

promising us liberal aid, which promise both he and his people have most liberally fulfilled. We are glad we followed his advice, as it is often found to be too small even with that addition. Next Sabbath, May 24th, Rev. R. Brown gave in his resignation. During the following summer Revs. A. McGill, Barton, W. F. Clarke, Guelph, D. Macallum, Markham, J. Douglas, Lanark, and E. Barker kindly visited us to break to us the bread of Life. An account of the laying of our church cornerstone may be seen in the *Independent* for September, 1868, and of its opening, February No. 1869. On December 15th, a most cordial and unanimous call was a second time given Rev. E. Barker to be our Pastor which he accepted, and soon commenced his indefatigable labour amongst us, and also in our Sister Church at Fergus. The Induction Service was held February 26th, 1869. Two members having joined us a short time previously the number on the roll when our present Pastor came amongst us, was 43: since then 57 more have been added by profession, the great majority being young people.

Truly the Lord hath done great things for us: to Him we would ascribe all the praise.

A. G.

OLD BACHELORS.

A correspondent, who signs himself "A Bachelor," writes us:—"As it is quite fashionable, even among Christians, to call St. Paul "an old bachelor," please inform us, world's people, where St. Paul's writings, as an inspired apostle, end, and where, as an 'old bachelor,' they begin?"

"Is there in this world any stronger, purer or more beautiful love than is to be found in the hearts of old bachelors for some one of womankind, whose memory never dies, but forms the one sad, sweet, mighty power to which is sacrificed so many hopes and so many dreary, aching years? We think not."

Our correspondent is right in regard to the flippancy with which St. Paul is often quoted on the question of marriage. His utterances on that subject were undoubtedly as much the teaching of Divine inspiration as any other portion of his writings, always understanding him, of course, to refer to "the present distress."

As to the other point, we have happily had no experience. If our celibate friend has, we advise him to *try again*, and endeavour, in the society of a loving wife, to forget the "dreary, aching years" he has uselessly "sacrificed" to some cherished memory. "There's as good fish in the sea as ever were caught," and if he will only look round, he will probably find somebody else spending just such "dreary, aching years," who would prove the very "help-meet" he needs, if he would only ask her.

The great Earl of Chatham once went with a pious friend to hear Cecil. The sermon was on the Spirit's agency in the hearts of believers. As they were returning home, the mighty statesman confessed that he could not understand it at all, and asked his friend if he supposed there was any one in the house who could. "Why, yes," said he, there were many pious, unlettered women and some children there who understood every word of it, and heard it with joy."