

### From the President.

The command to *go and preach the gospel* is still in force; how many of us are making any attempt to obey the command of our Lord? That is a serious and solemn question which we must answer. We cannot all *go*, but it is of equal importance, I think, to remain and take care of the material things that we may have wherewith *to give*. It is clear to my mind that we can be faithful to Christ and His cause, and help to preach Christ to the world, by contributing to the support of those who are preaching. We enjoy very great privileges, brethren; do we seriously consider our responsibility, and ask ourselves, what am I doing in return for all that God has done for me? A little self-judgment is often helpful in enabling us to reach a righteous decision on any subject in which we are concerned. If our heart condemn us we are on dangerous ground. "for God is greater than our hearts and He will condemn us."

I am confident that we as a people have a work for Christ; to exalt Christ above every other authority; hold up God's word as the Divine guide; and plead for the union, the oneness, as in the beginning, of the followers of Christ by the restoration of the faith and practice as taught by the Apostles. *Now* is the supreme time; unfaithfulness now and the labors and hope of years might be set back a decade, and golden time lost.

The Board feel anxious to carry out the promises made at last annual meeting. We find our faith severely tried. The mission points where so much is being accomplished can only be continued by your—*our*—united assistance. God has honored us and made us stewards of His bounty.

If every Disciple of Christ in Ontario would just contribute as God has prospered him and her, God knows, what a glad day it would be, joy on earth, and joy in heaven. Trusting that the May collection this year will be the very largest in our history, and that you may all be richly blessed, and the cause of Christ advanced, I am, yours fraternally,

HUGH BLACK.

### Owen Sound and the Home Mission Board.

Owen Sound was never more thankful than now for the help she has received from the brethren through the Board of Co-operation. There have been times when the very trials of the way and the want of encouragement seemed to kill out the spirit of thank-

fulness. But by God's blessing the past year has been our brightest from whatever standpoint we view our work, and we thank God and take courage.

But it is certain that but for the help of the Board this congregation could not have stood where it does, nor have had the growing influence for good that it has in this town. By its help it has been possible for us not only to preach the gospel in its simplicity and "contend for the Faith once delivered to the saints," but to win a place and a name for our church in the town as amongst the foremost in all good works, and on the testimony of the ministers themselves, "a pattern in godliness" to their larger congregations. Brethren, these are reasons for thankfulness, and we give the glory to Him who has made it possible.

We shall do our best in the May collection. Our burdens are heavy and we cannot do what we would. We are taking Bro. Lhamon's prayer meeting topics for our Sunday night prayer meetings, and in every way we can are trying to do our very best.

J. LEDIARD.

### From Guelph.

The necessity of a united effort amongst the Disciples of Christ in Ontario was never more apparent than at the present time. The work of the Co-operation (by which I mean the brotherhood who compose it) has grown probably faster than the wealth of its supporters, and the scarcity of funds to meet all demands, and the consequent strained condition of the Co-operation, might lead the uninformed or casual observer to the conclusion that interest and faith in the work was on the wane. But a more thoughtful view of the situation will, I believe, dispel any such notion should it exist, and a logical handling of the facts will lead the inquirer to a directly opposite conclusion. A comparison of the work now undertaken with that carried on by the churches a few years ago, when only one or two churches in the Province attempted to keep a preacher his whole time, will well illustrate this point. During this earlier period when the home demands on the churches were very light the Co-operation was comparatively free from difficulty as regards finances. A brief review of the changes and growth of the work in local congregations will reveal the fallacy of the inference that our position is weaker because of the difficulty in providing funds for united effort through the Co-operation. The churches that are attempting to support preachers may now be counted by

the score, and the value of our church property has vastly increased. The fact that the brotherhood, in addition to meeting the greatly increased local demands, has extended its arms to weak churches and been the means of establishing flourishing churches in our large centres, show what strides have been made and leaves no place for discouragement. The importance of these extensions can scarcely be realized. All reports indicate that the work is prospering in all these points. I may be pardoned if I draw especial notice to the increased vitality of the work in Toronto as a result of a long and persistent effort, the self-sacrificing spirit of the church membership, and in no small degree to the ability and energy of its distinguished pastor. It is a matter of very great thankfulness that in Toronto, the centre and hub of Western Canada, the cause of primitive Christianity is thus gaining a foot-hold.

While I believe the Board, in view of the past progress, have no apprehensions for the future, still it were folly to disguise the fact that its financial condition is at present embarrassed. This may doubtless be fully accounted for by such circumstances alluded to above apart from hard times, which has also left its mark. I would therefore plead with all possible earnestness that the brethren would hold up the hands of the Board in the endeavor to hold the ground already attained and to make new advances. We have reached a critical point, but feel confident that if each does his duty our progress will suffer no retrograde step, and the work in which the older and departed generation of preachers and workers labored will surely attain the success for which they fervently prayed. Loyalty to Christ requires us who claim to be His disciples to do our part in spreading the gospel for the salvation of the lost. May we not withhold the substance God has entrusted us with, but contribute liberally and lovingly to the support of his cause. J. W. KILGOUR.

Guelph, April 20, 1895.

### From Toronto.

We have begun our special preparations in Cecil street for the Home Mission collection in May.

The collection was announced last Sunday at the regular services, and will be every Sunday till the collection is made. We have begun the study of the Home Mission topics at our Wednesday evening prayer meetings. As an educative factor they will be helpful to all, both in and out of Toronto, for I think there are none who know too much about Home Missions.

The success of the collection is depending on the individual effort of every brother and sister in the Province; not alone on the side of the pocket-book, but also on the sides of prayer, thought and conversation.

May the united prayers ascend to our Father and the united efforts of all be put forth for the extension of the cause we all love so much.

J. L. LEARY.

Toronto, April 19, 1895.

### A Word from London.

The work here continues to move along. Additions every Lord's day. Since the first of the year, 27 have been added by baptism. Our existence as a church is owing to the aid we have received in the past and are now receiving from the Ontario Board. Next month a general collection will be taken for Home Missions. Let there be a liberal response. We do not, I believe, appreciate the service the Board has rendered to our cause in the Province in the support given to new and financially weak congregations. There is much to encourage us in the progress made by many of the churches during the past year. It is a matter of regret that we are not in a position to make an aggressive movement throughout the Province. Experience has taught us that no benefit is to be derived from evangelizing new points unless we can supply trained and educated preachers to instruct and build up any congregations formed through evangelistic effort. Hence the necessity of the Bible School recently established in Toronto.

Brethren, let us give the Board and the Bible School our hearty and united support. Our cause will then make rapid strides.

F. M.

London, April 11, 1895.

### Some Questions For You to Answer.

Has the Home Mission collection been announced at your regular services?

Have you at a prayer meeting considered a Home Mission topic?

Have you prayed for Home Missions?

Have you spoken about Home Missions to your brethren?

Are you conversant with the needs of the Home Mission work?

Do you know that for some years the offerings from Ontario for Foreign Missions have been more than the amount asked for, while those for Home Missions have never been above what was asked for and what was required?