

Ordination of Rev. Mr. Kay.

Services for the setting apart to the work of the ministry of Mr. Kay, who is about to proceed to Sault Ste. Marie, were held the 5th of May, in the church of the First Congregation, Guelph. About twenty-five ministers were present, and the congregation was very large. Rev. A. D. McDonald, of Elora, conducted the exercises, and, after singing and prayer, preached an appropriate sermon from 2 Cor. v. 20-21: "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ." &c. He described the ministerial office, its peculiar glory and pre-eminence over the other office, in the church, the ardent ambition and the direct call from God which should suggest the ministry as a life work, and the authority with which ministers are vested by virtue of their appointment as ambassadors for God. The importance of the message to be believed was touched upon; the truth of God was shown to be so interwoven that a man cannot receive the doctrine of reconciliation without feeling its importance, and in order to this all the doctrines that lead up to these fundamental ones must be admitted and believed. After the dedicatory prayer, during which the members of Presbytery laid their hands on Mr. Kay, Rev. Wm. Cochran, of Brantford, addressed the minister. He referred to the importance of the work and the influence a Christian minister could exert. Men were needed who possessed true hearts and cultured intellects, who could reconcile science and religion, and grapple with all the knotty social problems of the day, and who were conversant with the literature of the day. The time has passed when the minister was looked upon as the standard of knowledge,—the press has taken that place, and the minister must keep abreast of the times and lighten the literature, the politics, the science and social reform with the good leaven of the Gospel. Rev. Mr. McTavish, of Woodstock, addressed the people upon the claims of the Home Mission Fund, and urged more liberal support. In some churches the contributions to this Fund averaged \$100. per member, while in others they were as low as 7c. Rev. Mr. McColl, Hamilton, referred to the conservatism of Presbyterianism, which was praiseworthy in that it held to the old doctrines that it might carry them forward into new fields, as they were now doing, and it carried the truths forward that it might hold them with a firmer grasp. Rev. Mr. McMillan, Moderator, also addressed the people on the necessity of systematic benevolence, referring to the heathen idolaters in China, who spent for incense to their gods alone 665 millions annually. He pressed the duty of financial help. The meeting was brought to a close by the benediction pronounced by the Moderator. Guelph Mercury.

Consequences.

In a country town many years ago some children were met for a social evening at an old farm house, and while the sport was at its height, a little boy thought it would be "funny" to draw a chair from under a little girl and let her down on the floor. He watched his opportunity and made the attempt, but the little girl, seeing what he was doing, jumped back into the chair, and striking her spine upon one of the projections, broke her back. For seven years, from fourteen to twenty-one, she lay upon her bed, and during all that time was carried from her chamber to the parlor but once. Thirty years have passed. I have just returned from a visit to her sick chamber. Thirty years of stability and pain as the consequence of a thoughtless deed by a little boy. A few strangers minister to her daily wants, without whose aid she would be sent to the "poor house," or home for the wretched and homeless poor.

"I Can Never Be a Drunkard."

In our youth we had a very dear friend who often used this expression. He was a proud boy, and a prouder man. He was fond of what the world calls pleasure, and finally ran into the vortex that leads to ruin. Social in his nature, he was often invited to parties to take wine, and berated his friends who refused when he accepted. And when in his calm moments, these very friends would warn him of his danger, he would reply, "I can never be a drunkard." The habit grew upon him, and after awhile he commenced taking his dram regularly. Ashamed of his habit, and fearful that his friends would discover it, he used gloves and other articles to destroy the smell of his breath. Often remonstrated with by his watchful friends, he would deny that he had gone to excess.

The writer removed to Texas, and returning to his old home, where his friends lived, about seventeen years afterwards, the first time he saw him he was down on the sidewalk drunk, and a year afterward he was found dead in the same street.

Young men, beware! There is not one in ten thousand that can always be moderate in drinking. If you touch it at all, you are in danger. The ingenuity of man has truly given you the means of destroying the smell of liquor upon the breath, but not of saving you from a drunkard's fate.

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