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TORONTO, OCTOBER 1st, 1890.

Charles McMillan.

In the West Toronto Junction Daily Tribune of Aug. 18th appeared the following obituary:—

DIED.—At West Toronto Junction, on Sunday, August 17th, Charles McMillan, Esq., in his seventy-third year.

Deceased was a native of Scotland, having been born in the Mull of Cantire, Argyshire, on Sept. 14th, 1817. When he was five years old the family removed to Canada, and became pioneer settlers in the township of Erin, Wellington county. When a young man our subject engaged in business as a builder. Later he carried on the milling business, and subsequently turned his attention to farming. He held many public positions in Wellington county. Was a Justice of the Peace and has represented the township, of which he was a pioneer, in the County Council. About ten years ago he retired from active work, but continued to reside on the farm until last year when he removed to this town, taking possession of a residence he had purchased on High Park Avenue. His death was the result of an accident he met with on Wednesday last. From internal injuries received by falling down stairs, he never rallied but, surrounded by loving relatives, breathed his last yesterday at about nine o'clock. Deceased had five brothers and four sisters, one sister and two brothers preceding him to the side of the vast majority. Their irreparable loss is mourned by a widow and five sons and five daughters, the youngest of whom passed his twenty-first birthday one week ago to day. One of the daughters is the wife of ex-Mayor Clendenan. The funeral is being held to day. Friends met at the residence at 12.30, and followed the remains to the Grand Trunk station en route to Guelph, from whence a start will be made to the place of interment on the arrival of the train at 3 o'clock. Deceased has been a member of the Church of Christ (Disciples) for about forty-five years.

There is an error in the above. It is two years since Bro. McMillan left the farm. He resided in Guelph one year before going to West Toronto Junction. We presume in other respects the sketch is correct. It begins with his birth and ends with his death, but it is not complete from the standpoint of this paper. Where the Tribune has but the sentence, "Deceased has been a member of the Church of Christ (Disciples) for about forty-five years," THE EVANGELIST would consider a column or two not inappropriate. To say a man is a member of a Church, unfortunately in our day means very little. It is generally thought that a person may be considered a member of a Church and not be a Christian, or be not much of a Christian. And very often when such persons die all that is possible is made of the fact that they were "members" of a Church, or that they attended meeting regularly, or even occasionally. It is remarkable how many of us are Universalists, practically, when death comes to certain of our own near of kin. We want to figure them into heaven somehow.

In considering the Christian life of Charles McMillan we feel that we are

relieved from the temptation to alter our convictions of Bible truth in order to save a friend from perdition. Not that it is here suggested that Charles McMillan was a perfect man, that he had no faults and made no mistakes, but that he was one concerning whom we can entertain a well-grounded hope that he died in the Lord, because while in life, by a patient continuance in well-doing, he was seeking glory, honor and immortality. Of him with confidence it may be said, that he fought the good fight, finished the course, kept the faith.

A striking characteristic of Bro. McMillan was his love for the Word of God—not a mere intellectual interest in the Bible, but a sympathetic, spiritual attachment to it and the plan of salvation it reveals. This affection was exhibited, not by the repetition of pretty sayings about the Bible, but by a daily devotion to its duty. As a consequence, he had a comprehensive and accurate knowledge of the Scriptures, and a clear conception of the relation of the Old Testament to the New—of the Law to the Gospel. He gave one the impression that he treated and used the Bible as a human being should who believed it to be God's book. Alas! how many who profess to believe it treat it with something akin to contempt? What the Church of Christ needs is a generation of Bible-reading, Bible-loving men and women.

Bro. McMillan was an elder for many years, first in the old Erin congregation and then in the Erin Village Church after its organization. It was natural that he should make a leading position—he was aggressive, enterprising and capable. He was a good teacher, a clear and interesting speaker. Had he devoted his whole time to the ministry, he would easily have occupied a prominent place. As it was, when the accounts come to be made up, it will, no doubt, be found that he helped many in the way that leads to life eternal.

Charles McMillan was, what a Christian ought to be, a progressive man; not that he progressed beyond the Scriptures, but that as his knowledge of the Word grew, he grew with it. He distinguished between what was Scriptural and what was traditional, between what God said and what man says. If he found he had been teaching for doctrines the commandments of men, he was not ashamed to change his mind and his practice, and let people know it. He was careful that no mere opinions of his should stand in the way of the Lord's work. He was what is sometimes called a missionary man; not that he was wedded to any particular method of doing the work, but that he believed in doing the work, and contributed liberally towards its support. No better proof of a true appreciation and a personal enjoyment of the Gospel can be given than an earnest desire to have it preached to others.

It is worthy of record here that Bro. McMillan was a total abstainer from intoxicating liquors, and an earnest and uncompromising Prohibitionist. The Temperance cause had no firmer friend and no warmer advocate than he.

That he was a gracious host, a faithful friend, a tender parent, a devoted husband, is but the simple truth, as all who know him can testify. It is a pleasure to the writer to have the privilege of here expressing, though in a very imperfect way, his appreciation of Charles McMillan as a man and Christian.

Reason cannot show itself more reasonable than to leave reasoning on things above reason.

The Church in Hamilton.

In another column will be found an account of the services in connection with the new house of worship in Hamilton. The following historical sketch of the church was given to the writer by Bro. Alexander Anderson:—

For over forty years there have been Disciples in Hamilton. In the winter of 1849, as Bro. James Kilgour and Bro. Anderson were on their way home from the Niagara district, they reached Hamilton on a Saturday; Bro. Kilgour remained in the town Saturday, and preached to the Disciples on the Lord's day. Bro. Anderson went on six miles farther to Dundas, where he lodged at Bro. Wm. Elliott's, met with the Church on the first day of the week, and preached. There then were about twenty five Disciples in Dundas. The late George Clendenan, father of D. W. Clendenan, of West Toronto Junction, was one of the speakers in Hamilton at that time. The Church met in the house of a Bro. Harding, whose brother, H. Harding, is still a member of the congregation.

Some years after, when the late Eli Mallory came to Hamilton from Danbury, Ct., the meetings began to be held in his house and were continued there for about 18 years. During this period there were not many additions to the congregation. No protracted meetings were held and no special efforts made to reach the public with the Gospel.

In the year of 1879 Bro. Anderson took up his residence in the city, and urged the brethren to procure a hall and invite the public to attend their meetings. The first hall secured was at 22½ King Street East—up one flight of stairs. Some four or five years ago the Church was compelled to seek another hall as this one was wanted for business purposes. One was found at the corner of James and King William Streets, and nearer the sky than the first one, being up two flights of stairs. The last meeting was held in this hall September 7 last. During the time the Church met in those halls, some twenty were baptized, three of whom made the good confession at a meeting held by O. W. Marty in the spring of 1886; the rest of them confessed Christ at the regular meetings of the Church at which Bro. Anderson was the regular preacher, until three or four years ago, when Bro. R. N. Wheeler was appointed an elder, and spoke on alternate Sundays thereafter. When Elder Eli Mallory attended the meetings it was his custom to preside at the Lord's table and conduct the devotional exercises. Between him and Bro. Anderson there always existed the most pleasant relations, and when he died, about a year ago, Bro. Anderson was called upon to officiate at his funeral.

Not many of the original nucleus of the Church are now left. Many have come and gone. The present congregation is made up in part of Disciples from Erin, Eramosa, Guelph and Jordan. The Church is now living and working in harmony and brotherly love, and hopes in the new house to have great success in turning sinners to the Lord and edifying the saints. The Church is grateful to all who have assisted them in buying the lot and erecting the building. Bro. Anderson desires that especial mention should be made of the gift of Bro. Wm. Elliott, of Toronto, who, though now associated with the Baptists, showed his warm feeling for the Disciples in Hamilton by sending them a cheque for \$100.

During Bro. Anderson's long labor with the Church he never received any compensation. He was able to give

his labor gratuitously, inasmuch as Sister Anderson provided him with a pleasant and comfortable home. Sister Anderson, it may be observed, is a liberal and unostentatious and cheerful giver. Her purse has always been open when the Church at home or the mission fund required money, and she has made a large contribution to the Building Fund. For a man of his years Bro. Anderson looks very well, and says he enjoys fairly good health although he feels the effects of old age growing upon him. He is glad to hear that his old friends are interested in him and enquiring after him. Those friends, we know, will join us in the wish that he may be spared to see a strong Church in the City of Hamilton.

The new house is situated at the corner of Wilson and Cathcart Streets. The ground cost \$300; the building, including furnishings, about \$2,600. The basement is not yet finished. The material is of red brick with white brick trimmings and stone basement. It presents a good appearance on the outside, the stone and brick work being both well done. The entrance is one step above the level. As you enter there is a door to the right leading to the basement, and one to the left leading to the gallery; beyond those to the right and left are steps rising to the level of the auditorium, which when you enter and look around you pronounce to be just right. The gallery is above the vestibule and projects about three feet over the body of the house. Under the platform is the baptistery and at the ends of it are dressing rooms. The wood work is finished in oil and varnished. The pulpit and platform chairs, in fact all the furnishings, are not what would be called grand, but neat, tasty, and comfortable. The double gothic windows are of ground glass with colored margins. The house will seat 260 in the pews; by placing chairs in the aisles fifty or sixty more can be accommodated. Upon examining the house and its appointments one is not surprised to learn that a Toronto builder wondered how such a building could be erected for the money. There must have been good management in letting the contracts and managing the enterprise generally. There is a mortgage on the property of \$900 bearing interest at six per cent. The money is borrowed for five years, with the privilege of paying all or part of it at the end of any year in sums of not less than \$100. The building committee was composed of the following brethren: R. N. Wheeler, chairman; D. Harris, M. Warner, A. Tolton, and H. Harding.

The sisters have been forward in pushing on the work. In addition to subscribing to the general building fund, they have provided the carpet, matting and pulpit chairs. Upon asking what sister or sisters should be particularly commended, it was intimated that all were worthy of honorable mention. It was very pleasing to learn that there had been no bazaars and no festivals held to raise the money.

As a matter of course the brethren and sisters all rejoice in what has been accomplished and well they may. We imagine that not one of them feels more happy than Bro. Wheeler, whose earnest appeal at St. Thomas last year won the hearts of the brethren and sisters at the Annual Meeting, and induced them to promise such assistance as gave the Church in Hamilton courage to undertake the work of erecting a house.

Among the visitors present at the opening services we recollect seeing: W. B. Malcolm and wife, from Toronto; young Bro. and Sister Fry, from Solkirk; H. T. Law, J. D. Currie and C. C. Pomeroy, West Toronto Jun-

tion; J. W. Kilgour and wife, Guelph; H. Z. Leonard, London; John Campbell, St. Thomas; Hugh Black, John Black and John McKinnon, Everton; Bro. Roach, Worcester, Mass. The writer was pleased to meet and renew acquaintanceship with Bro. W. D. Catapbell, and also to hear him preach for the first time. Bro. C.'s sermons were well chosen, well delivered, and well received. He expresses himself fearlessly, forcibly and fervently. He is evidently determined to "hew to the line and let the chips fall where they may." He should be more widely known than he is among the brethren in Ontario. At present he is preaching for the Churches at Aylmer and Dorchester.

At the afternoon and evening services Bro. Leonard made an appeal to the audience to give liberal collections. His enthusiasm was clearly not without its effect. Whatever Bro. Leonard does he does with his might.

We think there is a bright future for the Church in Hamilton. Long and faithfully has the little band "contended for the faith once for all delivered to the saints." Patiently have they labored and hoped for the dawn of a better day. To them is being fulfilled the promise: "In due season you shall reap if you faint not." They hope to have a good preacher laboring with them very soon; the Co operation has promised to assist them in supporting such a man. For years the Church has been contributing to the mission fund without receiving anything in return but the pleasure of helping others; now it appeals to the Board, and the Board having confidence in the brethren throughout the Province, cheerfully undertakes to aid the Church in becoming a live progressive and aggressive congregation of Christians in the good city of Hamilton. May the blessing of the Lord rest upon them and make them a power for good!

To Our Subscribers.

BRETHREN AND SISTERS AND FRIENDS, —Some of you have paid your subscriptions to THE CANADIAN EVANGELIST and some of you have not. Those of you who have will please accept our hearty thanks, and those of you who have not will receive our hearty thanks if you will pay up promptly. We want all the friends and supporters of this paper to understand that this enterprise can go on and will go on if those who have promised to stand by it will do so, otherwise it cannot go on, it must stop. Every two weeks the paper is issued, and just as often the printer's bill is due, to say nothing of other necessary and not inconsiderable expenses. The number of people who look upon the paper as well nigh a necessity is amply sufficient to make it self supporting provided they do not neglect to do what they agreed to do. We know in most cases it is neglect, and we make allowance, but that does not pay the printer. Will those brethren and sisters who promised to act as agents for us collect what they can at once and forward it to the office that we may have wherewith to pay our bills, and that we may go on with this work with cheerfulness and confidence? This is no money-making scheme, but an effort to advance the Lord's work, undertaken after having consulted a large number of our brethren, and, therefore, we are bold to urge our friends to come to the rescue at this time. We should receive three or four hundred dollars before the next number comes out. Let the subscriptions and payments pour in from every quarter.

It is but an empty purse that is full of other folks' money.