

bond between pastor and people, as well as cements the hearts of Christians of all denominations.

With gratitude and love we commend him to your fullest confidence, and ask you to give him, if favored with his services, your hearty co-operation from the inception of his work.

We are dear brethren,

Yours in Christ,

O. FORTIN, B.A., Rector Holy Trinity Church.

JAMES ROBERTSON, Knox Presbyterian Church.

THOMAS HART, M. A., Manitoba College.

A. T. FERGUSON, Bethel, M. E. Church.  
S. D. RICE, D. D., Grace Methodist Church.

THOMAS HELLIWELL, Methodist Church.  
A. McDONALD, Baptist Church.

J. SIMMONS, Zion Methodist Church.  
W. EWING, B. A., Congregational Church.

C. M. COPELAND, Sec. Y.M.C.A.

The happy unity and brotherly feeling which prevailed among our churches previous to Mr. Hammond's visit, has been intensified. Many devout expressions of gratitude are uttered by Christian people who have shared in this "harvest work of the Holy Spirit."

W. EWING.

Winnipeg, Jan 7th, 1881.

To the Editor of the Canadian Independent.

DEAR SIR.—You will oblige by publishing the following in the INDEPENDENT.

The Rev. H. J. Colwell having resigned the pastoral charge of Zion and Watford Congregational Churches, to take effect the first of March next, and the Churches having accepted the same, they are desirous of obtaining a pastor at the expiration of the time. Congregational ministers not having a charge will kindly send their name and address to the undersigned Secretary of the churches.

JOHN D. ECCLES, Watford P. O.

Watford, 14th January, 1881.

## News of the Churches.

**STOUFFVILLE.**—The annual social meeting of the church was held on the 13th inst. After tea had been served, short and appropriate addresses were made by Revs. Ebbs, McGregor, McKinnon, and three of the resident ministers. The report of the year's work was encouraging. On the 17th inst. a "Centenary Medal Distribution Social" was held, which was very largely attended. Excellent music was given by the village orchestra and children. At the close each of the scholars in the school was presented with a "centenary medal." One hundred and thirty-three of these were distributed. These medals are larger than a penny; on one side is a portrait of Robert Raikes, and on the other Christ blessing little children. By means of a short piece of ribbon they were fastened to the dresses of each scholar and were borne off very triumphantly. A new library has just been purchased.

**UNIONVILLE.**—The anniversary of the Sunday School was held on the 14th inst. There was a large gathering of children with their parents and friends. Mr. Edward Eckardt read the annual report, which was encouraging. After addresses by Revs. Silcox, McIntosh, and the pastor, each of the scholars received a very nicely bound book. Eighteen had attended every Sunday in the year and they received extra prizes. Special reference was made to the death of Dr. Eckardt, the late superintendent. His brother has been chosen as his successor.

**SCOTLAND.**—The Baptist pastor and myself have been holding union revival services for two weeks with good success. The attendance is large and the interest increasing. Twenty persons have asked for prayer, and some have found the Saviour. The most moral and the most wicked are alike awakened, and we are looking for greater things. We are the more grateful because no novelties in our meetings have been introduced, and we have not sought any outside help. Pray for us. W. HAV.

**NEWMARKET.**—Mr. Burgess, a temperance lecturer, has been supplying the church here for a few Sabbaths. Mr. Hammond is now laboring in the town. The meetings are very well attended, and quite a number have expressed a hope in Christ.

**EMBRO.** Rev. E. D. Silcox, of Stouffville, has received a unanimous call to the pastorate of the church. He has not yet given his decision.

**MANILLA.** Revs. Ebbs, Powis, and Silcox, have been invited to confer with the church at Manilla with reference to their financial position. Mr. McKinnon has a large congregation, and is much loved by his people.

**TORONTO—NORTHERN.** The annual Festival of the Sunday School took place on the evening of Friday, the 21st inst. Notwithstanding the heavy snow storm, there was a large attendance of scholars and friends. Tea was served to the scholars from six to half-past seven, after which the school gave Dr. Vincent's Christmas Service, "The Magi and the Messiah." This was well rendered, and much enjoyed. At the close, prizes for punctual attendance during the previous year were presented, the pastor, Rev. J. Burton, making the presentation to the girls, and Mrs. Burton to the boys. The Superintendent, Mr. H. J. Clark, presided. The singing was remarkably hearty and good, Miss Williamson presiding at the organ, assisted by Messrs. Lawrence and Campbell, violins, and Mr. A. Thomas, bass-viol. The gathering was very successful.

**GEORGETOWN.**—On Sabbath, the 9th inst, two excellent sermons were preached by the Rev. Jos. Griffith, of Hamilton. The attendance at both services was good. On Monday evening a social meeting was held in the School Room, after refreshments abundant had been supplied the friends by the ladies, the company assembled in the Church, when addresses of a solid and practical nature were delivered by Revs. J. Leek, Jos. Griffith, J. Pringle and J. Burton. B. D., to an intelligent and appreciative audience. On Tuesday evening a children's social was held, when songs, readings, addresses and other good things enabled both young and old present to enjoy themselves. The financial proceeds and the social and spiritual good enjoyed were very satisfactory.

**EATON.**—A day or two before Christmas the wife of Rev. W. W. Smith was surprised at receiving a polite note from Mrs. Dr. Stevenson, of Montreal, stating that the ladies of Emmanuel Church had made up a "Christmas box" for her, and that it was then on the way. The "box," which turned out to be a bale of near 100 lbs in weight, was packed with every kind of useful household articles, even the four months' old daughter not being forgotten; a box of candies for the Christmas stockings, and a parcel of good reading, and a four dollar bill along with it, for the parson himself, completed the satisfaction of all. How it all came about is something of a mystery to the good folks of the Eaton parsonage; but the kind hearts and hands that so thoughtfully planned and executed this agreeable and valuable surprise may be assured the gift was thankfully and appreciatively received.

**MR. H. D. GRIEVE.**—The friends of Mr. Grieve, in Vankleek Hill and elsewhere, will be glad to hear the following of him. After ministering to Vankleek Hill Church for several months, he passed a session in Montreal at the Congregational College. His health gave way with overwork, and he went to Scotland in the spring. In a few months, feeling quite recovered, he entered Nottingham Institute, and took a two years' course in theology. On 10th November, just past, he was married in Edinburgh, to a daughter of Deacon Tweed, Vankleek Hill, Ontario, and immediately sailed for Australia, having been appointed by the Colonial Missionary Society to the "Bush Mission;" in other words, to evangelizing among the sheep stations of the interior. Mr. Grieve once spent a couple of years in Australia, and is everywhere adapted to the work he has entered. We shall be pleased to hear of his success and happiness.

## CANADIAN EVANGELIZATION SOCIETY.

It is some time since we referred to the work done by this Society. We gladly return to the subject. The following services have been held during the summer months:—Various isolated meetings at Malcolm, Blair, Walkerton, Chesley, &c.; a series of meetings at Pinkerton, in the County of Bruce, from July 11 to August 4; two weeks in the Y. M. C. A. cent during the Exhibition in Toronto, and services from Sept. 24th to Oct. 23rd, held in the Common School at York Mills on Yonge Street, six miles north of Toronto. Meetings are now being held at the village of Sunderland, situated in the County of Ontario on the line of the Toronto and Nipissing Railway, conducted by Mr. Henry Ware; and at Willowdale, on Yonge Street, about eight miles from this city, conducted by Mr. A. Burson and Mr. W. P. Crombie. The meetings at Willowdale grew out of the work at York Mills.

It has been the desire of this Society to wait for an "open door" rather than to send evangelists to places which to mere human eyes might seem most urgently to need their presence. But when the call has come the committee have not been deterred from commencing in fields apparently most unfavorable, or the evangelists from continuing in places on account of any difficulty in making an impression. They have rather worked on in faith, leaving the incorruptible seed to spring up and bear fruit for others to reap.

We are satisfied that the right view has been taken of the mission of this Society.

It is not the glorification of the Society or its evangelists that is sought, but the glory of Him who alone gives the increase. There is often too much looking for results; all that workers have to do with is work in the strength of the Master. He has to do with results, not they; though in His loving condescension He does give His fellow-workers for their encouragement manifest blessing to their feeble efforts. The fruit of the Spirit is not only love and joy, but peace and faith, or more correctly *faithfulness*. Some must sow and others reap, but both are to rejoice together, and His sweet smile encourages them as the Heavenly choirs shout for joy over one sinner that repenteth. We are glad to know that the aim of this Society in all their meetings is not the exaltation of man or any attempt at oratory, but rather that there should be an earnest and prayerful setting forth of Christ crucified. The consequence is that hearers are given a great deal of the Word of God, and but little of man's fancied wisdom. There is no attempt to stir up "feelings," but a faithful preaching of God's own Word, thus giving a sure foundation for the found soul to rest on.

The work at York Mills may be cited as a remarkable instance of this. The ground there, which seemed very hard at first, was gradually and slowly broken up, though even to the last there seemed but little result of the many earnest appeals to accept the Saviour's gift and eternal life. But thanks be to His glorious name, in due time the blessing came in full measure: not, as we have said, in a great revival at the time, but in a much more convincing manner, as though to show that not to man but to God the praise was due. In a neighbourhood where, with a very few exceptions, the Christians even were asleep, and in a place which seemed spiritually dead, there are now union meetings held by persons in the neighborhood twice a week for prayer and the study of God's Word, also two Bible readings once a week, conducted by ministers of different churches, besides other religious meetings held almost daily.

The work at Sunderland so far as it has gone at present, may best be described in the words of the Rev. Mr. Bryan, the clergyman of the Church of England there, a devoted servant of His Master:—

"We began with a union prayer meeting at which all the ministers and some Christian workers of the village were present. The first week's services were held in the Church of England. They were very well attended, the interest and number increasing as the meetings advanced. The after meetings ranged from about 50 to 100. Many were anxious. The second week's services were held in the Baptist Church. From the start the attendance here filled the church, extra seats being provided as the meetings advanced.

The growing interest and deepening earnestness at the noonday prayer-meeting this week was very marked. The after meeting and the number of anxious ones continued to increase. Quite a few professed to have found peace and to be resting in the Saviour. Last Sunday evening the third week's services began in the Presbyterian church with a union service—all the other churches being closed. This is the largest church in the village. Extra seats had to be provided. The after-meeting numbered about 125. These are the bare, simple facts connected with the work, but I cannot close without expressing gratitude for the many indirect blessings which are sure to follow from the work so favorably begun and successfully carried on by Mr. Ware. Already we feel the blessed Spirit of the Master to be drawing those who love His name nearer to Himself, and as a consequence nearer to one another. A door is opened for harmonious, blessed, and successful work. By the union of all the ministers many prejudices are being removed, and many false refuges exposed. It is a grand thing to see those who have been heretofore separated by false policy and false pride going in and out among souls with Bible in hand, in the after-meetings, seeking, indiscriminately, lost souls to glorify their common Lord and Master. It is purposed, God willing, to continue the services a couple of weeks longer, to be closed by the Rev. W. S. Rainford, of Toronto, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 7th. The service for that evening will be held in the Town Hall which is capable of holding about 500 people. Notice of this has already been given. Your evangelist has taken exclusive charge of the meetings, and has besides assisted in many out stations."

The meetings at Willowdale are also increasing in interest. The President of the Association, Hon. Vice-Chancellor Blake, and other members of the committee, have taken part in the services there.

Since the above was written the meetings at Willowdale and Sunderland have closed; at the latter place the last meeting was held in the Town Hall, when Rev. W. S. Rainford spoke to a large and attentive audience.

We have reason to believe that many have been brought to the Lord in these different places through these meetings.

Another pleasing result was the public interest created in the Word of God. The afternoon Bible readings held daily conduced to this result. At the last meeting at Willowdale a union meeting was organized to be held weekly. We believe all denominations are represented in these meetings.

The Committee some time since received an urgent request from Ridgetown for evangelists to hold union meetings there. The first week in January was thought by the friends there to be the best time to commence meetings. Accordingly Mr. Burson and Mr. Crombie began there on Sunday, Jan. 2nd. We ask all interested in the work to remember these meetings in prayer.

In the various departments of Christian labor none seems to us more deserving of encouragement than the efforts of the Evangelization Society. It is entirely undenominational, but is very useful to all churches where Christ is magnified. Above all things its sole object is to help those who are striving to win souls for Him. It depends for support entirely upon the free-will offerings of the willing-hearted amongst God's people. There are, of course, heavy expenses connected with it, and with more money more good could be done. The Treasurer is W. B. McMurrich, Esq., Barrister, Toronto.—*From the Christian Reporter for January.*