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OCTOBER, 1889.

T. L. FOWLER.

A careful reader of the EVANGELIST might gather from the September number that Bro. Fowler had decided to change his field of labor from Ontario to Nebraska, having accepted a position as Professor in Fairfield College of that State. The present writer expected that he would have taken formal leave of the readers of the EVANGELIST; but with a reserve that might justify the suspicion that he is a Scotchman he quietly slipped away.

It would not be fitting that no further reference than was made in our last number should be made to the departure of Bro. Fowler. The position he occupied for nine years among the Disciples in Ontario renders it proper that at least an attempt should be made to speak worthily of him and his work in this Province.

Four churches have had the benefit of Bro. Fowler's regular labor during those nine years—Aldborough, St. Thomas, Everton and Mimosa. While in the employ of the Wellington Co-operation he became well-known to a number of other churches. We venture to say that the uniform result of his labors was such as to win the approval of those best qualified to judge. The estimation in which he is held by the church at Everton, for whom he labored six years, is shewn by the fact that they gave him a unanimous call to remain with them a seventh year. And the general feeling of our brethren in the Province is no doubt voiced by the large number who have to us expressed their great surprise and deep regret at his going away. Many of them even go so far as to say, he should not have gone, it was his duty to remain here, and to stand by the work in Ontario. We can sympathize with those who so speak, but still we feel it would not be fair to Bro. Fowler to give countenance to such remarks. It is proverbially easy to decide what another's duty is. Bro. Fowler, no doubt, carefully considered the matter in all its bearings and acted according to his view of what he ought to do. Believing this, though we lament his decision, we have no harsh words to write.

It is a pleasure to the writer to bear testimony to the cordial relations that have existed between Bro. Fowler and himself—beginning at Bethany College in the early part of 1880,—as fellow-students, as brethren in the ministry, and as co-editors of this paper. Not many have been more intimately and more pleasantly associated.

We feel sure that the readers of the EVANGELIST, while they deplore Bro. Fowler's departure from Ontario, will join with us in the hope that he may be successful and blessed in his new sphere, and that himself and his family may find in Nebraska a happy home.

HAMILTON.

One of the most pleasant episodes of the Annual Meeting in St. Thomas was the enthusiasm aroused on behalf of the church in Hamilton. Bro. R. N. Wheeler made very effective appeals, which were ably seconded by other brethren, and Bro. Moffett was asked to solicit subscriptions on the spot. Sixty-seven persons responded in sums ranging from twenty-five dollars to one dollar and making an aggregate of about \$300. At that time the brethren con-

templated the purchase of an old and unoccupied meeting house which seemed to be offered at a bargain, and which it was thought would answer well the purpose of the church. That building has been withdrawn from the market; but we are not thereby to be deterred from helping the Disciples in Hamilton to secure a house of their own. A better project, as we believe, is now before us. The brethren have purchased a corner lot in a part of the city where a church is much needed, and upon which they propose to build at once, so that they may be able to worship in their own house by the first of January, 1890. The price paid for the lot is \$550, and it is intended to erect a house that will cost about \$2,000. It is very desirable that the little band in Hamilton should have no debt to carry on their house, and in order to do that about \$500 in addition to what is already subscribed will have to be contributed by the day the house is opened. The members of the church have already pledged themselves to the extent of their ability, if not beyond it, in their zeal for the cause. They have subscribed \$1,600. Add to that the \$300 promised at the Annual Meeting, and the \$100 by the Ontario Christian Woman's Board of Missions, and we have \$2,000, leaving \$550 for which no provision has yet been made. We believe there are brethren and sisters who were not at the Annual Meeting who will be glad to assist the faithful Disciples in Hamilton and who require but to have their attention called to the opportunity of doing so. If, as stated before, sixty-seven who happened to be at the Annual Meeting subscribed \$300, surely there is a sufficient number of those who were not who feel so great an interest in the permanence of the Lord's work in Hamilton as to give \$550. We shall see.

We want to enforce in a word or two the exhortation to aid this worthy cause. For several years we have felt a great interest in the church in Hamilton. As well as we can recollect our interest was first aroused by observing how liberally they year by year contributed to mission work, though they themselves were few in number, not rich in this world's goods, and meeting in a rented hall. Had they, instead of giving to help others, invested the sums contributed for their own benefit, they would have now far more than enough to supply their present need. Here then we find one consideration which should open the hearts and the purses of their brethren throughout the Province. We find another when we think of our aged brother, Alexander Anderson climbing two flights of stairs to reach the third story of a business block in which the church now meets. We think we are not wrong in supposing that there are many Disciples scattered throughout the Province whose hearts will be touched when they learn that this father in Israel is compelled thus painfully to exert himself or be denied the privilege of meeting with his brethren on the first day of the week. And we think that not a few of them will be pleased to have the opportunity of shewing their regard for him, and their appreciation of his labors and sacrifices as a pioneer preacher of the primitive Gospel, by aiding an enterprise which will give him a convenient and comfortable place of worship during his remaining years. It is not pretended that this is the highest motive which can be presented to induce Christians to give of their means towards the erection of a church, but we do believe it is a proper one, and we do confess that we feel a greater anxiety regarding this matter when we think of Bro. Anderson and his faithful wife. Our chief object should be to further the work of the Lord in the city of Hamilton. We can do that by supporting the little church at this time and putting it in their power to have a house in which they can comfortably worship God, and in which they may gather the people and make known to them the unsearchable riches of Christ.

Will those who subscribed at St. Thomas, but did not pay, please do so at once? And let those who have not yet subscribed, but are able and willing, send in their contributions as soon as possible. The work we understand, is to go right on, so the money will be needed shortly.

CHILDREN'S DAY.

The Annual Meeting of this year recommended that the first Lord's Day in October should be Children's Day for Home Missions, as the first Lord's Day in June is Children's Day for Foreign Missions. The fact that so many of the Sunday Schools are getting into the habit of observing Children's Day for Foreign Missions furnishes good ground for hoping that they will take a like interest in Home Missions. It was intended to have called attention to this subject in the September number, but through an oversight it was unfortunately neglected. The Superintendents

of the Sunday Schools are respectfully requested to consider the matter and to lay it before the schools under their charge. It will be seen that by this means an opportunity is afforded of interesting the children in the great work of extending the Master's Kingdom in our land. It will not be very presumptuous to assume that the Superintendents themselves are interested in that work, and that they are aware that it has been greatly furthered by our organized co-operative efforts. The Superintendent who is interested can easily interest the children and he will find it a pleasant task to do so. They should be encouraged to give of their own—if not what they have actually earned, then what has been placed at their own disposal. It will do them good, teach them to be unselfish, and give them a taste of the joy that comes from self-denial. As it is desirable that a few weeks' notice should be given of the collection, it would be well in cases where such notice has not been given before the first Lord's Day in October to defer the collection for a week or two. Each Sunday School contributing is entitled to send one delegate to the Annual Meeting.

THE NOVEMBER COLLECTION.

It was proposed by the Committee on Ways and Means and the suggestion was adopted by the Annual Meeting that the first Lord's Day in November and the first Lord's Day in May should be set apart as days on which the churches should be asked to take up collections for Home Missions. To prevent any mis-understanding it is well to point out that this is not ordered, but merely suggested. The Annual Meeting had no thought of dictating to the churches, neither has the board in seeking to carry out the action of the Annual Meeting. It has been found beneficial to have certain days in the year associated with the Foreign work, and no doubt similar good results would follow, were certain days associated with our Home work. These occasions would furnish opportunities for giving the churches information regarding the needs of our own land and the success attending the efforts put forth.

Objection may be made to these proposed collections on the ground that since an effort is being put forth to canvass the members of all the churches individually, it is not necessary to take up special collections. The objection is somewhat plausible, but further consideration will shew that though a good canvass should be made, some would not be reached at all. And moreover there are those who do not feel like having their names on a subscription list who would cheerfully contribute if a collection were taken up. Some good brethren go so far as to say that there is no danger of any one giving too much, and that the right way is to get from all as much as possible by personal canvass and by collections. However that may be, one thing is certain, and that is that every Christian should shew his love for his fellowmen by doing all that is in his power for the spread of the Gospel. Whether we believe in these special collections or not, let us not forget that, brethren.

We trust that many, if not all of the churches in the Province, will consider favorably this suggestion of the Annual Meeting, and that liberal collections will this year, and in succeeding years, be taken up on the first Lord's Day in November. Many earnest appeals are being made to the Board for help. These appeals excite the sympathy of the brethren on the Board, but they cannot promise the desired aid unless the churches provide the funds, and a struggling church cannot live on sympathy. Brethren, put it in the power of the Board to respond to their appeals.

NOTES.

Emotion which does not lead to action hardens the heart, and adds to our guilt and condemnation.—Alexander McLaren.

Many subscriptions to the EVANGELIST expire with this number. We ask our friends to send in their renewals as soon as possible.

We are still patiently waiting for the *Christian Leader* to give us chapter and verse for its "scriptural methods" of spreading the Gospel.

We are under obligation to many friends who have acted as agents for us hitherto. We trust still to have their cordial support. They have a part in whatever good the paper may accomplish.

Bro. Silas Moot informs us that he recently held some meetings in a school house about three miles from St. Catharines, and baptized six

believers. Bro. Moot is ready and anxious for work and we trust he will find it soon in Ontario. His present address is Rosedene, Ont.

Do you want a good paper for your boys and girls? If so, we recommend to you *The Young People's Standard*. As we have heretofore stated it is published weekly at 75 cents per year for a single copy, five or more copies to one address, each 60 cents. Send for a sample copy and judge for yourselves; address 22 East Ninth St. Cincinnati, Ohio.

Contributions from Ontario to Foreign Missions since last report:—

Church, Walkerton	\$6 50
" St. Thomas	16 76
" Acton	17 47
" Erin Centre	19 00
" Erin Village	7 30
" West Toronto Junction	6 10
S. S. Owen Sound	2 57
" Bowmanville	8 20
" Everton	7 84
" Guelph	7 12
J. R. Gaff, Toronto	10 00
Mary Higgins, Rodney	25

Total \$109 11

The brethren in Portage la Prairie continue to shew their interest in Foreign Missions. The Church recently contributed \$34 25 and the Sunday School \$8 75.

We are glad to note the appearance of Volume XIII., of Alden's excellent *Manifold Cyclopedia*. It takes the work along from Electricity to Evelam. The information is condensed, but clear, accurate, and brought down to date. There is no slighting of any points, and the more important topics are treated with admirable fullness. Thus Electricity has 34 pages; Elizabeth (Queen), about 7 pages (with a fac-simile of her signature, which is interesting if not beautiful); Emerson, 4 pages; England, about 15; Engraving, about 8 pages; Enslage, nearly 3 pages; Episcopal Church, about 7 pages; Ethnology, 10 pages. A cyclopaedia of some kind is needed in every home and school. This costs but little, while for general use it is far more convenient and practical than the large and very expensive works. It presents just the kind of information which is needed in everyday life. Another valuable feature is found in the illustrations which are freely used where needed to explain the text. Thus far this series of volumes has been eminently satisfactory. Price only 60 cents a volume in cloth, or 85 cents in half morocco, or to those ordering at once the publisher offers the 13 vols., now ready, in cloth prepaid, for \$6.00, or in half morocco, for \$8.60. The price is gradually advancing with the issue of each new volume. JOHN B. ALDEN, Publisher, New York, Chicago, and Atlanta.

CO-OPERATION NOTES.

All contributions for the work of the Co-operation and for the Hamilton Church Building Fund should be sent to Geo. Munro, Cor. Sec., Erin, Ont.

The Board met in Toronto on the evening of September 18th. It being found impossible to finish the business that night another session was held in the forenoon of the next day. All but two of the members of the Board were present. Those two brethren were not absent on any lack of interest in the work.

The first business was the appointing of a successor to Bro. Fowler, as a member of the Board, and as Corresponding Secretary. The undersigned was requested to undertake the work, which he agreed to do. A resolution was passed expressing appreciation of Bro. Fowler's services, and regret at his leaving the Province.

It is worthy of remark the careful attention given by all the members of the Board to the business. All the appeals for help were patiently considered, and it was quite evident that the responsibility of expending the mission funds was felt by all.

There is not space to give details this month. Suffice it to say that appropriations were made amounting in the aggregate to about \$1,400. This will be enough to indicate the necessity of the brethren in all the churches contributing liberally towards the support of this work.

We deem it important to remind our brethren that the Board is not acting on its own behalf, but on behalf of those who contribute the money and who requested them to attend to the business. Let this be particularly noted. And also that not a single member of the Board is connected with a church receiving, or expecting to receive aid this year.

Let it also be remembered that the Board is under obligation to do its best to carry out the recommendations of the Annual Meeting. For example:—The Board has asked certain brethren