

to run this Dominion on. We have little accumulated wealth. We have no past history on which we can live for a while. We have no industries sending their products to all parts of the world, and bringing back untold millions. Our animation is about all we have. If our animation fails, everything must fail along with it.

One secret of Sir John Macdonald's success is that he has the faculty of making people believe he can "make things boom." He won the election in '78 mainly because he made a majority of the electors believe that he could put more animation into business. Rightly or wrongly, he always manages to make it appear that his opponents are the opponents of improvement, progress, development. It may often be the right thing to oppose schemes that may only seem like improvements, or even to oppose real improvements rashly entered into, but it is seldom popular. Our Dominion lies alongside of the most progressive country the world ever saw. Our neighbours are all bubbling over with animation. We catch the contagion, and within wise limitation it is a good thing to catch. Hence what is or what seems to be an animated policy will always be popular as long as we are an animated people. Animation is a good thing for any country. Countries without it are soon blotted off the map. To a young country like Canada it is absolutely indispensable. Thanks to the races from which we sprang, to the example of our neighbours, and to the bracing air of our Canadian winter, our people have a fair share of animation. Talk about the severity of our winter. It is a libel. The nerve power given us in winter is the best part of our national capital. Did you ever notice how even the laziest of men skip along the sidewalk when the mercury is thirty degrees below?

In Church matters animation is a good thing. We have machinery enough. In any well-equipped Presbyterian congregation there is enough of machinery to do all the good that the congregation is capable of doing. Multiplying machinery does no good. The thing needed is more life—more power to drive the existing machinery. Hitching ten locomotives to a train would do no good if the furnaces of the ten were cold. One locomotive fired up is of more use than a hundred in which the fires are out. The machinery which the constitution of the Church provides is quite enough for all purposes if well fired up and kept on the track. We would need no donkey engines to help to run the machinery if the regular ones were well fired up and kept in good running order. A session, a deacons' court, a board of managers, a Sabbath school, one or two Bible classes, a ladies' missionary society, mission bands, two or three other societies, and a number of com-

mittees for special purposes. What more do we want? Just one thing—more steam.

Some of the plans that people propose for making Church machinery run better look a good deal like putting flowers on a locomotive that has no fire in it. If there is no fire in the furnace, of what use would it be to put ribbons on the smokestack, or a bouquet on the cow-catcher? The thing wanted is *power*, not ornament. When you have the machine running at the rate of forty miles an hour, then put on a few ornaments if you will, but start the train first.

Animation in the social circle is a good thing. Did you ever attend an evening party where the guests sat in a row around the sides of the room, cold as icebergs, silent as graven images? Wasn't it delightful?

Animation in the individual helps a good deal to make this world a pleasant place to live in. Did you ever try to converse with a man who had just life enough in him to make it unnecessary for his friends to bury him?

Animation in the pulpit is a good thing. It is sad to see a sermon on which time and labour have been spent—a sermon perhaps brimful of the best kind of truth—fall flat for want of animation and spontaneity in the delivery. And that is exactly what happens every Sabbath.

This lack of animation is as often the preacher's misfortune as his fault. It is impossible for a poorly-paid, poorly-fed, poverty-stricken, worried, overworked man to have much animation in the pulpit. The wonder is that some preachers have any animation at all. If anybody thinks that a preacher can display much animation in his third service on a hot July day, at the end of a twenty-mile drive, he has little common sense, and no kindly feeling.

Some choirs would sing the better for having a little more animation. The lone precentor often needs more.

To every man, and every body of men that works in a lazy, limp, spiritless fashion when the work might be done in a more spirited manner, it is a good thing to give the managing mamma's advice—

MORE ANIMATION, ELIZA—MORE ANIMATION!

—Knoxian, in Canada Presbyterian.

THE Church Army, of the Church of England, has brought 3,000 recruits to the church, and 1,000 more ready for confirmation, mostly gathered out of saloons and the streets.

THE American Bible Society reports the entire circulation for the year ending March 31 at 1,447,270 volumes, of which \$21,356 were distributed in foreign lands. And each volume of the million and a half went out with the divine promise stamped upon it, "My word shall not return to Me void."