

Bro. Wolverton, of Albany, visited Monmouth this week and reported the harvest there ripe and awaiting the laborer.

Bro. Morrison went from Monmouth to McMinnville to engage in a meeting. We have had no word from there up to this writing.

Bro. F. M. Davis, of Farmington, W. T., goes to the mines to spend the winter and asks the prayers of the brethren to go with him while among the ungodly.

We acknowledge a special invitation to stop with Bro. W. T. Wright, of Milton, Oregon, should we ever visit that part of the State. We would take pleasure in being entertained by a brother who, as he says, was brought up under the preaching of such men as A. Campbell, Isaac Errett and Wm. S. Hayden.

We are very sorry to learn that Bro. D. M. Doty, of Scio, is again troubled with his old disease, the asthma, accompanied with bronchitis. He writes us that his physician tells him he will have to cease preaching for awhile, and go east of the mountains and spend at least three months in rest. He has concluded to do so, and will start in a few days. We hope he will soon obtain permanent relief.

CLOSING UP.

Last week closed our first year's work on the CHRISTIAN HERALD, and this issue begins the second. Our year's labor is before the brethren, and of our effort to give them a religious journal worthy of their respect and patronage and of the good we have been able to accomplish for the cause, especially on this coast, we leave our readers to judge. In some respects we are satisfied and have even gone beyond our expectation; while in other respects we are not at all satisfied. While we have labored hard almost day and night for the success of our paper, yet it has been largely a pleasure to us as well as a blessing, we trust, to others. While we are fully conscious of our weakness and of our mistakes in the past we are gratified to state that, so far as we are able to learn, our effort on the whole has been highly satisfactory to the brethren. The HERALD from the beginning has gradually grown in favor with the brethren and in usefulness both at home and abroad, and its subscription list has increased till it is now much larger

than ever before during its thirteen years' publication, and the end is not yet. In short the HERALD is in a better condition by far in many respects than at any time during its history, and in the estimation of those capable of judging is fast taking its place among our leading religious journals. Yet there are improvements which are needed and which must be made in the near future.

Now in view of these facts brethren; what do you propose doing? You see what the paper is, and you have learned something of its future prospects, so we feel that it is unnecessary to urge upon you the necessity of rallying to its support and thus aid in making it still more useful in the good cause of our Lord and Master. We are satisfied that you will readily do this. We are thankful to the brethren for their many words of encouragement, and hope they will continue to remember us in this kind and brotherly way. Permit us to state in conclusion that quite a number of our subscribers are in arrears on their paper, and it is now time to close up. We will be compelled to close up all our accounts by the first of January, and in order to do this we will need all the money due us. Then let each subscriber examine the date opposite his name on the paper and if behind please remit at once. Let our agents also look after this matter. Come, brethren, let us close up all our accounts for the old year, and get ready for a forward movement all along the line at the beginning of the New year.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

The Scriptures clearly teach that the Church of Christ on earth is really but One Body. But for the sake of order and convenience, the primitive Church was divided into as many congregations as was thought necessary; each congregation, when fully organized having its own corps of divinely appointed elders and deacons. So may it be now. The same conditions on which one becomes a member of the one body of Christ does he also become a member of some one local congregation to which he is personally responsible for his Christian conduct. The idea that a person must comply with one set of conditions in order to get into the one Church of Christ, and another set to become a member of some local congregation and thus enjoy its full

fellowship and privileges, is without the shadow of foundation in the word of God. It is purely sectarian, and in many places has done more to hinder the cause of Christ than almost any other one idea. When one is baptized into Jesus Christ he is baptized into the congregation nearest and most convenient to him, and hence has no more right to withdraw himself from their society and congregational fellowship than he has to withdraw from the Church of Christ itself. The church in whose midst such persons are living is in duty bound to look after them and see that they live as the law of God requires them. As we have before us the words of one of the safest and ablest Bible interpreters among us which so fully and forcibly express our idea, and also to show that we do not stand alone in our view of this question, we take pleasure in reproducing them here. We refer to that scholarly and good man, Pres. R. Milligan, of the College of the Bible, Lexington, Ky., at the time of his death. In his scheme of Redemption he says:

Every member of the one body is, also, *de facto*, a member of some one congregation, to which he is personally responsible, and with which he is bound to cooperate in all that pertains to the glory of God, the edification of the Church, and the conversion of the world. I have no objection to the common practice of giving to those recently baptized in a Church the hand of Christian affection, provided it be done not for the purpose of receiving them into the Church as members, for which there is not the slightest authority in the word of God, but simply as a fraternal recognition of their existing membership. But I do protest against the opinion entertained by some, that a man may be baptized and yet be irresponsible to any Church or body of disciples; or that he may receive from the Church of which he is a member a letter of commendation, and then be irresponsible to any Church so long as he may see fit to retain said letter in his own possession. Good order requires that every Christian shall be responsible to the Church where he is baptized, and from the moment of his baptism. If for any valid reason he wishes to leave said Church, even on the self-same day of his adoption, let him receive from it a letter of commendation to the congregation nearest to the place of destination. If he neglects or refuses to identify himself with it, let him be called to an account by the Church that recommended him, and to whom he is still responsible, so long as he retains their letter of commendation. It is high time that these wandering stars should

be arrested in their erratic course, and that every Christian should be made to feel that he is responsible to his brethren for his regular attendance on the ordinances of God, and his general demeanor as a member of the body of Christ.

ALL SORTS.

If a Christian would help himself he must make an effort to help others. "Giving is getting;" but it takes us a long time to learn the lesson.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding." So said the wisest of men. In our Christian work we do lean too much upon ourselves. If we could learn the great lesson our heavenly Father is trying to teach us, that of implicit trust in him, we would be more happy and more efficient in his cause.

"Honor the Lord with thy substance and with the first fruits of thine increase" is a divine command that we fear many overlook. Are you carrying out that command, my dear brother, with your broad acres and your thousands of dollars out at interest, when millions of precious souls for whom Christ died are going down to eternal ruin?

There is no work that will yield better results than that of looking after strangers who may move into neighborhoods where brethren live; and yet there is no work that is often more neglected. When people move away among strangers they feel lonely, and a little attention to them then will do more toward bringing them into the church than many sermons.

And when people who come to the church who are strangers, let not the members act toward them as if the church was an iceberg, but let them go to them and endeavor to make them feel that they are glad to see them. Some church members act toward strangers about as the man did toward a drowning man. When asked why he did not make an effort to save him from drowning, he said he had not been introduced to him. Don't wait, brethren, for an introduction.

True worship consists in worshipping the Father in *spirit and in truth*. So teaches the Savior. To worship in spirit means to do what