

pressed with each other that during the past week Bro Best has been engaged to live and labor among us. Next Sunday will see Bro. Best and family safely settled in our city. St. Thomas is, I believe, a field of abundant crop, but like so many other places it is sadly in need of laborers and machinery. Morally, it holds a low place, being such a central point for the railroads that the floating population of a large section of territory finds within its devoted limits an easy resting place. But as a field of labor, St. Thomas has its redeeming features. A large section of its population, while not belonging to any religious body, are, partly perhaps on that account, remarkably free from prejudice. Our church is small, and may God grant that we may work wisely and well to gather His lost sheep into His fold. By means of a city Sunday School Association, an effort is being made to gather the waifs of the streets into the schools. It will take a lot of gathering.

A. M.

Nov. 5, '87.

MUSKOKA MATTERS.

In Bro. Lediard's annual report presented at the June meeting in Guelph, and published in a Supplement to the EVANGELIST, among much excellent matter embodied in that report, the number of churches in Ontario holding prayer meetings and Sunday-schools was given; and it has been suggested to me, that as Bro. L. had not been in Muskoka, perhaps, we were left out of that calculation; and that I supply the deficiency, if there was one. Well, among the seven churches in Muskoka and Parry Sound there are at least seven Sunday-schools, in which our brethren have full control, or take an active and leading interest; and there are as many prayer meetings. For while one or two congregations are careless in this matter, others are making up the deficiency, by holding more than one each.

The sisters in West Toronto, Ridgetown and Guelph are doing a good work in the mission field, in collecting funds for the carrying on of the work, and also by gathering new and second-hand clothing to be distributed among the deserving poor. I have received a box of goods from Toronto containing also valuable and much needed presents for myself and wife. Another box is on the way from Ridgetown, which also with Guelph, have sent money from the treasuries of their Mite Societies. May the Lord bless the dear, kind sisters.

My parish, that I am trying to go over once or twice a month, takes in a territory of more than 400 square miles, and as Bro. Hamilton says, "I am not able to attend to all the calls for labor." I had expected Bro. J. C. Lister to be my co-laborer, but he has gone to Warton, where I hope he may do a good work. Still I feel much disappointed in the loss of his help. There is, however, work to do in every part of the land, and plenty of room for more laborers. Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into his vineyard, and may the Master's presence and blessing be with all true workers wherever their lot may be cast, and may those young men who are preparing for the work be assisted and encouraged.

The clothing sent from Denison Avenue, Toronto, has been very carefully distributed among a good many families of the needy, and there is room for more. Some of the families, through sickness or other misfortunes, have been very much in need of the comforts of life. They especially are very grateful for the timely assistance.

Little troubles have arisen, during my absence, like dark clouds looming up in one or two of the churches, which I trust will soon be dispelled, ere the sun sets. Otherwise things are about as usual among us, and we still hope on, and health and weather permitting, shall take our rounds of daily toil in the strength and fear of the Lord.

W. M. CREWSON.

CO-OPERATION NOTES.

GARAFRAXA.—We closed the meeting in this place during the last week of October. It lasted nearly three weeks with an excellent interest throughout. There were 33 persons baptized and 2 restored. A weekly meeting for prayer and Bible study was commenced. Bro. Woolner writes me that the meetings on Lord's Day continue full of interest. May God bless their labours and may many more be added to the saved in their midst.

TORONTO.—Returning to Toronto, I spent two Lord's Days with the church here, where I found all working in harmony, with a slightly increased attendance at all the meetings. The Sunday-school has showed a marked increase and by painstaking labour can be made a source of great

blessing. The church that trains the children now will be the strong church of the future. We had a visit from Bro. Fowler of Everton which I hear was greatly enjoyed by all. He spent Lord's Day preaching both morning and evening. He will always find a warm welcome here. Two persons have been baptized during the month by Bro. Barclay. The women of the congregation have commenced the accumulation of a fund for Church Building. They have faith in the growth of the cause in this city and know that a suitable church building will be needed so they are spreading a portion of each week, doing sewing, knitting, &c., and all the money earned is laid by for this laudable purpose. May the Lord bless the work of their hands. Such patient continuance in well doing will bring its reward. We are corresponding with Bro. J. R. Gaff of Philadelphia, who we hope will pay us a visit shortly, he is recommended by Bro. H. McDiarmid, and we trust he will be found to be the man for the place. Our membership here is at the present 114 persons and the opportunities for earnest work were never better.

GAINSBORO.—From Toronto I went to Gainsboro with the intention of continuing a meeting for at least two weeks but the bad condition of the roads made it advisable to discontinue for the present. I preached on Lord's Day and for several evenings during the week; two persons confessed Christ and were baptized. Returning to Toronto I spoke twice yesterday to good audiences. I shall likely continue here during this month, so all communications may be addressed to me here at 39 Church St. Toronto.

J. LEDIARD.

MISSIONARY CONVENTIONS AT INDIANAPOLIS.

DEAR BRETHREN,—

Although I was in the city during the sessions of our late Missionary Conventions, I was so situated that I could not give them attention. I am not, therefore, prepared to write you a suitable report of their proceedings. This I regret very much.

The usual number was in attendance from the States, and brother Green was here from far off Australia, brother Smith from Japan, and a brother from Turkey. The same fine, sweet spirit was obtained throughout the sessions. The addresses were not up to the high mark of expectation. The amount of money raised during the convention was less than that raised at Kansas City last year. This was due in part to the drouth, and in part to the truth that Indianapolis did not give as munificently as did Kansas City. Perhaps she could not. This was due, also, to the inefficient management on the part of those who solicited the money. There was too much talking, and the people were held too long before they were asked to give. But it was a great convention.

The interest in the Foreign work grows rapidly. This Society calls for a hundred thousand dollars this year, and it must be raised. Great are the demands. The calls are loud. The doors into these fields are wide open.

The Home work is doing well. A Church Extension Fund of respectable amount was raised, and this important work begun. This work, if made successful, promises large results.

The Ladies held their sessions in a separate building, and were in session every day. They are doing a great work. God bless them for their patience, wisdom and zeal. They are quietly doing a magnificent work. I have since talked with sister Pearre, the State organizer for Indiana, about it. I cannot enter into details here, but they are pushing on with great zeal and wisdom. It is always good to be at one of these Conventions. It is a great individual help. One gets so much of the good spirit, becomes filled with enthusiasm, and gets enlarged views of things. We had a great and good convention. I wish you had been here.

I went at once from the Convention to Greenfield, twenty miles from here, where I have preached much in the past two years. It is situated in the natural gas field. Quite a number of wells have been sunk there, and gas is abundant. All machinery is run by gas, and all buildings warmed and lighted with it. It is a wonderful discovery.

I began the meeting with a severe cold which almost disabled me for ten days, but I spoke every night. I had a hard fight with indifference largely due to the drinking habits of the town. By God's help a victory was gained. Our large house there is packed every night to its utmost capacity. Extra seats fill the aisles, and still people have to be turned away for lack of room.

Nineteen have come forward in the past week. Most of them are heads of families, and several of them are old men. The interest is great, and

the whole population is stirred. No so such meeting has been held in that town for fifteen years. The meeting ought to go on, but I am due in Washington, Pa., to-morrow night, and they are calling loudly for me to keep my engagement with them. I go back to Greenfield to night.

I have recently re-consecrated myself to God and His work, and He is greatly blessing His work in my hands. I recently held a week's meeting in Henry Co. with eight added. It was a glorious meeting. My audiences are large—from 300 to 600 all the time, and the meetings are excellent. I enjoy the work very much. The calls are numerous and pressing. I can answer but few of them. I am very busy, am so at the time. I have written this in great hurry. May the Lord bless you in Ontario. I have a warm place in my heart for your people. The Lord direct them all, and make them useful and happy in His service.

Very truly,

375 Home Avenue, Indianapolis. J. L. PARSONS
Nov. 11, '87.

NEW YORK ITEMS.

BY O. G. HERTZOG.

The brethren of this State have undertaken the support of the ministry of the word in the City of Rochester until the cause is firmly planted in that city. We have recently been cheered by the presence of brother and sister Thomas from Prince Edward Co., Ont., who will hereafter make their home in Rochester. Others also from Canada are members of our little band. We have about completed arrangements to hold our meetings hereafter in the Clinton St. Opera House, a very pleasant and attractive room on the ground floor. We have also selected a lot on East Main St., and hope soon to purchase. The attendance and interest have been growing weekly since I began labor there. Bro. Ryan did an excellent work during the short time he was engaged in that city, and the work stands well in the eyes of the community. The importance of this missionary undertaking is, only second to our effort in Boston. A call is being made on the brotherhood at large to assist us in the erection of a suitable house of worship. We cannot have permanent success without this, nor will our growth be very rapid with our present surroundings. We feel greatly encouraged by the success thus far attained, and have more faith in the ultimate success of this enterprise than at any previous time. It would greatly encourage us all to receive an occasional letter from my fellow helpers who so nobly stood by me when I labored in Canada.

During the first meeting I held in Rochester I handed a gentleman that chanced in one evening a tract, "Our position." The day following while on board the cars he perused it, and to his great delight discovered that it contained the truth just as he understood the Bible. He returned to his home in Springfield, Mass., and shortly after sought out the Disciples in Boston and cast in his lot with them. This is the second person from the Bay State that we learn traces his enlightenment in the gospel to our humble efforts in Washington Hall. The influence of our meetings in Rochester is far reaching. Three weeks since we had in a single Sunday brethren present from Florida, Maryland, Kentucky, Iowa, Canada and Central New York. A husband and wife who live twenty-six miles from the city have decided to come and take a stand with us, partially the result of a single tract. I will soon order five dollars worth of tracts for free distribution. I heard the redoubtable Sam Jones in Rochester last Sunday afternoon. He preaches more truth than any Methodist preacher it has ever been my pleasure to hear. He strikes hard and hits something every time. He spoke an hour and a half to 2,200 people, and not one left the house even when he took the collection. Bro. Tobias Witmer and his excellent wife will celebrate their golden wedding to-morrow; about a hundred and twenty-five of us expect to join in the festivities. They have been blest with a large family, and all are members of the church with perhaps a single exception. One, the youngest recently died.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

A few facts that should be borne in mind by those interested in this work.

1. The year closed with only \$891.52 in the treasury. There will be no collection before March. In the meantime four monthly payments will have to be made. The average monthly expenditure amounts to \$1,000.
2. While the amount pledged at Indianapolis exceeds that pledged at Kansas City, the amount payable is only a little more than half as much.

The whole amount that will fall due this year on the pledges is less than \$1,000. This does not include the amounts pledged for building.

3. It was proposed to raise \$100,000 this year for Foreign Missions. The time has come for a mighty onward movement. The demand for an enlargement of the work can not be resisted. Great and effectual doors are open; we must enter and take possession in the name of the Lord. The amount proposed is not too large for a people 700,000 strong to raise for such a purpose. It is less than fifteen cents each.

It will be seen at once that churches, and Sunday-schools, and individuals must give more liberally than ever before. Timothy Coop, the largest contributor that the Society ever had, is dead. Mrs. Scott has gone to her long home. Others have fallen during the year that is past. But the good work can not stop. It must go on, no matter who stands or falls. Others must take their places and bear the heat and burden of the day. We are able to do more than we are doing. Not one in a thousand gives till his giving reaches the limit of self-sacrifice. Those who give do not miss it. Their fare is just as sumptuous; their apparel is just as costly; and their homes just as elegant and comfortable. Last month a servant girl gave \$20. Others spend more for luxuries in a week than she earns in a month. But her heart is in the work, and she realizes that it is more blessed to give than to receive. We need to remember the words of inspiration: "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ: that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich."

A. McLEAN, Cor. Sec'y.

A WORD TO "LIBERAL."

To the Editors of the Evangelist:—

SIRS,—In the November issue of the EVANGELIST appeared a brief article on the signature of "Liberal," on "a thought on Christian union." Is liberal pleading for union with those who "conclude that besides bowing in obedience to Christ they must experience a mysterious influence of the Holy Spirit before they can rest confident of salvation?" And with those who "believe that immersion is right, but that sprinkling will do?" Any one can easily see that the present age is overflowing with religious opinions—diverse in character; but it is a happy thought that no one dare enforce another to embrace any of those so-called religious opinions, but are left at liberty to choose for ourselves, and are justified in receiving as a brother any one "who with his whole heart loves and obeys the Lord Jesus," yes, "all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity." But the question comes up, "How are you known who are such? Jesus said, "and this is life eternal, that they may know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou has sent." Then in conjunction with that saying the Apostle John says, "We are of God (we, the Apostles), he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth and the spirit of error." Therefore in all things pertaining to religion, our standard, both for ourselves and others, should be "what is written," and not what is our opinion, or what we think.

Yours, &c.,

WOULD-BE LIBERAL.

MARRIED.

MORROW—STEPHENSON.—At the residence of the bride's parents, on the 20th October, by Elder W. M. Crewson, Thos. H. Morrow, to Clara B. Stephenson, both of Ridout, Muskoka.

ALLEN—TYRRELL.—On October 23rd, in the church in Ridout, by Elder W. M. Crewson, Albert Wm. Allen, to Josephine A. Tyrrell, both of McLean, Muskoka.

TYRRELL—BIGFLOW.—At the residence of the bride's mother, on the 31st October, by Elder W. M. Crewson, Francis E. Tyrrell, to Hannah Bigelow, both of Ridout.

A NECESSITY IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD.

In this age, when domestic help is hard to obtain and the work of the household must still be done, it is good to know of some means of relief, and such is given in a recent invention for making washing day no longer a day of labor and irritation in the home. The DOMINION WASHER and WRINGER is a perfect substitute for the human hands, only greatly multiplied, as by it a dozen articles can be washed and wrung in a few minutes and cleaned as perfectly as any hand-rubbing could make them, without any detriment whatever to the fabric, and in one hour accomplishing what otherwise would occupy the whole day. It is the simplest and most complete Machine yet invented, and can be worked by a mere child. By its economy of money, time and labor, it is sure of a welcome in every home.

I. W. ROYCE, - EVERTON,
General Agent for—
Erin, Caledon and Garafraxa.