

CHRISTIAN WORKER

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LAW & WHITELAW

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CHRISTIAN'S HOPE.

There is no word used by the Christian with so much pleasure, perhaps, as the word Hope. Christians must be lights in the world, and be "ready at all times to give an account to every one that asketh, for the hope that is within them." The thinking portion of the world can be moved only by reason, and if your answer to their is not reasonable, it will be rejected. Many people seem to think that all the reason needed, is to say "I feel the evidence within me." Now this may satisfy you and it may be appreciated and understood by the Christian, but the sinner seeking "it does not understand nor appreciate your feeling. So it is necessary to fall back on reason, or your light will be darkness to him. God has taught us that if we obey his Son, and live according to his teaching, that we will enjoy him forever. God having said this, we expect it, if we follow his teachings, and our lives are such as he has required.

Everlasting life is desired by all Christians. Hope is made up of expectation and desire. We expect everlasting life because God has promised it upon these conditions and we have complied with these conditions. We desire this because it is desirable, and our desire is made manifest by the efforts we make to obtain that which we say we desire.

We may then have a hope of everlasting life. What is the reason of your hope, or the basis of this hope? We answer, God's promise. He having promised us eternal life upon these conditions, and we have complied with the conditions, therefore we have God's word for it that we will enjoy everlasting life. This is the basis of our Christian hope. It is reasonable to expect everlasting life if we have God's word for it, but who can assure his heart of hope, who has not obeyed the Gospel of his Son? We answer, none!

It shows a lack of knowledge to hear a Christian say, "I hope that I am a Christian." Hope is something we may expect. We do not expect that we are Christians, but know it. The old hymn which runs thus:

"'Tis a point I long to know And oft has caused me anxious thoughts, Do I love the Lord or no?"

Am I his or am I not. Should never be sung by an intelligent child of God. If we study his word we may know whether we are "his or not, for God, in His word has taught us how to become His children, and we know whether we have done that which is required or not. If we have done his will, we have his word for it that we are his children. It is inability to be seeking for more testimony than God's word gives, for it shows a lack of confidence in His word. The religious world to-day is seeking for a good feeling, the experience of all thoughtful people is that to feel right, you must do right. God's word teaches us the right thing to do, and when we do this the effect of doing right follows, viz., feeling right. Now those who are continuing upon their knees around a mourning bench, are not following God's word, but the teachings of men, for not one word of authority for mourning benches is found in God's word. To have the Christian's hope, you must

become a Christian, this modern arrangement, the Altar prayer, is not part of the plan of salvation, but is contrary to it. God's plan is for the sinner to come to him in the way revealed in the Gospel. The "Altar of prayer" plan, is for God to come to the sinner in the way dictated by those praying. Some have been so presumptuous as to call on God to come down into the house. Such blasphemy (1), it shocks the good sense of every one who reveres God's word. In the days of the Apostles no such nonsense was taught, but men listened reverently to the story of the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Christ, and when they believed the story they said, "What shall we do?" The apostles did not say, "Come and pray for evidence of pardon or good feelings," but "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38. "And as many as gladly received these words, were baptized and there about 3000 souls." Acts 2:41. Those who have thus obeyed have they were forgiven, and were happy as the result of forgiveness. All forgiven ones are Christians. All Christians have the promise of a home of endless joy if they continue in well doing. Upon this promise is based the Christian's hope.

Having the promise of God he expects it, yes "Each in expectation lives And longs to see the day."

and having a desire for that which he expects, he bends all his energies to obtain it. To the Christian, hope, becomes his "mainspring of action." "We are saved by hope," "we live by hope," it is "true in the sense that hope is the incentive to do all things required in God's word. We hope that when the trials of life are all over, to enter into the rest we have so long hoped for. Yes—to meet our Saviour! and all the apostles and worthies of old, and enjoy the company of all those who are born again. To see our Heavenly Father, to meet with loved ones gone before, to have all tears wiped from our eyes, to join the chorus in the shout of triumph, and swell the grand pean of praise and dwell with the pure forever and forever." Then faith will be lost in sight, hope will be laid down only to take up the glad fruition! Thank God for the Christians Hope.

DR. W. E. MACKLIN.

Ontario is to furnish a missionary to Japan, in the person of Bro. W. E. Macklin, of Poplar Hill, Ont. It is no small sacrifice for a young man with as bright prospects as Bro. Macklin, to pull loose from civilized life and bury himself among the heathen for life. No love for novelty can be the cause of this move. Nothing but his heart's devotion to the cause of Christ, could induce him to take this step. We know Bro. Macklin to be a staunch disciple of Christ, and admire his true heroism, and shall ever pray for his success. Truly the Lord is raising up men to fill these fields. Bro. Macklin is now in New York city, taking a hospital course, preparatory to sailing for Japan at the expiration of this term. The coming of Bro. Macklin will rejoice the hearts of Brethren Smith and Garst in their far off home. Ontario should be more active than ever before, since one of her sons is a missionary in a foreign land. Remember the missionaries in your prayers, and with your purse.

Our good Bro., Edgar Macklin, of Stratford, who placed himself on record against co-

operations by showing the necessary steps to insure himself on the subject of cooperative work. The result is with him, as it must be with all honest men, he has ceased his opposition, and united the little band in Stratford with the Wellington co-operation, and proposes to work in harmony with his brethren hereafter. Our brother is a deeply pious young man, with a strong affirmative side to his nature. We now have hope for our cause in Stratford, and urge our speaking brethren everywhere to give them a call when possible.

Stratford is an important point for establishing the cause. The little band there are zealous, and form a good nucleus for work in the future. Bro. Macklin attended the meeting of the board at Everton, on the 6th ult., and enjoyed the meetings very much. We shall be glad to record a few more such changes of this character, it will not include a very long list, before all will be in harmony.

LOOK AT THIS!

The reports of additions, in Ontario, to the churches through Co-operative efforts for the year ending with July, shows 279 additions, 217 of these being baptized. In the face of these results, which are given from actual figures, we are gravely told, that the brethren are not in favor of Co-operation!! If this were true, it would be a cause for weeping rather than exultation. The spirit of missions is growing among us, and we pray that the time will soon come when all our brethren will see eye to eye, and labor in harmony in Gospel work.

THE CHANGEO.

On and after Sept. 1st, the writer ceases his connection with the Ontario Co-operation as the General Evangelist, but does not withdraw his interest from the work, and will continue to assist and help on the good work. Bro. C. J. Lister, O. G. Hertzog, and Colin Sinclair having agreed to labor as Evangelists, for the co-operation for the next year, during the time they can be spared from their respective fields of labor; we trust the brethren everywhere will give them the same hearty reception and cordial support that we have received during the year just closed.

The past has been an unusually eventful year, crops were poor and consequently money has been scarce, but this season promises to be a remarkable one for good crops, and therefore the brethren should give more liberally during the coming year, than they have been able to in the past, and by so doing assist in sounding out the glorious gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. This change has not been made in consequence of any disagreement or dissatisfaction on the part of the managers and myself as far as known to us, but a desire on their part to have the greatest possible amount of work done at the least possible expense and a desire on my part to be released from the general field that I may labor in a field without so much expense for travelling. The object of the Co-operation is to sound out the word of the Lord in new and old fields and there should be no relaxation of our efforts in this direction. The Evangelists engaged are too well-known in Ontario to need any words of commendation from any person. Now let the good work of saving souls be pushed on with renewed energy and our efforts will be crowned with success.

EUFRASIA MEETING

Bro. I. A. Harding, of R., commenced a meeting in Eufrasia, eight miles from Meaford, July 16th, as announced in our Worsler, the attendance has been good from the first, and the meeting continues at this writing, Aug 1, a time of going to press; although having and having been on, the house has been well filled every night, and very often numbers standing outside. Many have heard the Gospel preached, and sixteen have believed, have been baptized and added to the church; the brethren have been cheered, edified, and built up in the Holy Faith, beside the above work, the whole community have been stirred up, and are searching the Scriptures to see if these things are so. The preachers of Meaford seeing that the people were being taught the way of the Lord more fully, are stirring themselves, to endeavor to satisfy the people with the doctrines they have been teaching which the people now see are only the commandments of men.

Mr. Paterson the Presbyterian minister, preached two sermons on Infant Baptism to his churches Aug. 17th warning his people, and stating that the country was in great connection over this question on account of modern preaching. Bro. Harding reviewed Mr. Paterson's remarks the same evening in Eufrasia, when every available spot in the House was filled, and crowds stood at every window and at the door to hear. Every inference and argument advanced by Mr. Paterson was rejected, and it was shown that Pedo-baptists rejected the commandment of God to keep their own tradition, as the sprinkling of water upon infants for baptism is nowhere taught in the Bible. Bro. Harding invited Mr. Paterson or any other preacher in whom the people have confidence, to meet him in debate, but so far no one is willing to defend the unscriptural practice. Mr. Wilkinson, a Methodist has been sent for and is to preach on the same subject in Eufrasia on Aug. 19th near our Meeting-house. One reason for this invitation is that most of those who have obeyed the Gospel during this meeting are persons who formerly were taught that Infant Baptism was a scriptural practice. The end is not yet. J. C. W.

CHURCH NEWS.

Bro. I. & W.—Two additions to the church here by baptism, on Lord-day, 20th July. According to my plans I expect to spend two weeks with the Church in Portage-La-Prairie during August. I have resigned my position as labourer for the church here. A good man wanted to take my place. E. SHEPPARD.

Bowmanville.

CHRISTIAN WORKER.—Last night we closed the most successful meeting held here for many years. Bro. Scott the Evangelist of the Wellington Co-operation did the preaching, good throughout, the meeting closed with a full house and thirty-five additions by baptism, and four who were baptized in Erin village, Everton, and Hillsburg, respectively united with the church, making 39 in all, 30 of whom sat down at the table of the Lord yesterday for the first time; to him who is the giver of all good, we ascribe the praise. I baptize the remaining nine to-day and hope for more to follow yet. JAS. LEZARD.

Erin Centre.

ELLEN SULLIS.

Bro. James Ridgeway spoke in Acton on the 13th ult., and one was baptized.

Bro. Nathaniel Wankell, of Smithville, made a visit to Sweet's corner on the first Lord-day, and spoke in the afternoon.

Bro. D. H. Gray, of Newville, Indiana, preached at Welland on the 10th inst. Bro. Hertzog was at Bowmanville that day.

We visited the little church in Hamilton the last Lord-day in July. They are a faithful band, but their efforts are comparatively feeble in that great city of St. Catharines. They also sustain a Sunday School.

The latest providence says that the Rev. W. K. Barr, M.A., is laboring with the Salvation Army. He may now rise up and explain.

The last number contains the photo of F. M. Green, (the editor) and the irrepressible L. L. Carpenter, State Sunday School Evangelist of Indiana. Not very good pictures however.

Bro. Lister has been working in St. Catharines, and I learn through Bro. Armstrong that they are expecting Bro. L. in Prince Edward County soon.

Bro. O. G. Hertzog has entered upon his work for the church in Welland. Which we hope will prosper with his assistance.

SERMON.—The first Sunday in August was spent with the church in Selkirk. They are moving on in the even tenor of their way; not making as much progress as they ought. Bro. Philip's health is better than for years.

The writer will labor the coming year in the region of the old Niagara district, and perhaps will be at liberty to hold a few meetings outside of those bounds during the year.

(D. V.) The editor of the WORKER will be in Meaford to begin a meeting on Sept 6th. Hope to see the brethren in the regions round about at the meeting.

The brethren in St. Catharines are inclined to complain, on account of the seeming neglect of that place by the co-operation. Be patient brethren, remember that one or two men can not be every place at once, your turn will come after awhile.

Bro. R. Ainsworth writes that he will leave the field at Mt. Carmel the 15th of this month. This leaves Mt. Carmel without any one to labor among them. We are not apprised as to what his intentions are for the future.

Our old friend and brother, Amos Clendinning, is growing feeble day by day, but it is a source of real pleasure to visit with him, he is full of reminiscences. May the Lord deal tenderly with him for a short time, and the ripened sheaf will soon be garnered above.

Bro. Ashley S. Johnson, of Knoxville, Tenn., has spoken at Lake Shore, Jordan, Smithville and Gainsboro, in the order named. He will return to Tennessee after the 15th inst.

On our way to Selkirk from Hamilton, we spoke two evenings at Mt. Herby, the home of Bro. Thos. Bradt. There is a fair opening there to establish a good church, indeed I know of no better outlook in Canada.

We visit of Jordan on the 10th, 11th, and 12th, and had good audiences on Lord-day. The

church there is holding on, but death has been in their midst since our meeting here last November. Bro. J. M. Lewis is poorly and needs rest. Several of the members were present from Lake Shore.

We visited the old "mother church" in Everton on the 13th ult., and had good meetings. They have recently enjoyed a "season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord," and some eleven have been added to their number.

Bro. James Lesford has decided to labor for and with the church at Ridgeway, and will begin his regular work there on the 2nd Lord-day in August. This we regard as a wise move for the church. His address in future will be Ridgeway, Ont.

Bro. B. Moffat, of Cleveland, Ohio, is preparing a year book of statistics of our people in the States. The status of our people in Ontario will be given in the book. We hope the brethren everywhere will get the book and note the errors and report them, and thus assist in getting a correct statistics of our cause.

Bro. B. H. Kohn, one of the Elders of the church in Hamilton, has sold his farm at Freeman, Pa., and will leave for California about the first of Oct. He is one of the men of earth, faithful in his attendance at church, notwithstanding he has twelve miles to go, he is seldom out of his place in the church. He will be sorely missed by the church there, but will be a valuable acquisition to the church on the Pacific coast. He thinks of going to San Francisco. His address until Oct. 1st is Freeman.

A card from Bro. Ash informs us that the church and Sunday School at Rodney, are in a prosperous condition. Bro. Ash will have two more articles on his present theme in the WORKER, which will close the series. There is some demand for the articles to be printed in pamphlet form. Bro. Ash is willing to do what he can to assist this work; but someone must lend a helping hand. He will find it necessary to alter, amend, and rearrange it, which will be no easy task. Let those interested in this matter correspond with Bro. Ash at Rodney, Ont.

Elder E. Sheppard and daughter left Bowmanville Aug. 6th for Portage-La-Prairie, where he will hold a series of meetings with the church. They stayed three days at Meaford, and Bro. Sheppard preaching Friday and Saturday evenings, and Lord-day morning and evening. The brethren were glad to see him after an absence of twenty years, and were edified by his discourses. Bro. S. carries with him the best wishes of the brethren here, and we shall hope to hear of great good being done during his visit there. He stopped over Monday night at Owen Sound. Bro. Tilton says there was a goodly number out to hear Bro. Sheppard and he gave us a very interesting discourse. J. C. W.

Dear Bro.—One lady 64 years of age confessed the Saviour and was baptized in Walkerton since my last report. Lam now in a meeting at Alton. Three baptized up to date.

A. SORT.

Walkerton.

Dear Bro. I. & W.—Please announce that our Annual meeting will be held 14th Sept. Bro. J. L. Parsons, of Indiana will be with us. A cordial invitation is extended.

Yours,

R. W. STEPHENSON.

St. Thomas, Ont., Aug. 14th-34.