

THE DISCIPLE OF CHRIST

AND CANADIAN EVANGELIST.

1898
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"If ye abide in my word, then are ye truly my disciples."—JESUS the Christ.

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The Disciple of Christ

Is devoted to the furtherance of the Gospel of Christ, and pleads for the union of all believers in the Lord Jesus in harmony with His own prayer recorded in the seventeenth chapter of John, and on the basis set forth by the Apostle Paul in the following terms: "I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beseech you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love; giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, even as also ye were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all."—Eph. iv. 1-6.

This paper, while not claiming to be what is styled an "organ," may be taken as fairly representing the people known as Disciples of Christ in this country.

Editorial Notes.

A brother writes, commending the patriotic tone of the notes on this page in January 1st number. We think it well to do our part towards preventing our friends in the States from thinking that Canada is ready to fall into their arms.

With reference to the extraordinary political situation at Ottawa, we think it is within the province of a religious paper to remark that now is a good time for us all to reflect that it is not a good idea to swear too strongly by a political party.

Mr. Morris was not elected Mayor of Hamilton, although we did support him. He got 851 votes. There were three or four thousand more votes he would have had, if only people had voted as they are supposed to pray.

We are told that even leading Methodists refused to support Mr. Morris. The Methodist Church is down on tobacco and whisky. But those loyal Methodists voted for a great tobacco manufacturer, who does not claim to be a total abstainer, in preference to a man who is trying to save their boys from the cigarette curse, and is a total abstainer and an out-and-outer in regard to the enforcement of law. When they pray, "Thy kingdom come," they ought to remember that one way to make the kingdom come is to put men

in office who will help the kingdom along.

Our old friend, Bro. Robt. Moffet, has an article in a late number of the *Christian Oracle*, on "The Monroe Doctrine," which though it bears harder, we think, than is just on England, yet is in the right line, and well calculated to cool off the jingoes to the south of us. We give the closing paragraphs, and gently intimate to Bro. Moffet that we are not sure up this way that Britain would lose Canada in the event of war with the States:

And there are those whose jingoism never stops to consider what a war with Great Britain would mean. In the first place our naval strength is scarcely more than one fifth of that of Great Britain. England's fleet has 88,000 men, 50 battle ships, 25 armed and 140 unarmed cruisers; 34 large torpedo vessels, and 189 torpedo boats. The United States has 13,000 men, 3 battle ships, one armed and 33 unarmed cruisers; 1 large torpedo vessel and 2 torpedo boats. On the sea these mighty odds would be against us. Our ports would be blockaded, our commerce destroyed and our merchantmen ruined. Perhaps a billion dollars of United States stocks and bonds held by foreigners would come at once to our markets to be disposed of for gold. This would cause such a panic as never has been felt in this country; and this blow to our financial strength would fall before a single battle would have been fought. Already the "Black Fridays" give us a hint of what may be expected. It would be a long and doubtful struggle. On land England would be at immense disadvantage. On sea the United States would wield a feeble sword. England would probably lose Canada, but it would be a costly victory for the United States.

And then the demoralization of commerce, the ruin of our merchants, the pauperizing of our laborers and farmers would be nothing compared with the destruction of all those virtues which make up Christian civilization.

There will be those on either side of the water who will look on both sides of this serious question and find a way to avoid all this awful carnage without a sacrifice of honor. In these Christian men, the basis of Anglo-Saxon civilization, we have such confidence that we can not believe that war is possible between the United States and England.

R. M.

It is hard to understand why the British Government refused arbitration

upon the friendly suggestion of the United States, unless it wished to provoke a quarrel, the end of which may be the breaking up of her splendid world-wide empire.—*Christian Standard*.

Perhaps the following paragraph from Lord Salisbury's reply to Secretary Olney may enlighten our contemporary a little:

It will be seen from the preceding statement that the Government of Great Britain have from the first held the same view as to the extent of the territory which they are entitled to claim as a matter of right. It comprised the coast line up to the River Amacure and the whole basin of the Essequibo and its tributaries. A portion of that claim, however, they have always been willing to waive altogether, in regard to another portion they have been and continue to be perfectly ready to submit the question of the title to arbitration. As regards the rest, that which lies within the so-called Schomburgh line, they do not consider that the rights of Great Britain are open to question. Even within that line they have, on various occasions, offered to Venezuela considerable concessions as a matter of friendship and conciliation, and for the purpose of securing an amicable settlement of the dispute. If, as time has gone on, the concessions thus offered diminished in extent and have now been withdrawn, this has been the necessary consequence of the gradual spread over the country of British settlements, which Her Majesty's Government cannot, in justice to the inhabitants, offer to surrender to foreign rule; and the justice of such withdrawal is amply borne out by the researches in the national archives of Holland and Spain, which have furnished further and more convincing evidence in support of the British claims.

Here is a clipping from the *Montreal Witness* which we give for the benefit of the *Pacific Christian* and other United States religious exchanges that are in the habit of expatiating on "England's greed:"

As for the Americans, when they remember the aforesaid Fenian raids which successfully crossed the frontier, with no hindrance from them, and their national refusal afterwards to pay any damages and England's uncalled for acquiescence, they will mitigate their talk about England's freebooting. England's greed, which so much pains every American moralist, is not borne out by fact. She has restored various dependencies to the lands that claimed them, and the countries over which her

empire has extended during the last generation at least have become hers because she could not help it, and very much to the benefit of those countries. As for the Transvaal it was quite unnecessary to make any effort to get it. It has been for some years becoming English at a wonderfully rapid rate. Its naturalization laws exclude immigrants from citizenship short of five years' residence, and the full franchise is given to none but born citizens of the Transvaal or burghers settled there before 1876. Five or six years from now, however, if the result is not anticipated by earlier action, the whole problem will solve itself.

We notice that the impression is spreading that the solution of the school question will be found in making the national schools secular. The more people think over it the more they will see that perfunctory religious exercises are worse than useless,—they are harmful.

The result of the general elections in Manitoba shows that the people of that province are bound to manage their schools in their own way. The Dominion Government may as well withdraw its remedial order.

We do not suppose there is much in the rumor that Emperor William intends to claim the British crown when Queen Victoria dies. Nevertheless we take space to remark that we think it would do the young man good to be King of England for a while. In the course of a year or two he might not be so bumptious.

Books for Bible School.

The second term of the Bible School at St. Thomas has opened with twenty students in attendance. A good library is one of our needs. It will take years to collect one, but we want to begin at once. There is an excellent public library in the city, but it contains few volumes helpful to ministerial students.

We wish to ask friends of the School to help us by sending in books new or old that would be helpful to young men preparing for the ministry.

Send all books by mail or express to,

T. L. FOWLER,

Box 1093

St. Thomas, Ont.