

CHRISTIAN LEADER.

Established 1880, by JOHN F. HOWE,
JAMES H. HELL, Editors.

CINCINNATI, DECEMBER 3, 1901.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Single Subscriptions, One Year, . . . \$1.50
If Six Months or More Discontinue, per Year, . . \$2.00

SPECIAL DIRECTIONS.

In ordering a change of address, always give the name of the journal, post-office, county and State where the paper is going, and where it is to go after the change.

Orders in advance must be accompanied by full payment in advance. The yellow label bearing your name shows to what time your subscription is paid. Subscriptions expire at the first of the month indicated on the label. New subscriptions received before the middle of the month will be credited from the first of that month, and all papers for that month sent; subscriptions received after the middle of the month will date from the first of the following month.

If anything is written for the editor, or for publication in the Leader, it must be on a separate sheet from that on which the names of subscribers or orders are written.

Money may be sent by Money Order, Express, Bank Draft or Registered Letter, at our risk.

We will be pleased at any time to correct any and all errors occurring at this office.

Rates of advertising furnished on application.

All communications should be addressed to

CHRISTIAN LEADER,

422 Elm Street, . . . CINCINNATI, O.

VISIT IN THE COPPER COUNTRY.

Laurium, Houghton Co., Mich., is a nice little city of about 7,000 inhabitants. It is one of several little cities united in one large city. The county has many copper mines, and around each location has been gathered a population which fills many neat frame houses. Every company owns the land, and builds the houses for its employees. The "shaft" houses have large machinery, and the work of getting out the copper goes on without ceasing. Wages are good. The largest company is the Calumet and Hecla, which every month pays out to its workers over half a million dollars. Great is the copper country—a spot on Lake Superior, beyond a wilderness.

A few disciples of the Lord went from the coal mines of Pennsylvania and Ohio to the copper mines in Houghton County, Mich. They became acquainted with each other, and for some time held meetings for worship in their own homes. On my return home to Pekin, N. Y., after my winter's visit to the churches in Central Kentucky, in the end of last May, the brethren in Laurium, Mich., invited me to come up and preach the Gospel of Christ to the people there. On the 1st of August I started for the copper country—a country very little known to the "outside world." Arriving at Calumet, I was much and agreeably surprised—instead of a thinly settled place, with rough people as miners, I found a cluster of nice towns, people of almost every nation, good looking and well formed.

The few brethren had leased the German Reformed building, a neat house on Depot Street, for two months, at \$18 per month—and for ten months at \$10 per month. It will be heated, and is lighted by electricity. We began our meeting, and spoke to fair, but variable, audiences every evening, Saturday excepted, for the two months. Most of the men had to work in the mines at night every other week, so could not attend our services. Nine persons were baptized, and three others united with their brethren. English-speaking people are a minority, but the rising generation will speak English.

The editor of the Copper Country Evening News, Mr. Mackenzie, was very liberal of space to us—publishing every notice sent to him, as well as a column article called for by the private conduct of a "good minister."

Being only three months before the public, the disciples of the Lord Jesus in Laurium have good prospects of putting the one Gospel of the Christ, preached by

his chosen, trained and authorized apostles, before the intelligent people of Laurium and the whole Copper Country. Letting their daily conduct illustrate and embrace "the things which are surely believed," delivered by those who were eyewitnesses and ministers of the Word from the beginning, the disciples—the Church of Christ—in Laurium, can be a light shining in a dark place. The variety of "churches" in these cities calls for a return to the old record of the teaching of Jesus and of his apostles. Men's philosophy—mostly fables has chided the Gospel of Christ, which is the power of God unto salvation to every believer of it.

Though far away, and between the lake on the north and the wild wilderness of pine swamps on the south and east, the Copper Country has attracted a large and rapidly increasing population. Some twenty-five languages are spoken by the people. Some learned, zealous and highly respected men are preaching in English—each has his "peculiar and distinct" way of salvation, forgetting that God who spoke by his Son, sent but one message—the words which are both "spirit and life." The discord in doctrines is not loud, but the people are separated into many "folds." That One is your Father, and One is your Teacher, are not made prominent subjects in the pulpits. The several preachers are the work of their trainers, and keep their pulpits by fidelity to the traditions of their "fathers." The praise of men brings larger and speedier rewards than the praise of God. Christ has one voice.

The Church of Christ in Laurium, Mich., is not feeling the need of, or calling for the help of, any "society literature." They are rich in possessing the Scriptures which can make them "wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus the Christ." Giving heed to the voice of the teachers sent by the Lord of all, the Church of Christ will glorify his name. The disciples in Laurium can not afford to neglect the attentive study of the apostles' teaching in consuming their time by the reading of any "new current literature." This is the tar-sowing in our Sunday-schools, in our pulpits, and the harvest is a-reaping. How can the young people, or the old, find time to read, or money to buy, the innumerable "courses of reading" specially prepared to prevent their reading of Moses and his prophets, of Jesus and his apostles? Back to Christ—if honest and intelligent—means back to the New Testament, which alone can safely guide in the reading of the Old Testament.

Though the long, cold, snowy winter admonished me—now an old man—to return to a milder country, my eyes were pleased with the nice and rapidly improving cities in the Copper Country; and my heart was captivated by the kindness of the earnest disciples of our Lord in Laurium. If life be mine, soon as the flowers bloom next spring I must return to them. There are many young disciples there whose future usefulness calls for careful teaching in the ways of the great apostle as he taught in "every church." Heart-deep faith in the truth of "the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name (authority) of Jesus the Christ," as they are read in the old record, is the strongest and only "call of God" which men can hear and obey in this time and land. The man asserting any other "call of God to the ministry" is a fraud—self-deluded and trying to delude other people. He may be "educated and regularly ordained," but his "call" is a hoax!

It is a good thing, in its way, to be an honor man in college and to stand at the head of the class, but these things are soon forgotten in the world by even the few who knew them. What is demanded of each man is that he be effective in his own place and work each day and year as they go by. If he is effective he is tolerated. When he becomes ineffective he must give place to some one who is. The world has not learned how to mix business and sentiment.