

ing men, and is commending itself every day, more fully to them. The words of Mr. D. J. O'Donohue, representing the wage-earners at the recent Convention, when he said, "the laboring men are with you, though the demands made upon them make it impossible for them to contribute much to your support," represent fairly, we believe, the sentiment of the labor men of Ontario. These men will give an immense strength to the movement for the preservation of the Day of Rest.

The report presented to the Ontario Alliance at its annual Convention this year was the most hopeful in its history. The financial support given to the Alliance has increased by thirty per cent. There were but twenty-eight branches in connection with the Alliance a year ago, there are now sixty-seven branches throughout Ontario, and this number will easily be doubled during the coming year. Then, too, the Dominion Alliance has awakened into new life, and seeks to affiliate all Provincial Alliances with it.

The forward movement of last year—the appointment of a strong Organization Committee—has been so successful that another forward step has been unanimously decided upon for this year. It has been decided to appoint a Field Secretary, if a suitable man can be found, and his salary and expenses guaranteed. The man is ready, and the guarantee is under way.

The Rev. Principal Caven has again consented to accept the Presidency of the Alliance, and his presence at the head of the movement will commend it to the Christian people of all denominations. He will be supported by an efficient Executive Board, and by a general executive composed of representatives from all parts of the Province of Ontario. The through organization now established at the headquarters in Ontario, together with the excellent branches formed at many centres, will give the Alliance a place in the mind of the public it has never before held, and it will thus be able to make its influence felt, not only in local centres, but in the Legislative Halls, and in the Courts of Justice.

#### Century Fund.

Dear "Dominion Presbyterian":

The campaign on behalf of the Century Fund has begun and already there are cheering indications of the success which, as we are all assured, must attend the movement.

The indications as yet cannot be set before the public so much in the form of telling of amounts subscribed in various localities, and that for the good reason that in approaching our larger congregations, it is of importance that we should "make haste slowly." The first step in this case, as in all cases, must be to give information and thus create an atmos-

phere. Then, when sympathy has been enlisted and the need of the work is understood, congregations and individuals will be prepared to give intelligently and heartily and in such amounts as shall adequately meet the need. Already under this educative process there are congregations that in their congregational meetings or through their representative boards have undertaken to raise certain amounts, in some instances \$25,000, and \$30,000; and in others we expect that even larger amounts will be pledged. The smaller congregations that have been dealt with in the same way are, according to their ability, doing quite as well, and such as these could be mentioned as preparing to give two, three, four and five thousand dollars.

Mention is made of these beginnings in order that the church may be somewhat seized of what is going on, and going on so quietly that there is no fuss being made. Also, this mention needs to be made that it may be everywhere understood how this work is being done and what methods are relied upon by the Central Committee. Some congregations may perhaps be impatient and may be tempted to go on in their own way and at once, because, as it seems to them, the Committee is not hastening to come their way. There seems to be no feeling that any shall be overlooked, as the Committee will be only too pleased to reach every congregation, and in every family in the church. But, as Rome was not built in a day, so this work cannot reach everywhere in a days or week. Let our friends be patient and their time will come. First of all, then, and till the time comes, we would ask our friends everywhere to be studying the Catechism, and holding consultations about the matters which it so summarily sets before them.

Let the matter be up in session meetings and in joint meetings of sessions and managers. Get a grasp of the thought that an average congregation must aim at getting at least \$10 a family over and above all that it has been giving for all purposes in the past. Don't write yourselves down as poor congregations, unless you really are poor. Don't be too quick to say we are not up to, and even away above the average. It may be hoped that many congregations will rate themselves as away beyond the average, able to reach twice, thrice, ten times that amount. Get your minister to look up the blue book and see how you stand, and be guided to a hearty and loving hearted view of what you should do, and be getting ready in that way for doing it when your time comes.

In the second place let every congregation be looking for the coming of the agent or sub-agent of the fund, or the member of Presbytery who has charge of your group. Likely he may come on a

Sabbath, and knowing of that, it should, in each congregation, be a special service, to be attended by every member and by whole families. After you have heard the story of what is to be done, and what results are expected, there will be a final conference about what your congregation should do. The minister and the elder and the managers, and perhaps some other friends will then go to every family and to every adherent and subscriptions will be taken, and the names of all subscribers will thus be preserved. No doubt we could get the million from 10,000 families who are well able to give it, and who, as we believe, would have the heart to give it too. But that would leave 100,000 families without the opportunity of giving. So we want no one to be missed, and will ask our agents to see a few families and so give the list a start. Then we will ask the committee of the congregation (and we want on that committee the best men in it) along with the minister, to spend time in patiently going to every house so that all our families may give even if it be but a mite.

I know a minister who is doing this just now. He is taking with him an elder or a manager, or both. He sends word beforehand to the families to be seen on a certain day. He asks them if unable to receive him on that day, to notify him so that the day may be changed to suit their convenience. He wishes that the whole family may be there, if possible. They will talk over the matter, and the act of Christian liberality will be sealed by the act of prayer. It will be a visit to be remembered in those homes, and a means of spiritual uplift to them as we cannot doubt. It is not a wealthy congregation, but we have no doubt it will share in the giving and will share in the blessing that shall surely follow such concerted, wise and loving action.

The committee will not forget you, but they look on their plan as worthy of consideration, and, when followed up, as certain to secure the results aimed at, which are not the gathering of a million dollars, but the touching of hearts and the spiritual benefit which shall flow from the giving in the right spirit to the Lord for the doing of His work.

If all our ministers and elders and other interested friends shall only take hold in the way illustrated, who shall doubt that there shall be showers of blessing on individuals, on our homes, on our beloved land, on our church in all her congregational and home and foreign and educational and benevolent work. So let us work and wait and work and pray and God shall give us the increase.

I am yours sincerely,  
Perth, Nov. 11th, 1899. R. CAMPBELL.

P. S.—Note that collecting books are in the hands of sub-agents who will bring them to congregations. Additional books may be applied for to the agent, Perth, Ont. Congregational Treasurer's books are also just ready and will be sent out as required.  
R. C.