send our very best thanks for the invaluable Christian teaching received from you, and our earnest wishes and prayers for your peace and joy all your days here below and a happy entrance into the home above.

I remain, on behalf of the brethren at Turua,
Your loving brother,

LEMUEL J. BAGNALL

[The above, from so small a church, manifests a true Christian affection.—ED.]

Original Contributions.

CHRISTIANITY MORE THAN SENTIMENT.

T. H. BLENUM,

There are doubtless some truths taught in the Bible about which mistakes do not make us guilty of fundamental error; and, on the other hand, it is equally true that there are great principles there taught that we must believe and act upon understandingly before we can claim to be the children of God. It is the practical reception of the truth of the cardinal principles of the gospel of Jesus Christ that determines in us the true spirit and genius of Godliness. I also believe it is possible to have a speculative belief in these cardinal principles without having a particle of vital Christianity in the soul.

Many a struggling church is cursed with this kind of religion, all head and no heart, all blow, and brag and bluster, but devoid of goodness, justness, holiness and purity in heart and life. Christianity is never inconsistent with itself. All truth is consistent. Lies, deceptions, double-dealing and hypocrisy are all inconsistent. If our religious principles in any way foster in us a spirit of indifference to practical Christianity in the every-day life, if they allow us to neglect the family altar, the Lord's table, the assembly of the saints, the prayer meeting, the cultivation of the spirit of love for the brethren and the unsaved around us, or allow us to engage in wordly indulgences, then they are grossly inconsistent, and the whole system of our religion is a hollow mockery, and a God-dishonoring sham.

The aim or end of Christianity is to make men better, and it is simply senseless and ridiculously absurd in the extreme to suppose

that an infinitely holy and supremely righteous Being should give us a system of religion not adapted to meet His aim and end. A belief that does not bring the human character nearer, by a gradual, progressive development to the Divine standard, is not, and never can be, the faith of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Home Mission Notes.

A Happy New Year.

We have received from Bro. B. L. Smith a copy of the *American Home Missionary* for November. It is packed full of information about our mission work on this Continent. It shows that the General Board during the year ending Sept. 30th employed seventy-one preachers. They labored at 294 places, had 4,849 additions, and organized thirty-four churches. The Board received \$31,000. The General and State Boards during the same time employed 304 preachers. They labored at 963 places, had 18,548 additions, organized 169 churches and 228 Sunday-schools. The total receipts were \$193,132.

It seems from this that over one-third of our increase in numbers last year was the result of Home Mission labor. We have now 10,029 churches; membership, 1,051,679. We gained during the year 422 churches and 47,407 members, and the total amount raised for all mission purposes was \$429,919. We have now 5,780 preachers; gain, 420. Sunday-school members, 676,949; gain, 37,418; and there was \$781,000 added to value of church property. Surely we have reason to thank God, and take courage over the blessings of the past.

Bro. Smith makes the following appeal for volunteers:

"The spirit of heroism is not often recognized as belonging to Home Mission work; nevertheless it is there. When we passed through the suffering caused by our debt, unable to meet our payments to the missionaries, the heroic quality of those men and their wives and children show out beautifully, a sight over which God's angels and all good men rejoiced. In all that time of trial not one soldier deserted his post.

We feel that the time has come to appeal the heroic and self-sacrificing young men of our churches. God and the church want Home Missionary volunteers—young men who are ready to go anywhere, everywhere, with or without compensation, for the advancement of His cause in America.

We call for volunteers for these fields. We want young men without families, for no support is guaranteed; young men who are efficient and who are lovers of the cause of New Testament Christianity. The Lord's cause says: "Whom shall I send?" Who will answer, "Here am I; send me?"

Now, a word in regard to our own work. Is there a reader of THE CHRISTIAN who does not know our needs? Will it be necessary for someone to call on you personally to tell you of the need, and ask you to give to this fund? We wish this were possible in order to keep home missions to the front. In the meantime will you heed another call for aid? Five months are past. We should have received \$250, but aside from profits of CHRISTIAN we have not received \$200. At this rate we will be \$100 in debt at the end of the year. Do you desire to see that? So far only ten churches have contributed, and some of them gave small sums. The following have: Westport, Pictou, Milton, Cornwallis, Southville, St. John (two),

Lord's Cove, Leonardville and Letoto. Will the churches not named respond to this appeal. There was \$163 pledged at annual, \$93 of which is still due. If possible, redeem your pledge. Thus ends the first appeal in 1898.

J. S. FLAGLOR, Secretary.

RECEIPTS.

Acknowledged, St. John—	....	....	\$169 96
Coburg Street Mission Band,	..	....	3 65
" Sunday-school,	....	....	8 04
Main Street Sunday-school,	....	....	4 08
" Mrs. Morrison,	....	....	2 00
Leonardville—			
Mrs. (Dr.) Murray,	....	....	3 00
Pomeroy, Iowa—			
R Jackson,	....	....	5 00
Profits from CHRISTIAN,	....	....	51 86
			\$247 50

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received in December,	....	....	\$77 68
<i>Expended.</i>			
Due Treasurer,	....	\$11 18	
Halifax, December,	....	21 00	
Pictou,	....	16 63	
Main Street, St. John,	....	12 50	
			61 29
Bal. on hand,	....	....	\$18 34

Foreign Missions.

Maritime C. W. B. M.

*Expect great things from God.
Attempt great things for God.*

TOKIO, JAPAN, Oct. 28, 1897.

To the C. W. B. M. of Ontario and the Maritime Provinces:

DEAR SISTERS,—My time is so fully occupied that I find it difficult to get time to write letters. With our large family there is much to be attended to—the little ones especially taking up my time. The restful parts of the day are the Bible lesson for the girls, and morning and evening prayers. Then the poor schools must be visited and directed, and frequently a teacher's place supplied. Then the homes of the pupils are to be visited and the message of salvation brought there, for one must know the people in their homes to get near to them. Then there are the women's meetings, church and Sunday-school services, and the Wednesday prayer meeting. In short there are so many duties awaiting one that it is often difficult to decide which would best be done first. Sometimes in the moment of doubtful hesitancy a crunching of the pebbles on the walk in front of the house announces the approach of a visitor, so one must drop everything and welcome the caller. The Japanese are never in a hurry, and it would be considered very impolite to exhibit any. Perhaps it is someone who wishes to learn more of Christ, or to ask about the meetings, or more commonly, to know if you will teach them English; or it may be a fellow missionary who, though her own hands are more than full, has left it for a while to cross this city of immense distances to cheer one with words of sympathy and encouragement.

The poor school on Matsugaya Cho is doing well. Of course, as usual, the older pupils left at the end of the summer term, and now a great number of new faces have taken their places. One of the women of the Bible training school has graduated, and has gone up to Akita to be with Dr. Stevens, and is now doing full Bible woman's work.

I have not yet told you, I think, of the nice new home the Board has purchased for Miss Oldham and me. It is the first European house either of us has been in since we came

to Japan, and you can hardly imagine just how much we appreciate it.

We have even more at the Sunday-school than we had before the hot weather. The singing is not so good, for so many of our best singers have gone and are battling the cold world, with their hearts stored with many precious truths, I trust, to conquer it. The mothers come pretty faithfully to the women's meetings, though there is much sickness and distress caused by the hard times—the hardest I have seen in Japan. Oh, pity the poor and the fatherless in this vast city! We have hopes that some of the women will soon come over to the right and safe side, and walk the rest of their journey with their Saviour. The girls in the home are all well and happy, and one can hear their chattering and peals of laughter ringing through the house at any time.

Miss Oldham's arm is gaining in strength and she seems a little freer from her headaches. She expects to come home with me and I am trying to persuade her to come to the Ontario June meeting. I do want you to meet her and know and love her as I do.

Hoping that the Japan work is very near each and all of your hearts, and many times brought before the throne of grace,

I remain, your sister in the work,
MARY M. RIOCH.

In October we organized an Auxiliary to the C. W. B. M. with eleven members. The officers appointed were: President, Mrs. Stevens; Vice-President, Miss Horsman; Secretary, Miss E. Fullerton; Treasurer, Miss Etta Campbell; Lookout Committee, Misses Hattie Stevens, Ella Fullerton, Etta Hatt. We have held three meetings and are glad to report a growing interest and a prospect for a larger membership.

ELLA FULLERTON,
Secretary.

Pictou, N. S.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	\$82 51
St. John, Coburg St. Ladies' Aid,	2 50
Milton Ladies' Aid,	10 55
Total,	\$95 56

SUSIE FORD STEVENS, Treasurer,
Pictou, N. S.

Children's Work.

Address all communications to Mrs. D. A. Morrison, 291
Germain Street, St. John, N. B.

DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS,—Christmas has come and gone and before you receive this letter the new year will have begun. As we enter the new year we should pause and reflect. Some one has said that we should not look backward but forward, but I think it is good to look back once in a while and notice the mistakes we have made, and if by looking back we learn to avoid making the same mistake in the future, it will not be time wasted. We made a good many resolutions last year, and when we begin to think of how many of them we have broken, we feel ashamed. But let us not be discouraged, for by "patient continuance in well doing" we will win glory and honour and eternal life. Now let us start this year with the determination to make one person better, and with each one let that one person be *himself* or *herself*.

Since writing to you last month I have heard sad news. One of our little workers in Westport—Alma Peters—has been called home by our Heavenly Father. Alma was not spared to work many years for the Master here on earth, but in her short life she made

herself beloved by those around her. She was a very active little member of the Mission Band of "Willing Workers" and she was in every way a *willing* worker. This is what one of her friends has written to me of her: "She was always such a comfort to the Band leaders. I never felt afraid to ask Alma to help me in any way for she was always so willing. One could hardly believe that one little girl—she was not quite twelve—could be such a great help to the leaders. She was a beautiful little singer, and we believe her voice is now ever tuned to sweeter music. "Even a child is known by its doings."

Dear girls and boys, let us all try to live so that when our Father call's us home we may be able to look back on a life spent in his service, and not in idle deeds.

Your loving friend,
MRS D. A. MORRISON,
Supt. of Children's Work.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	\$26 80
Interest,	2 35
Total,	\$29 65

SUSIE FORD STEVENS, Treasurer,
Pictou, N. S.

COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE.

There has not been as much work done since the Annual as we would like to have seen accomplished.

We hope to get a brother to take the field in Halifax and Hants Counties, N. S., before long.

The Y. P. S. C. E. Coburg St., St. John, has purchased Campbell's Christian System and the Campbell-Owen Debate for the St. John Public Library. This society always keeps on hand a good supply of tracts. Their example we believe should be followed by all our young people's societies.

Probably no branch of our work is so neglected as the distribution of our literature. If we wish to carry on an aggressive warfare in support of the truth we must not neglect this work, which in these days of general education is becoming a great factor in Christian progress.

We hope that the purchasers of books will pay our agents as soon as convenient as we are still behind in our accounts with the Publishing Companies.

We have received only one subscription since the annual.

RECEIPTS.

A. E. Coates, St. John,	\$1 00
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O. B. STOCKFORD,
Secretary-Treasurer.

AN APPEAL.

The churches throughout the Maritime Provinces are kindly asked to observe Educational Day in Canada, on the second Lord's day in January. The churches are requested to take a collection for the college of the Disciples, St. Thomas, Ont. This is the only educational institution in this country under the auspices of the Disciples of Christ. The number of students in attendance, and the results of the work so far, justify the effort made. Your attention is called to the following circular, and your help is kindly solicited. Any

help given to aid the Ontario brethren in this work will be very gratefully received.

In behalf of the Board,
T. L. FOWLER, Pres.

THE COLLEGE OF THE DISCIPLES.

Educational Day.

Dear Brethren and Sisters in the Dominion:

Upon this day our preachers are kindly requested to preach Educational Sermons, and the Churches, Sunday-schools and Endeavor Societies are asked to lift a collection for the support of the College.

The work this session is most encouraging. The number in attendance and the results of our efforts so far are very much beyond the highest hopes of the most sanguine.

Among the new students of this session are six young men who are preparing for the work of the Gospel. Two of these are from the States and one is from England. Several more will enter the beginning of the year.

The teaching staff consists of T. L. Fowler, W. D. Cunningham, Dr. D. McKillop, Dr. L. Luton, Miss M. Saywell and N. D. Wells.

Courses of Lectures on important subjects will be given during the session by the following, viz.: C. T. Paul, Geo. Fowler, R. W. Ballan, Judge Hughes and J. Tisdale.

Three of the students preached regularly during the vacation and fifty were added to the churches for which they labored. Several new places have already been opened and weak churches have been helped. We ask for your assistance, that we may do the same work for the whole Province. We aim to send able and earnest young men into every town and city, and into every nook and corner of our country with the Gospel of the Grace of God.

Will you help us in this work?

We ask for the co-operation of all who love our cause and who desire to see New Testament Christianity prevail.

Send all contributions to R. N. Price.

In behalf of the Board,
R. N. PRICE,
Financial Secretary, St. Thomas, Ont.

AGENTS FOR THE CHRISTIAN.

MRS. PETER CHING, Little Harbour, P. E. I. of
Lots 46 and 47.
MRS. O. M. PACKARD, 353 West 57th Street, N. Y.
W. R. McEVEN, Milton, N. S.
JAS. W. KENNEDY, Southport, P. E. I.
MAJOR LINKLETTER, Summerside, P. E. I.
ROBT. DEWAR, New Perth, P. E. I.
GEO. MANFOLD, Charlottetown, P. E. I.
J. F. BAKER, North Lake, P. E. I.
PETER A. DEWAR, Montague, P. E. I.
KENDRICK OUTHOUSE, Tiverton & Freeport, N. S.
GEORGE ROWERS, Westport, N. S.
D. F. LAMBERT, Lord's Cove, Deer Island, N. B.
MRS. C. H. CONLEY, Jr., Leonardville, Deer Island
N. B.
JOHN W. WALLACE, Shubenacadie,
ISRAEL C. CUSHING, Kempt, N. S.
W. J. MESSERVEY, Halifax, N. S.
GRACE WILSON, Burt's Corner, York Co., N. B.
W. R. WENTWORTH, LeTete, N. B.
W. T. JELLEY, St. Thomas, Ont.

More names will be added as they are appointed

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