

The Ontario Evangelist,

A RELIGIOUS MONTHLY.

Terms, 50 Cents per Annum In Advance.

T. L. FOWLER, - EVERTON, ONT.,
GEO. MUNRO, - ERIN, ONT.,
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

All matter for publication should be addressed to GEO. MUNRO, Erin, Ont. All remittances should be sent to T. L. FOWLER, Everton, Ont.

Remittances sent by Post Office Order or Registered Letter will come at our risk.

A red pencil mark here indicates that your subscription expires with this number. Please renew promptly.

J. J. KELSO, JOB PRINTER, TOVELL'S BLOCK, GUELPH, ONT. Job Printing of all kinds executed in first-class style and at low prices.

JULY, 1887.

APOSTOLIC METHODS OF WORK.

The pure, simple, unadulterated gospel should be preached now as it was preached by the Apostles. There is no reason why it should not be so preached. We have what they preached set forth at large, and plainly in the New Testament. We have God's part in the great work, Christ's part, the Holy Spirit's part, the preacher's part, the sinner's part, explicitly stated, and so there need be no doubt in regard to these matters. We consider it of the first importance that all preachers should preach what the Apostles preached—no more, no less; and we believe that more than any other one thing that would tend to bring all together into one body.

Our purpose, at present, is to call attention to another matter, which thought of secondary, is yet of very great importance. It is to the methods followed by the Apostles in carrying out the commission. It will be conceded that they were the best possible under the circumstances. To hint the contrary would be to cast a reflection upon the Holy Spirit. It will also, we presume, be allowed that so far as may be possible, those methods should now be pursued. If so, it follows that so far as they are adopted so far will the work of any given man, or any given people, be successful, and on the other hand so far as they are ignored, so far will failure be the result, no matter how honest, and how zealous the man, or the people may be. There was such a thing as zeal not according to knowledge in the days of Paul, there is probably some of it in the world now. And we believe a preacher, or even a people, may comprehend clearly and preach fully, the gospel, and yet may never have observed closely the Apostles' methods of work, and so may be working at a great disadvantage. It is possible that many Christians have never thought upon the subject at all. We are persuaded that the plan of the Apostles were, in the highest degree, calculated to accomplish the desired end, and that, at least, in their great principles they were intended to be examples for all time, and that therefore we are bound to study them now, and follow them as well. In succeeding papers certain of their methods will be pointed out.

G. M.

NOTES.

Prof. W. F. Black has been engaged holding a protracted meeting for the church in Ennis, Texas. There were 45 additions up to June 24th.

Bro. J. L. Parsons, of Rushville, Ind., will visit Toronto about July 7th, and will be with the brethren on Denison Avenue over Lord's Day, July the 10th.

We learn from the Standard that the Annual S. S. Conventions in Missouri and Kentucky were largely attended, and very enthusiastic. The S. S. work is reaching large proportions among our brethren in the States.

This is what the Standard says in a recent number, and the Standard ought to know. It is a most encouraging, as well as "a marked change."

During the past few years our missionary conventions have undergone a marked change. Christian workers meet now to rehearse all that God has done with them, and to derive liberal things for the future. The age of talk is past; this is the age for work. Very little time is wasted in the discussion of parliamentary procedure; the objective point is the furtherance of the gospel. The banner of the cross must be set up in new territory; the boundaries of Christ's kingdom must be enlarged; the world must be evangelized.

Our readers will be glad to read the cheering report sent from Bro. Finch of the meeting held by him in Beaulieu, Dakota. We trust the brethren will not neglect his request that he should be informed of the names and addresses of any Disciples who may have gone to the North West.

We are glad to note that so many of the Sunday Schools observed Children's Day. Some small schools took up quite large collections.

It is a good thing to get the children interested in the great work of preaching the gospel to the heathen. The Sunday School in Alleghany, Pa., we believe, contributed this year \$277.50 to Foreign Missions.

The prevailing, if not the unanimous opinion seems to be that the decision come to at the Annual Meeting to make a specialty of Toronto was a wise decision. We have no doubt but the brethren throughout the Province will respond liberally and even enthusiastically to any appeal made to them to support that enterprise.

Here is a true saying from a late number of the S. S. Times, which Christians will do well to meditate upon:—

Every new privilege leaves a man either better or worse than it found him. It is so even with religious privileges; for familiarity with sacred things either makes a man more reverent or less reverent.

Our aged Brother, W. A. Stephens, of Owen Sound, was prevented from being at our Annual June Meeting on account of illness. Although absent, we were assured of his sympathy and of his earnest prayer in behalf of our Co-operative efforts. We are glad to be able to state that his health is improving.

We learn from the Standard that Bro. Erret, arrived safely in Cincinnati, June 21st, after an absence of five months. His "Letters of Travel" will continue for some time we judge; the last one was about Jerusalem. We hope he may be spared to us in vigorous health yet a good while, that he may have an opportunity of conveying to us some part at least of the impressions he received during his journeyings.

We are under obligation to Miss Lizzie V. Riöch, Hamilton, and to Miss Martha Culp, Beamsville, for good lists of subscribers to the EVANGELIST. Our friends will be glad to know that our paper is growing in favor with the brethren throughout the Province, and even with not a few beyond the boundaries of Ontario. Now is the time still further to extend its circulation.

We make a new departure this month in publishing a Supplement, and we make it for a good end. When you have read it, you will understand better, perhaps, than you did before how valuable was the work done by Bro. Lediard during the past year. Bro. Lediard's report merits, and we trust it will receive, the careful and candid consideration of the Disciples of Christ in Ontario.

We are informed that Bro. Silas Moot, who has been laboring for over two years with the Church in Welland, has removed to West Rupert, Vt. He is to preach for the church at that place. We are sorry to part with Bro. Moot. He has in the true spirit of Christian self-denial devoted himself to the work in Welland. We trust that the cause in Welland will not be allowed to languish. What provision is made for the further carrying on of the work there we have not learned.

We would call the attention of the brethren to the necessity of not only continuing to support Bro. Crewson in Muskoka, but also of sending him help. It is impossible for any one man to do what must be done in that field, if the good work already accomplished by Bro. Crewson is not largely to be lost. We must remember that there is strong competition even in that region. Bro. Crewson has done marvels already by the blessing of God. Let us not fail properly to sustain him and the work to which he has devoted so much labor.

From the last reports from Bethany we learn that Prof. W. H. Woolery has not accepted the presidency of Hiram College. The enthusiasm of the students was unbounded when they learned that their beloved professor could not be induced to leave. His work at Bethany during the few years he has been there has been highly satisfactory. The Trustees at their last meeting elected him President of the College. The prospects of the institution are now better than they have been for several years. Success to "Old" Bethany.

We were not able to give the names of the sisters chosen to manage the woman's work in our last number. Here they are now: President, Mrs. S. M. Brown, Warton; Vice-President, Mrs. W. B. Malcolm, Toronto; Treasurer, Mrs. Geo. Munro, Erin; Cor.-Sec'y, Mrs. McClurg, Lobo; Rec.-Sec'y, Miss Annie Kilgour, Guelph. These sisters will, no doubt, be heard from to good purpose. We invite them to use the columns of the EVANGELIST whenever they think they can thereby further their work.

We have often been told that the Disciples in Ontario are a miserly people. But we don't believe it nevertheless. On the other hand we are of the opinion that they are a liberal people. We believe that all that is required to secure large contributions from them is to place before them a good, definite object. We are bold enough to make the assertion that there are thousands of dollars in the hands of brethren ready to be devoted to the cause of Christ. But it won't be given in any hap-hazard way, neither should it be. Business men will only give largely where they think the returns will justify the outlay.

As indicative of what progress is being made in the direction of Christian union, we present the following clipping from the Presbyterian Review, of Toronto:—

A communication from the Provincial Synod of the Church of England was read (agreed to by both Houses), asking that a committee be appointed from the General Assembly with a view to taking steps that may lead to a closer union of evangelical bodies. After remarks by Principals Caven, McVicar and Grant, all of whom expressed themselves as exceedingly favorable to the proposed fraternal conference, the following resolution was unanimously adopted on motion of Principal Caven:—"The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, deeply sensible of the evils of disunion in the Church of Christ, and of their contrariety to the true ideal of the Church, as presented in Scripture, and especially in our Lord's intercessory prayer, has heard with lively gratification of the action respecting Christian Union, adopted by the Provincial Synod of the Church of England in Canada, at its meeting in Montreal in September last, and the General Assembly hereby appoints a committee to confer with any similar committees which have been appointed by other branches of the Church of Christ in Canada, and to report to the next meeting of the General Assembly. The General Assembly accompanies this action with the prayer that the spirit of wisdom shall so direct any endeavour to secure the greater manifested unity of the Church of Christ, that truth and charity shall be equally promoted thereby and the glory of the Church's Head advanced."

When one reads the above, and such like, it makes him wish that Alexander Campbell were yet alive. What have sixty years brought forth!

Our readers will observe that we make quite free with the columns of the Apostolic Guide. We presume that not many of them are subscribers to that excellent paper, and they will therefore thank us for giving them as many as possible of the good things we find in it. Here is some sound scriptural writing, which, of course, we heartily endorse:—

Again we are called on by a brother to answer the question, when a preacher is called by the church to serve it, what is he? "Is he preacher, teacher, evangelist, bishop or elder?" It is difficult to understand why this question springs up so often in different parts of the country, unless it be because there are preachers here and there who arrogate to themselves authority which is called in question. This appears highly probable from the fact that a certain class of preachers, and often very young ones at that, so young that they still wear their pinfeathers, are in the habit of publishing that they have "TAKEN CHARGE" of such and such a church. They are spoken of by one another as each "the preacher" or "the pastor IN CHARGE." Now a preacher who thus speaks of himself or of another, has not learned the alphabet of Christian phraseology; or, if he has ever learned it, he has thrown it away for the language of Ashdod. In the mouth of a Methodist preacher alone is such language in harmony with the facts of the case. Among men who take the New Testament alone as their rule of faith, the preacher who does not know just what he is when he is preaching for a time every Lord's Day to one congregation is not fit to preach there or anywhere else, until he learns who and what he is. But, for the benefit of some who are not preachers, we answer that no man can be an elder, bishop or pastor of a congregation without a formal election and appointment to the office, according to the Scripture method. Without such an election and appointment, a preacher who preaches for the same church, one, two, ten or twenty years, sustains precisely the same relation to it as if his stay was for only one, two, ten or twenty weeks.

CHURCH NEWS.

ERIN VILLAGE.—There was one addition by baptism at Erin Village June 17th.

BEAMSVILLE.—There were four more added to the church at Beamsville last Lord's Day—eight in all since the discussion began.

BAYSVILLE.—Had one baptism at Emberson last week and one yesterday at St. Mary's Lake, and better meetings here and in Ridout. I am better.

W. M. CREWSON.

MUNRO.—The last week was spent visiting among the members of the church at Munro. I preached each evening while there to large and attentive audiences. Three, hearings, believed and were baptized.

T. I. F.

SHERWOOD.—I was at Sherwood on June 12th, and had good meetings. The morning meeting is held in the meeting-house at Sherwood, the evening meeting at Bro. Page's house, some four miles distant from S. We had fifty-eight persons present in the evening, and a good interest manifested.

GEO. J. BARCLAY.

MUSKOKA.—I beg to report good meetings in Brunel and East Ridout, and an improvement in Baysville. Had one baptism in Brunel last week at my regular appointment, and one this week at St. Mary's Lake. Both good additions to our strength in those places. I am improving in health and strength.

W. M. CREWSON.

Baysville, June 20th.

SMITHVILLE.—The writer assisted the brethren at Smithville in a two weeks' meeting, beginning the last of May, which resulted in seventeen accessions to the church. The brethren were much encouraged. They are living in peace and unity with our much beloved Bro. Wardell at the helm. He is one of the good, true men, whose work will soon be done. Who will take his place?

W. D. CAMPBELL.

Beamsville, June 28th, 1887.

BEAULIEU, DAKOTA.—Our quiet little valley was cheered by a visit from Bro. A. H. Finch, of Portage la Prairie, which visit, though short, did much good. He was with us three Lord's Days, speaking three times each day as well as during the week. The result was that ten put on the Lord by baptism, and many more having been shewn the truth as it is in Jesus were almost persuaded. Some came to hear him who had not heard the gospel preached for years, and went away home to search for themselves to see if those things were so. Bro. Finch presents the truth so clearly and yet so simply that the youngest child can understand. There is a good opening here to build up the cause of the Master. Let us pray that the Lord will send laborers into His harvest.

S. McL.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, MAN.—As announced in last EVANGELIST, I went to Beaulieu, Dakota Territory, to hold a meeting for a little, faithful band of nine, who, on the first Lord's Day in May, 1884, met and organized with eleven members, with Dan McLellan as Elder, and Dougald McLellan and John McKechnie as Deacons. They have continued so to meet every Lord's Day since. Of the original eleven, three have died, and Sister Sarah McLellan coming in their midst last January from Luther makes the number nine. I commenced preaching Saturday evening, June 4th, continuing till Lord's Day evening, June 19th. Immediate results—ten confessed their Saviour and were buried with Him in baptism and raised to walk in newness of life, and two were added by relation. This brings their number up to twenty-one. This is the first and only response we have had to our request that the Eastern churches send us the names and addresses of members who have moved "out West." Come, brethren and sisters, speak out, there may be many more bands like this which we are ready and willing to help to the best of our ability.

A. H. FINCH.

June 23rd, 1887.

GUELPH.

Your readers, no doubt, remember that special services were to follow the annual meeting, which was held in this place. These services were brought to a close last Monday night.

Bro. Cobb during his visit preached thirty sermons; all these were, in my opinion, excellent gospel discourses, replete with ideas, which tended to arouse in the unconverted a sense of their lost condition and a desire for a Saviour, and in those who were already members of the Body of Christ a greater zeal to do the Master's will, and to propagate His cause, not only by a godly walk and conversation, but also by using the talents which God has given them.

During the meetings nine made the good confession and were baptized.

A good interest was maintained throughout the entire meeting. The brethren are much encouraged and strengthened and feel that an indelible impression has been made upon the people here by the kind, clear and forcible manner in which Bro. Cobb presented the gospel in all its apostolic simplicity and grandeur.

To say that the meetings were enjoyable and profitable does not half express it; the only way to realize the effect upon one is to have just such a series of meetings.

Guelph, July 2nd, 1887.

M.