

Regular Contributors.

J. W. WALKER	W. H. B. W.
J. A. W.	M. H. W.
J. L. W.	M. H. W.
J. H. W.	M. H. W.
J. S. W.	M. H. W.
J. P. W.	M. H. W.
J. M. W.	M. H. W.
J. K. W.	M. H. W.
J. J. W.	M. H. W.
J. I. W.	M. H. W.
J. H. W.	M. H. W.
J. G. W.	M. H. W.
J. F. W.	M. H. W.
J. E. W.	M. H. W.
J. D. W.	M. H. W.
J. C. W.	M. H. W.
J. B. W.	M. H. W.
J. A. W.	M. H. W.
J. Z. W.	M. H. W.
J. Y. W.	M. H. W.
J. X. W.	M. H. W.
J. V. W.	M. H. W.
J. U. W.	M. H. W.
J. T. W.	M. H. W.
J. S. W.	M. H. W.
J. R. W.	M. H. W.
J. Q. W.	M. H. W.
J. P. W.	M. H. W.
J. O. W.	M. H. W.
J. N. W.	M. H. W.
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J. A. W.	M. H. W.

THAT COURSE OF LECTURES.

Immediately after the recent handling—Wilkinson's debate, a few of Mr. Wilkinson's friends assembled in the Methodist meeting house and presented him with a purse containing \$100. A few eulogistic speeches were delivered by the ministers present, which apparently effected the equilibrium of the assembly so much so that a resolution proposing the return of the celebrated debater with a view to his delivering a course of lectures on the questions gone over during the debate, was sprung upon the assembly before the consequences of such a course were considered.

A committee consisting of three representative laymen was appointed and power given them to add three laymen to their number. This formidable committee was expected to make all necessary arrangements calculated to excite interest in the undertaking sufficient to cause the inhabitants of Meaford and vicinity to come in crowds to hear Canada's greatest intellectual gladiator supply the missing links omitted during the said debate. Consequently having received such a charge a raid, in due time, was made on the Mirror printing office and a large number of posters ordered, which were profusely posted in town and the region round about. The following is a copy of the posters circulated.

BAPTISM.

By request of the Pedobaptists of Meaford and vicinity, Rev. T. L. Wilkinson of Bradford will deliver a course of lectures on baptism in the Presbyterian church, Meaford, commencing on Monday evening, 19th inst, and continuing for five consecutive evenings, during which time the ground covered by this recent debate will be carefully and consecutively gone over and many missing links supplied, so that an intelligent understanding of the whole question in its several bearings may be reached by the audience. The following general order will be observed:

- I.—The nature and design of baptism.
- II.—History and meaning of baptism.
- III.—Scriptural mode of baptism.
- IV.—Proper subjects of baptism (scripturally considered).
- V.—The proper subjects of baptism (historically considered).

A small fee of 5 cents for single individuals and 15 cents for families of 3 or more will be charged each evening, and it is desirable that all Pedobaptists should avail themselves of the opportunity of listening to these instructive lectures, and so for all time have their minds established on this subject, and be put in a position to establish others in the faith. A proper understanding of this question leads the soul into the inner sanctuary of Divine truth, and unfolds in a wonderful way the philosophy of human redemption. Persons are invited to send in questions on any phase of the subject, for information on

ly. (stalls mine.) We have not quoted the above as a specimen of elegant and correct English, but to show the efforts that were made to attract people to the lectures and especially do we wish to point out the importance which our pedobaptist friends attach to the question of baptism, affirming as they do in a radical poster that even a proper understanding of the question leads the soul into the inner sanctuary of Divine truth.

During the debate Mr. Wilkinson ridiculed the idea of baptism having any thing to do with man's salvation and once irreverently remarked that "baptism had more to do with the salvation of the soul than putting oil on your nose had to do with curing the corn on your toes." But to return to the subject. When the 19th of January rolled around, the writer made his way to the building in which this celebrated course of lectures was to be delivered, and was much surprised to find that just 22 people had assembled to hear the opening lecture.

As Mr. Wilkinson was late in arriving, owing to the train having been delayed, the little crowd was dismissed, and the \$1.10 collected at the door generously returned. A little special canvassing on the part of those interested in the financial part of the scheme was resorted to during the next day and consequently the audience reached the size of an ordinary prayer meeting on Tuesday night—there being 45 present, including this number the aggregate attendance during the week was 259.

We mention these facts to show how exceedingly unpopular this defender of pedobaptism had become. Evidently the people of Meaford and vicinity have no appreciation for a man who during the debate could denigrate and publicly insult the disciples of Christ, by calling them "tronicles, Cambellites, Duckers, etc., and who had no more respect for truth than to declare before a Meaford audience that immersionists believed, that by immersion, sin was soaked out and grace was soaked into the hearts of men.

During the delivery of these lectures Mr. Wilkinson fully maintained his reputation for dishonesty or lack of candor in dealing with authorities. In his lecture on the history and meaning of the word baptism, he declared most emphatically that not one of the Lexicons gave immersion as the New Testament meaning of baptism, and quoted or misquoted S. Alexander, as saying—in the sense of dipping or immersing the word baptizo is never used in the New Testament, when he says the very opposite. His words being baptizo—properly I immerse and I dip (voluntarily) I sink into the water. From baptizo and corresponds to the Hebrew "batul," 2 Kings vii, in the Alexandrian version, to "batan," in the writings of Symeonus Psalms 68: 5; in anonymous Psalm 9: 6; but it is never used in this signification in the New Testament.

The reader will notice that the contrast is between the old and the New Testament senses of the word, that in the Old Testament the words "batul" or "batan" (which correspond in some respects with baptizo) convey the idea of sinking or soaking while in the New Testament baptizo is never used to signify to sink or soak. That pedobaptist's misquote and misapply the words of Alexander is evident when his definition of baptisma is considered; the following are his words:

Baptisma—baptism; a verbal noun from the passive participle baptisma, of the verb baptizo, (1) properly immersion, dipping into water, a washing. Hence it is transferred to the sacred rite

which, pre-excellence is called baptism, in which formerly those to be baptized were plunged into water that they might be bound to the true divine religion. Thus it is used concerning the baptism which John the Baptist administered by divine command. "If the above quotation does not prove Mr. Wilkinson to be a willful perverter of the right way of the Lord than there is no meaning in language. Space will not permit a reference to other glaring misrepresentations which were freely indulged during the delivery of this celebrated course of lectures. We may have occasion to do so at some future time.

H. T. L.

NOTES FROM MILLER.

Meetings were held in Hillier several weeks. Some of those troubles which creep into almost every Church, were there, and prevented the church from meeting for over a year. The audience were in the main small. Prayer meetings in the afternoon were small, but lively and profitable. Our meetings on Monday morning, towards the list, very interesting to me. Bro. Eli Ainsworth, one of the overseers, requested me to speak for a limited time; then gave liberty to all, finishing them to five minutes each. I enjoyed those meetings. I re-acquainted with many and formed new and pleasant ones. Bro. Burr was only at one or two meetings. He is devoting his time to phrenology. I lodged chiefly with Bro. Geo. Doallite, who with his family, were very kind to me. Bro. Henry Ainsworth was not out at the meetings; his eyesight is failing. His son Danford and wife were out frequently. Sister Ainsworth, wife of Bro. Henry, was out twice. Bro. Ledland had written me to ask the Hillier and Westlake churches, what they would do for the O. C. Both churches are in sympathy with the work, and quite a number pledged what amount they deemed right.

There are noble men and women in those churches. May they strive to serve the Master faithfully. C. L.

Cobourg, March 5.

OSHAWA.—On the 22nd Feb. I had the pleasure of visiting Oshawa and meeting with the brethren there, preached for them at 11 o'clock—had a good meeting. Many old familiar faces were missed—voices often heard in prison and thanks giving in the assembly of the saints have been stilled in death—some have gone to other parts, but a faithful band of devoted still meet regularly for worship, and are enjoined to carry on the work. In the afternoon I preached in Union Hall, at Harmony, near the home of Bro. Allan Farewell, one and one-half miles east of Oshawa; the meeting following the Sunday School, which remained throughout the services. The audience was good, intelligent and attentive. In the evening I conducted services at the Christian Church. Fine audience. To me this meeting was very enjoyable. This congregation and ours should be one, and I trust the day is not far distant when they will be meeting and worshipping as one people. G. S.

We learn that the date at Welland, March 4th and 5th, was a decided success. The brethren were well pleased and satisfied with Bro. Walker in his defence of the Christian religion. He grew stronger and more eloquent as the debate proceeded while the opposer, Mr. Watts, brought out almost all his arguments during the first day and grew weaker and weaker to the close. W.

NEWS AND ITEMS.

Bro. Ledland commenced a meeting at Blenheim, March 8. Expects to continue two or three weeks.

Bro O. G. Heitzog is expected at Sebkik to hold a meeting soon—he was at Stratford March 1.

Bro D. Oliphant was too ill to be at Stratford as per appointment but the church there enjoyed a visit from Bro. Crewson Jan. 18.

Bro Crewson held a few meetings at Stager. One believer was baptised. The church at this place requires a shed for teams. They could put one up if they would; let them try and see.

Bro Harding writes that the five week meeting at Detroit closed with 37 additions to the church.

Bro Crewson held a few meetings at Gravenhurst in February, and has since gone to Muskoka. We hope to hear good reports from him in next number.

Bro G. J. Barclay expected to be with the church at Oshawa, Feb. 22. He has a great deal of work to do, and yet finds time to write more than some who have more leisure hours.

"In time of peace, prepare for war," so let us during the winter months of comparative revival inactivity map out a vigorous campaign against sin this year, and make a grand charge all along the line.

One writes from Ridgeway that Bro. Ledland keeps himself very busy, and that the brethren appreciate his work very much.

H. T. Law, of the WORKER has been appointed an issuer of Marriage Licenses for the County of Grey.

Bro W. M. C. says the WORKER is still improving and is well worth the subscription price. You are certainly right Bro. Crewson!

The revised Old Testament will probably be out in a month from now.

We copy a letter from Bro De Launay of Paris, addressed to a Bro Tickle.

Bro Brown was called home in February from Collingwood on account of a severe illness of Sister Brown. We are glad to hear that she is some better.

The brethren in Epiphany have decided to extend the shed for teams, the present one being too small, even for regular meetings. We hope they will very soon be forced to enlarge the meeting house too.

Cold and stormy weather does not appear to hinder Bro. Scott from holding good and successful meetings. Let those who are inclined to wait until summer think it over.

We publish part of a tract on Baptism by A. P. Stanley, of the Church of England, who was preacher to the Queen of Great Britain. We ask our readers to peruse it carefully in this and subsequent numbers of our paper.

MARIED.—By the writer at his residence, Jordan, Ont., Jan. 29th, 1883, Charles Leland Johnson, of the township of Gainsboro to Miss Caroline Matilda Haist of the same place. R. A.

In November last the Editors of the WORKER commenced regular visits to the church near Cape Rich every Monday morning, and also held meetings at half-past

3 same afternoon, 2 miles west of that point. These meetings have been very well attended and a fair interest manifested. An evening meeting was also commenced last Monday at Cape Rich which we hope to be able to continue soon.

EMERSON WORKER.—Since sending my former communication, the aged mother of the late States Rogers came out and was baptised by Bro. Osborne in her 84th year. Thus "even down to old age all His people shall prove His sovereignty, eternal, unchangeable love." It was a grand sight to see this aged mother leaning upon the arm of Bro. O., and "both going down into the water" she to be buried in the likeness of His (her Saviour's) death, and so the good work goes on. E. EVANS. Toronto, March 17th.

For the Christian Worker.

DEAR EDITOR.—With your permission, I will insert a few words in your esteemed paper. The congregation at Epiphany is advancing steadily. Last summer, during Bro. Harding's preaching with us, sixteen obeyed the Gospel and one more a short time ago. We trust the good work is only just begun. Bro. Law & Whitlow of the WORKER, and Bro. Mackey are regular speakers for us; may they be blessed in their labor of love. I would not forget to acquaint the readers of the WORKER with the fact, that as Bro. J. C. Whitlaw has provided himself a faithful Evangelist and Preacher with us, the following resolution was moved by Bro. Peter Elliott, seconded by Bro. Alonzo Smith, and unanimously carried by the congregation, that Bro. Joseph C. Whitlaw be and is hereby authorized to solemnize marriages, in accordance with the marriage amendment act, passed by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, and assented to February 1st A. D. 1869.

With good wishes for the WORKER, I remain yours fraternally.

W. J. Cann  
March 10th Epiphany

Stratford, Feb. 25, '85.

DEAR BROTHERN.—Tomorrow Bro. Scott goes to Asten, having closed a very successful meeting here, during which ten were baptized and added to the church. The gospel is indeed the power of God unto Salvation to everyone that believeth. Bro. Scott taught very plainly and earnestly, and his labor and bearing have commended him to the love of the Lord's people here; he labored diligently for the good of the cause. We hope that he may be spared to visit us again. There was much opposition during the meeting, yet a considerable number came to hear and went away favorably impressed, and we know the minds of some have been roused to investigate. We hope they will proceed till they arrive at the truth, and find it to their eternal welfare to listen to Christ in order to obey him, and at last to dwell with him forever. We expect Bro. Heitzog to be here next Monday.

Yours in Christ,  
ERGAR MACALIN.

Toronto, Mar 8th.  
Bro. Frank Talmage, of Howard Pa., has just closed a meeting here with twenty-two conversions and one reclamation. It was the most remarkable meeting ever held in this place, with all the nether skanking sink excitement, exhortations of the hall, and protest efforts at other churches. Bro. Talmage spoke each night to crowded houses, and only left because of pressing calls from other

places. Bro. T. is a cousin of Dr. Talmage of Brooklyn, and while in size he is not quite up to the Dr., yet as a man of God, and as an expounder of the Scriptures, he is his full equal. The brethren in Canada will take no risk in calling Bro. Talmage to their pulpits. He is an earnest zealous christian; delivering his sermons with great force and power, and which never fail to reach the hearts of the people. Were all preachers like him, the world would soon be carried for the Redeemer, and the time would come when "the kingdoms of this world would become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ." E. EVANS.

To the Editors of Christian Worker

DEAR BROS.—No doubt that some of the readers of the WORKER would be glad to hear of my whereabouts and also the success of any of my labors.

I commenced laboring in connection with the Church here at Jordan and at Gainsboro some nine miles distant October, 19th 1881 preaching every first day morning and evening. The congregation here was rather small but we have toiled on amid the difficulties that hung over the church and by much thought, meditation, and prayer a better feeling now exists among the members, and the future for the cause of Christ is brighter. The building has undergone some very necessary repairs and is now well fitted up. The congregations at every appointment are excellent and in connection with work we have organized a prayer meeting which promises noble results; also as fine a Sunday School as I ever attended and noble workers in connection with it. We hope in the near future to be able to report a large number of accessions to the church.

Yours etc  
R. Ainsworth  
March 9th 1885. Jordan

GOLDEN WEDDING

Bro. James Menzies and wife formerly of Esquimaux, now of Toronto, celebrated their "golden wedding" on the 29th Jan., 1885, at his residence 163 Simcoe st., he and sister Menzies having been married 29th July, 1856. His children, grand children, and a number of friends, were gathered at the "Marriage Supper" then about 8 o'clock, the friends from the "West End," and Lewis et al. congregations assembled. Lined with tickets filled with good things, and some gifts chiefly of a "golden" character. An excellent program of music, singing, readings and recitations was prepared and carried out, during the intermission the contents of the richly filled tickets were promptly attended to by the whole company (about seventy five being present) after which the program was resumed by presenting Bro. and Sister Menzies each with a large easy chair, and a purse of gold coin. Bro. Menzies made a very fitting and feeling reply to the donors. All by the giving and receiving were made glad. The evening exercises were so enjoyable that the unexhausted program was closed soon after twelve o'clock. Bro. Menzies is a true and faithful Christian, whom we all esteem very highly for his godliness of spirit, his work of faith and labor of love. G. S.

The Scott Act petitions for the county of Grey, (our County) after having been in the sheriff's office the required time, were forwarded to the Secretary of State at Ottawa, on March 13th. The vote will be probably taken in April. W.