

A strong agitation is afoot among the Hebrews of the Western States to change their day of worship from Saturday to Sunday. Already in Chicago there are three temples where Sunday services are held. In Cleveland there is one and in St. Louis there is one. It is claimed there is nothing in the Jewish law that prevents the keeping of the day of rest on the Christian Sabbath. The orthodox Jews of course will have nothing to do with the change, but the large majority of the Western Hebrews are non-orthodox.—*Globe*.

There are not many, we think, now among the Disciples who maintain that a plan of co-operation for spreading the Gospel is laid down in the New Testament. It is all but the universal opinion that we have not, "Thus saith the Lord" on the matter, and we are therefore required to adopt that plan which to us seems best. We are strongly inclined to the view that a Society composed of all Disciples paying, say, one dollar a year each, or as much more as any one could afford, or might desire to give, would be the most satisfactory method, and the most successful way of reaching the brethren in general and securing a lively interest in the work.

Through the instrumentality and liberality of Bro. John Stewart, of Everton, assisted by a benevolent Christian lady from Dundas, an excellent sermon on the subject "The heart in conversion," has been put in pamphlet form and many of them have been gratuitously distributed. Our object in calling attention to the matter is this. If any one desires to do good—to spread the truth—it may be done by sending for and circulating some of these tracts. They can be had at reasonable rates by addressing *F. Rutherford, Owen Sound*. Bro. Stewart has some on hand yet which he will send free of cost to any address.

The action of Charlottetown in refusing to repeal the Scott Act will very likely be repeated all over the Maritime Provinces. In many of the Eastern constituencies the fact that the law may be freely violated has but a limited effect upon popular opinion. The feeling is that the liquor traffic is wrong, that it should not be licensed, and no argument that can be used will induce the people to take a partnership in the business. It is notorious that the law has not been well observed in Charlottetown, and but for the determination of an important percentage of the voters to hold no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, the opponents of the Act must have been successful in the recent contest.—*Globe*.

Elsewhere will be found Bro. McLean's appeal for a large collection for Foreign Missions the first Lord's Day in March. We cannot add to what he says. But we feel like repeating a remark heretofore made in this paper. Let no Christian be irritated by these appeals. Let no follower of the Lord Jesus say "oh! money, MONEY, MONEY, it is again." But rather let us each enquire honestly how much we are able to give to further the spread of the gospel. The Lord needs all we can spare; He will not be pleased if we are stingy, and give a little grudgingly. "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver." Few are so poor they can give nothing, many are so rich they can give much. Let every one give according to his ability.

As announced the *Christian Standard* appears this year in a new form and in a new dress. It seems to be a case of the transmigration of souls. The writer of this note was almost sorry to hear of the contemplated change, but now that it is made he votes for it. The only fault he has ever had with the *Standard* is that sometimes it is a very inconsistent paper—in fact will hardly hold together until it gets round the family. (N. B.—This last remark is solely for the publishers.) If any reader of this note is prejudiced against the *Standard* let him send \$2.75 to the Standard Publishing Co., 22 East Ninth St., Cincinnati, Ohio, for a year's subscription, then let him give it a candid reading. He will come to the conclusion before the year is out that some one—well, gave him a wrong impression.

As a specimen of what the *Christian Standard* gives its readers, take the sub-joined paragraph from the leading editorial of Jan. 7th: "As individuals we need a more thorough personal consecration to the service of Christ. It is only as Christ lives in us—only as the mind that was in Christ is in us also—that our lives can be acceptable to God. When we can say, in regard to the ruling motives in our hearts, in our daily lives, our business, our studies, our benefactions, our worship, our recreations, 'The love of Christ constraineth us,' we may be sure that our incense

is burned with no strange fire. Our bodies will then be 'a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God.' Beware of unworthy motives and low inspirations, make, this year, a special heart study of the four gospels, with a view to come more completely under the power of Christ."

The brethren in Toronto mean business. They have in view the purchase of a lot upon which they desire to build a meeting-house as soon as it can be done. It means something however to buy a plot of land in the city of Toronto. It means an outlay of about eight thousand dollars. Judging from the zeal and liberality manifested by the members composing the little church in the Queen City we are led to believe that the brethren throughout the Province will be so sturred up that the buying of a lot and the building of a house are not among the things impracticable. Sister McCullough visited us at Everton recently and although she had time to call upon only a few of the members of our church she carried away in cash and pledged about three hundred and fifty dollars. We must remember that the church there is required to meet in a rented house, out of which they may be turned at any time. It is evident to all that they need a home of their own, but they are unable to secure one without help. It should be a privilege for every brother and sister in the Province to assist them. Will you do it? Send money or pledges. If you send pledges you may make them payable some time next summer. If you can't send large amounts send small amounts but try and send something. Don't put it off, you may forget it. Address *Mrs. Dr. James McCullough, 160 Spadina Avenue, Toronto*.

CHURCH NEWS.

ALDBOROUGH.—The brethren in Aldborough held their December meeting at Bismarck. Bro. Sheppard did the preaching—spoke four times. There were two added to the church.

ST. THOMAS.—The brethren in St. Thomas are making preparations to build a Sunday School room. They have a large and flourishing school and need increased accommodation.

RIDGETOWN.—Through the activity of the sisters the church building has been thoroughly renovated—beautifully papered (ceiling and all), new pulpit, baptistry and chandelier. There was one baptism since last report.

BISMARCK.—The December meeting has come and gone; Bro. Sheppard preached four *opposite* discourses; Christmas day two precious souls turned to the Lord Jesus, and on Monday were baptized; to them the New Year will be a New Year indeed; others were almost persuaded.

ERIN CENTRE.—The church at this place has recently suffered a severe loss in the removal of Bro. John Thomson to Acton. He was for many years an elder and was always foremost in everything calculated to advance the cause. His many friends will be glad to know that his health is much improved.

WELLAND.—Bro. Wm. H. Swayze, of Winger, has removed to Welland. We learn through him that there is an increasing interest in both Sunday School and Church in that place. The brethren meet each Lord's Day. We trust that the cause in Welland may yet be placed on a solid and permanent basis.

GLENCAIRN.—Brother Colin Sinclair commenced a meeting here last month. The attendance was good and the interest great, showing that the people here appreciate the primitive gospel when presented in its simplicity and beauty. The meeting was continued four weeks, Lord's days excepted, as Bro. Sinclair had to be with the church in Collingwood on Sundays. We tried to get Bro. Stirling from Meaford for Lord's days but he could not come owing to ill health.—The immediate result of the meeting was the addition of ten, nine by immersion. The church was greatly strengthened and we have reason to thank God and take courage—I trust that we who profess His name may work and pray for a general advance all along the line—By united action the Disciples of Christ will soon become a power in this our Dominion.

Fraternally yours,
M. N. STEPHENS.

COLLINGWOOD.—It is now over five months since I took up work with this church, during which time I have become acquainted with the church members, and somewhat with the people of the town. Taking my information from some

of the leading citizens, the town, morally speaking, stands high—much in advance of most places of its population. Politically and religiously it is conservative, the people once settled down are settled; let such but embrace the gospel in its simplicity, and see the importance of taking the Bible, and it alone as the rule of their religious life, and they make the best of Christians. But the day for this unpopular change has not yet dawned upon our peaceful town. May God speed the time. As to the church, though not strong, they are a noble band of Christians. One in spirit, and aim, ready to take hold of every good work, that will tend to spread the light of the gospel among their fellowmen. I feel safe in saying there is no church to-day in the Province making greater sacrifices to this end, and if but able to tide over its present weakness, the day will come when its influence will be felt in this town, and community. We have had two additions of late. I closed a meeting of four weeks—leaving home on Monday, and returning each Saturday—with the church in Glencairn on the 23rd ult. with ten additions, nine by baptism, and one from the Methodists; among these is Miss Aggie Stephens, youngest daughter of Bro. M. N. He now "rejoices believing in the Lord with all his house." It is but just to say the brethren lent every possible assistance during the meetings which made our stay pleasant, and profitable. They realize they have a work to do for the Lord and humanity. As Bro. M. N. said—when a Bro. would comfort him by saying "we do well if we save ourselves"—we want to save others as well as ourselves. Stand by that Bro. it is the spirit of the gospel.

Collingwood, Jan. 10th, 1888.

Portage La Prairie, Man., Can.,
Jan. 23rd, 1888.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—
We send the following clipping from one of our town papers:—

PRESENTATION.

The Disciples of the town showed their sympathy and good will towards their pastor, Mr. Finch by congregating at his residence on Tuesday evening and taking full possession of the house. They had their baskets with them and in fact had made up their minds to stay and have a good time from all appearance. They had also brought 12 or 13 cords of good wood and a fine fur coat along with them which they turned over to the care of Mr. Finch. Mr. Finch made a feeling reply embodying in his remarks of thanks warm wishes for their individual welfare. He then extended to them the freedom of his house. Everybody evidently accepted, for more than one hour passed swiftly by before anyone thought of returning. This substantial acknowledgment of their pastor's worth will be appreciated by all of the other denominations who are acquainted with Mr. Finch's Christian character.—*Review*.

Besides the above Mrs. F. was presented with the price of a baby carriage, she to make her own selection. The above was managed so dexterously that it came a complete and entire surprise to us. Some 35 sat down to tea. Words cannot express our gratitude for this spontaneous expression of good will and brotherly love coupled as it was by the kindly words of cheer, encouragement and heart sympathy spoken in an oral address by Thos. Sissons Jr., in behalf of the congregation and by the kindly words and happy faces of all present.

A. H. FINCH.
[We rejoice in this evidence of Bro. Finch's popularity and success. EDITORS.]

CO-OPERATION CIRCULAR.

TO THE CHURCH OF CHRIST AT—

DEAR BRETHREN:—
Since issuing our last Circular we have received \$413.83, and expended \$493.20, leaving a balance of \$72.93.

Quite a number responded to the appeal in the September circular, but many have not yet remitted. The work is increasing, which calls for more aid.

Bro. Lediard has spent most of his time in Toronto with the Church on Denison Avenue. In Muskoka Brother Crewson labors with untiring zeal, and Brother Sinclair carries on the work in Collingwood.

We are pleased to announce that an Evangelist has been secured for Toronto. Brother J. R. Gaff, from Philadelphia, comes to us well recommended. He spent a short time with the Church on Denison Avenue in December and will commence his regular work on the 15th inst. To meet this increased liability will call for the prompt fulfilment of the promises so often made in behalf of the work in Toronto, and we would urge upon you the necessity of immediate action. Now is our opportunity, and let it not be said of us that we neglected it. We have an open door and an inviting field. The Lord expects every

disciple to do his duty. While the rich give of their abundance can't the poorest disciple in our ranks spare one dollar for this Mission Work.

Dear brethren, let us not forget this important work. The eyes of the community, as well as the Lord's, are upon us. By rallying together, with God's blessing, we shall succeed. Please forward your offerings to the Secretary at Guelph.

Brother Lediard will now be at liberty to hold some meetings. Churches wishing a meeting will please advise the Secretary.

On behalf of the Board,
J. W. KILGOUR, HUGH BLACK,
Secretary. President.
Guelph, January 10th, 1888.

THE MARCH COLLECTION.

It is high time to begin preparation for the March collection for Foreign Missions. A collection must be wisely managed if it is to yield anything worthy of the great cause of missions—it will not manage itself. In some churches no pains are taken to publish the fact and to urge all to come prepared to contribute. The time for the collection comes like a thief in the night, and finds the people unprepared either in heart or in purse to do their duty. No emphasis has been laid on the need of generous offerings. The result is what might be expected—very little is realized. In other churches the fact of a collection is kept before the people for weeks. The highest motives are brought to bear upon them to constrain them to do their best. For example, last year W. J. Tibbs, of Pomona, Cal., urged that congregation to give as liberally as they could. They responded in a worthy manner. They gave \$140. This was two dollars apiece, and was more than all the other churches in the State gave for the work of the Society. This shows what a minister of the gospel who is in upright and downright earnest can do. Bro. Tibbs said that as the church was three years old he wanted to raise three dollars for each of the members, but was hindered by sickness.

If we are to raise \$100,000 this year, the churches that are accustomed to give must double their offerings, and many that never gave anything must give something. As long as only one church in six responds to the calls for collections there is room for growth in the number of churches contributing. As long as 298 give less than five dollars each there is room for growth in the amounts contributed.

It would be a good thing if an earnest address abounding with missionary information were delivered some weeks in advance of the collection. What the people most need is a good knowledge of the facts. Let there be fervent and effectual prayer in behalf of missions and missionaries. Let the people be urged to lay in store as the Lord has prospered them for the collection.

A. McLEAN, Cor. Sec'y.

OBITUARY.

DOOLITTLE.

My grandmother Esther Sarah Doolittle, closed a long and useful life at her son's home, in Chatham, on the 22nd of December last. She was born in St. John, N. B., in 1799; she came to this Province in 1817 and settled in P. E. County. She had been reared in the faith of the church of England but after coming to Ontario and upon learning the way of the Lord more perfectly she united with the Disciples. Although denied the advantages of church privileges a great part of her life yet her zeal for and her interest in behalf of simple New Testament Christianity never abated. She was a disciple in the true sense of the word. Her consistent life and great love for the truth won for her the esteem and confidence of all who knew her. Although well read in history as well as being a close observer of current events even to the last yet the Bible was her book. She was as familiar with it as a child is with the alphabet. Her confidence in Christ and her faith in the promises of the gospel were unbounded. She being a great reader and a careful observer of the stirring events and the great reforms which have been enacted in our country during the last sixty or seventy years and having a good memory she was a most interesting conversationalist. She has gone to her reward and we will miss her much.

T. L. Fowler.

MARRIED.

MATTHEWS—CAWTHRA—On the 25th ult., at the home of the bride's father Erin, by T. L. Fowler, Henry Matthews, of Erin, to Miss Mary E. Cawthra.

REID—MCKINNON—In Erin, at the residence of the bride's father, Neil McKinnon, Esq., Jan. 4th, by George Munro, Mr. R. H. Reid, Erin, and Miss Betsy McKinnon.

PARK—MASALES—At the residence of Dr. McNaughton, Erin, Jan. 24th, by George Munro, Mr. William Park, East Garafraxa, and Miss Melvina A. Masales.