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HAMILTON, JULY 1, 1893.

Western New York June Meeting.

The Disciples of Western New York held their June meeting this year at Williamsville, which is about four miles from the city limits of Buffalo, to the north-east. Williamsville used to be a very familiar name to the Disciples in Ontario. In the days when the old Williamsville Academy was flourishing, when Thomas Munnell and Joseph King lived there, and when Williamsville brethren visited Ontario, and Ontario Disciples visited Williamsville, that town and the church there seemed to be near neighbors to our people in this province.

Williamsville is at present rejoicing over the completion of an electric street car line to Buffalo; though an old town, older than Buffalo, this is its first railway line. We were surprised to find the old academy building so well preserved and so modern looking. It is now used as a public school. The old frame meeting house, wherein Alexander Campbell and other notables preached, is now owned by the Lutherans, having been sold to them by the brethren some 21 years ago, at which time the latter erected a substantial brick church on the Main St. This second house has just been made better than new in its interior appointments, and is a very tasty and very comfortable place of worship. Bro. R. A. Burriss is the preacher for the church. He has been two or three years in Williamsville, and by his wise management and sound preaching, has magnified his office, and been a blessing to the church and the community.

Bro. Burriss presided over the sessions of the June meetings in a very discreet and unostentatious way, and at the opening service on Thursday evening, delivered a model address of welcome; among other good things telling us that we had come together to build up our Christian character. Bro. F. O. Fannon, of North Tonawanda, replied in felicitous terms. And then we were treated to an address by Bro. B. B. Tyler, of New York, on "Christianity and Culture." It was shown in Bro. Tyler's own delightful way, that for all the purposes of culture Christianity is beyond all question the best system known to men; not alone for spiritual culture, but also for physical and mental culture. These are points which all preachers should diligently place before the people. So many do not understand that Christianity requires us to glorify God in our bodies.

On Friday morning the writer had the privilege of delivering a half hour speech, and then Bro. L. C. McPherson, of Jefferson St. Church, Buffalo, was introduced to speak on the topic:—"Hindrances that threaten the current reformation." Bro. McPherson is a very interesting young man, and doing a good work in Buffalo. Unless his looks and manner bear false witness against him, he is destined, if his life be spared, to make his mark in the world

in a good way. Bro. Tyler closed Friday morning's session with a sermon on "The Ascended Christ." It was a most interesting and edifying sermon, the climax of it being when the preacher was enlarging on the fact that our Saviour "ever liveth to make intercession for us." Bro. Tyler recited Hymn 626 in the Hymn and Tune Book in a most impressive manner.

Friday afternoon was taken up with addresses by Bro. G. W. Muckley, Cor. Sec. Church Extension Fund, and by Bro. F. P. Arthur, of Rochester. Bro. Muckley explained the operations of the Church Extension Fund. Money is loaned at four per cent. on first mortgage, and an insurance policy is taken to cover the whole amount of the loan. The loan is in proportion to the amount raised by the church, and is particularly helpful in those places where money can only be borrowed at high rates of interest. Bro. Arthur's theme was "Missionary Spirit of the Age," which he described as practical, self-sacrificing, reactionary, purely Christian, triumphant and victorious.

On Friday evening Bro. G. W. Jackson made a short speech on India, many were sorry it was not longer, as those who have heard Bro. J. will not be surprised to learn. He was followed by Bro. Fannon, who made a short statement relative to New York State mission work. Among our notes we find these items:—About 4,500 Disciples in the State; working centres with good, earnest men, rather than general evangelistic work; about \$1,000 raised more than last year and only three-fourths of year gone.

The address of the evening was by Bro. A. McLean, and his theme as a matter of course, "Foreign Missions." It was powerful, heart-searching, and soul stirring. As one listens to Bro. McLean, he wonders that the contributions do not increase by "leaps and bounds," as he says they should. One of the most difficult things to understand is how a person can believe in the Lord Jesus and not believe in Foreign Missions, and another is how those who believe in Foreign Missions can be satisfied with throwing five or ten, or fifteen, or twenty cents on the plate once a year to aid that great work.

On Saturday morning we had a very sensible paper on "Woman's Work" by Mrs. F. P. Arthur, and another of Bro. Tyler's refreshing sermons. The convention was to continue until Lord's day evening, but as the writer had to reluctantly leave for home Saturday afternoon, his report stops here.

Now that Dr. Briggs has been suspended from the ministry by the General Assembly of the Northern Presbyterian Church of the United States, the question is asked, what will Dr. Briggs do now? The answer he gives is in the form of a call to his friends and supporters in all the Presbyteries to fight the battle of freedom, and prepare for next General Assembly, which he hopes will be more favorable to his views.

Our Omnibus.

Among the honor graduates at the recent commencement of Toronto University, we are pleased to see the name of J. F. Kilgour, eldest son of Bro. J. W. Kilgour, Guelph.

Bro. James Lediard has recently written a tract on Christian Union, which will be published in a few weeks by Bro. C. A. Fleming, Owen Sound. It will be of 16 pages, and will sell at \$2 per 100. Orders may be sent to Bro. Lediard, Owen Sound. We trust that this tract may have a wide circulation.

The indications are that the C. E. Convention in Montreal will be very largely attended. Those of our readers desiring information as to the best means of getting to Montreal, and accommodation after reaching the city, are referred to page three of May 15th EVANGELIST.

Those of our readers who have known of the troubles our brethren at Suspension Bridge, N. Y., have been passing through during the last year, will be glad to learn that the church is in a very hopeful condition under the wise care of our venerable Bro. W. A. Belding. The house has been renovated and re-fitted, and was re-opened June 25th.

It is, no doubt, a leading question with many of our readers who contemplate visiting the World's Fair as to where they will stop while there. We have had enquiries regarding hotel accommodations, and believe the following will suffice as an answer to all. Our Chicago representative, after a thorough canvass, writes us that the DeSoto European Hotel is the most likely to meet the requirements of the visitor. This hotel is owned and operated by Chapman Bros., who are members of the West Side Christian Church of which Bro. Allen is pastor; the senior member of the firm is also a member of the board of directors of the Y. M. C. A. of Chicago. The DeSoto is built of brick and steel, just completed; everything is new and clean; it is fire proof. There is a first class restaurant connected with the hotel where meals can be secured at reasonable rates, also lunches put up for you when you go to the Fair, which you will appreciate after once trying the Fair lunches. The hotel is strictly temperance, no liquors sold on premises. No advance deposit required, but we would suggest that you write them before coming, stating the time you will be coming, also the number of your party, and they will reserve rooms for you. If when you arrive the accommodations do not suit, you are in no wise obliged to accept them, but free to look elsewhere. Any other information you may desire will be kindly furnished by writing the proprietors of the hotel. Please see cut of hotel elsewhere in this issue.

Church News.

TORONTO (Cecil St.).—Our friends throughout the province will be doubtless glad to know that we have secured the services of Bro. J. Ebben Powell, late of Southampton, Eng., as pastor. Many brethren who were at the annual meeting had the pleasure of greeting him, though he was only able to stay a brief period. Bro. Powell's work is said to have been attended with great success elsewhere, and we welcome the prospect of soon reaping a permanent harvest in the field where we have been so long sowing. Bro. Powell, who is a graduate of London University, is a young man—scarcely more than 32, and has been a preacher since his eighteenth year, when he began to proclaim our plea in New Zealand. He labored there and in neighboring colonies until five years ago, when he undertook the Southampton work. The call to Cecil St. was unanimous. Since his arrival we have been having interesting sermons of a practical and spiritual character, and that they are appreciated is evident from the increased audiences we are having. Strangers are being attracted; a good sign. Visiting brethren from the country should not fail to turn up at Cecil St. on Lord's day. We expect you and will make you welcome. Our Endeavor Society now meets after

evening service; our Sunday school, presided over so ably by Bro. Leary, at 3 p. m., and our other two *endeavor* meetings, for both young and old, at eleven and seven o'clock. R. B.

HAMILTON.—Bro. Alexander Anderson kindly conducted the morning service, June 4th, in the absence of the writer at the annual meeting; the Young People's Society took charge of the meeting at night and had an interesting service. G. M.

DORCHESTER.—We have begun a real good Sunday school in Dorchester. The brethren beautifully repaired the church while I was away at the annual meeting. I recently found a buggy and harness in my barn, for which Dorchester must plead guilty. We began a meeting at Dorchester, Sunday. One young man of fine character has confessed his Lord. E. R. BLACK. Aylmer, June 14, 1893.

WAINFLEET AND GAINSBORO.—Bro. R. B. Ray informs us that in this field there have been ten additions since last report in this paper. Bro. Ray has taken up work in another field, International Bridge, Ont., and Black Rock, N. Y., we believe. Bro. Ray is very highly spoken of for his work's sake and his own sake, among the people of Wainfleet and Gainsboro.

The June meeting at Wainfleet (June 11th), notwithstanding the rain, was well attended. Bros. Amos Tovell, E. A. Pardee and R. B. Ray were the speakers.

Annual Meeting Notes.

We give here a copy of a resolution referred to in last paper: "Whereas the kingdom of Christ knows no national lines, and whereas the brethren of Ontario here assembled desire to co-operate with their brethren of the United States in support of missionary work; therefore,

Resolved: That the President appoint three delegates to attend the annual sessions of the General Christian Missionary Convention to be held in Chicago, Ill., Sept. 15 to 20, and that these delegates be authorized to confer with the Board of Managers of the G. C. M. C. with a view to bringing Ontario into the same relation to that association as any State of the Union now sustains, and report results to the next annual convention."

Standing Committees of the Co-operation for 1893-1894:

Obituaries—C. Sinclair, J. A. Brenestuhl, J. Lediard.

Mission Fields—James Tolton, A. Yule, S. Woolner, M. N. Stephens, D. Brown.

Statistics—P. Baker, J. P. Reed, E. Thomson.

Sunday Schools—J. A. Aikin, Geo. Fowler, J. D. Stephens.

Young People's Societies—W. W. Coulter, R. Butchart, A. Johnston.

Education—John Munro, R. W. Ballah, D. L. Sinclair.

Special Committee to attend the G. C. M. C. in Chicago, Sept. 15 to 20, 1893:—Geo. Munro, John Campbell, C. A. Fleming.

It is amusing to note the widely varying estimates of Dr. Briggs by the religious press. Theological standpoint evidently affects the judgment of the editors. We are very much mistaken if, as some aver, we have heard the last of Dr. Briggs. That he has many sympathizers in the ministry of his own church, is well known. If Dr. Briggs deserves to be suspended, then hundreds of other ministers should be treated in the same manner.

Summerside Letter.

This is the time of year for conventions and annual meetings, and, of course, the Disciples of P. E. Island are not behind in having an annual meeting. The meeting this year will be with the church at Montague, on the second Lord's day in July. A programme has been published, and the brethren and friends at large have been invited to come. From my own experience at Montague, I can safely say that a right royal welcome will be given to those who attend. In my next letter I hope to be able to give you a report of the meeting.

There is much ado at present over "Bible study." We have colleges and schools, circles and societies, "Bible helps," small and great, so that all may know the Lord, from the smallest to the greatest. People are beginning to see the necessity for studying for themselves. There will be less sermonizing and more teaching in the future. In the *Sunday School Times* of June 3rd, I see a good article on Bible Study by Bishop Vincent. He concludes his article with these words: "The Roman church is always open; its bells ring every day; the light is always burning upon the high altar; so let it be with us. Give us brighter lights to make the windows blaze, and sweeter bells to ring out on all the land—liberty, peace, eternal salvation! Let us meet school with school; man's word with God's word; and may we be specialists, every one of us specialists in the study and teaching of the English Bible."

It is not long since the very reverse of the article from which the above extract was taken, was the teaching of the day, that the Bible was a sealed and mysterious book—that only learned men could understand it, was generally believed. Now the word and order of the day is to have everybody study it, and the more the better. "So say I."

It would be interesting to ascertain what has brought this change about. Has the sentiment of the people changed the preachers, or the preachers changed the people? As a people, our claims of "the Bible, and the Bible alone," places us in the forefront on this question. Every Disciple of Christ should be a close student of the Word. Is there not too little study? How often Christians go days at a time without looking into their Bibles. Sometimes a small portion is read at the family worship, and that does for all. We can never know too much about this blessed book. There is no need for any person of ordinary intelligence remaining in ignorance of the grand truths of the Bible. There are so many helps to be had at a trifling expense, and the Bible shines out more clear and beautiful when its historical settings are made prominent. Chaldea, Assyria, Babylonia, Egypt, Persia, Greece, and finally Rome, are names familiar to every Bible reader. A great deal of light is thrown upon the Scriptures, by what we find out, about these places and people.

The present century has added a great deal to our stock of information about these places, and it is assuring to know that all that has been discovered in the way of inscriptions, whether monumental or otherwise, has gone to prove the authenticity of the Bible. The cuneiform inscriptions of Assyria and Babylonia, the hieroglyphics of Egypt have, during the present century, yielded their secrets to man's prying nature. The work of deciphering is still going on, and the present decade may see some startling developments.

Prof. Sayce, in the preface to his work on Assyria, etc., says: "Tiglath Pileser and Sennacherib can never again be to us mere names. We possess the records which they caused