

"ELP-A LITTLE."

respectfully requested
to their congregations,
to tell their friends,
of this paper for
the present year
charge to all
that they
TERIAN
ONE
ostago
men
ns

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23rd, 1886.

The Oldest and Best Christmas Greeting.

LXXXII. 14, (N.Y.)

And there were shepherds in the same country abiding
in the field, and keeping watch by night over their flock.
And an angel of the Lord stood by them, and the glory
of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore
afraid. And the angel said unto them, Be not afraid;
for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which
shall be to all the people: for there is born to you this
day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the
Lord. And this is the sign unto you; Ye shall find a
babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a
manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a mul-
titude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace among men in whom He is
well pleased.

A NEW CONTRIBUTOR.

to the many contributors who will write for the
"Review" 1887 we are happy to be able to an-
nounce the well known Biblical scholar and attractive
writer, A. D. Mackay, pastor of Crescent Street
Church, New York, who will contribute to our columns a series
of general articles, "Scripture Illustrations."
The papers will be in the
"Review" and will be especially suitable for
family instruction in the doctrines of
Scripture which Mr. Mackay has con-
sidered, and the interest he manifests
apparent from the fact that though
the completed papers will be pub-
lished in the "Review" it has already been
of a British and American Pub-
lisher generously allowed them to
appear in the "Review." The first of the series will
appear in the 7th, and the subsequent
papers will be published weekly throughout the
year. No doubt will be eagerly waited for
by our young people. In permitting the publication
of these papers in the "Review" we are gratified
Mackay thus expressing himself: "I would
not say paper to any other because its circulation is
greater than that of any other Presbyterian paper in the
country, and because I have no sympathy with the
views that may be made to injure its prosperity."

In this connection we may draw attention to the first
chapter of our new story, "A Daughter of Eve," given
in this issue, which will doubtless prove acceptable to our
numerous readers.

A QUESTION FOR OUR READERS.

WHEN this journal was first issued it sought
the suffrages of the Presbyterian public, on
grounds which appeared to its promoters amply
sufficient to justify its existence. While it be-
gan its career in no spirit of hostility to existing
journals, it gave no uncertain sound as to the
principles which would govern its columns. It
proposed first and always to help the spiritual
life of our people. It declared its purpose to
be thoroughly independent of all parties either
within or without the Church. It announced
its views with perfect frankness on the subject
of the Bible in the Schools, the Temperance
Question and the danger menacing the country
from Papal Aggression. Our shareholders were
every one of them aware of our policy, and our
subscribers have only to turn up the first num-
bers of the "Review" to assure themselves that
these are the facts.

Now the question for our readers is simply
this: Have we swerved from our principles
by one jot or tittle since our career began? We
are quite ready to appeal to our constituency
on this issue and without any doubt of the re-
sult.

Why then have we been assailed with such
virulence by the politicians? Simply because an
election is pending. Would the partisans on
either side have paid much attention to our de-
man's or criticisms had they not, as it so hap-
pens, been seeking the suffrages of the electors?
Certainly not. They now clamour, for no con-
sideration higher than that of party politics, that
the discussion of the subjects laid out by us in
our programme should absolutely cease, as they
find them troublesome to deal with on the plat-
form and in the columns of the party press.
Their interest in such topics will expire on the
29th of December.

Now we put it to all honest Christian men:
Would we be justified in keeping silence because
an election is at hand? Could we any longer
call ourselves independent of politics and politi-
cians if we could trim and dissemble either to
help or hamper a political party? If we have
spoken the truth; if papal aggression is menac-
ing us; if our Public Schools are interfered
with, and Separate Schools favoured unjustly; if
temperance workers have been befooled in trust-
ing to politicians, surely it is our duty to speak
out, election or no election. If our statements
have been exaggerated or unwarranted they de-
serve to be condemned as such; but if they are
true, they are of such vital importance to the
spiritual and moral life of our country that sil-
ence would be criminal.

It is strange to find ministers of the gospel as
a few are doing, expressing on purely political
grounds disapproval of our course. They say
you are playing into the hands of one set of
partisans who may be more unscrupulous than
the other. We say distinctly that we have
no right to look for one moment to the conse-
quences which may follow our action as long as
we are satisfied that we are doing our duty.
These ministers seem to forget there is an
overruling Providence who will dispose of
whatever man may propose. They must not turn
the country in the Lord's hands; and therefore

they are prepared to keep silence on every sub-
ject or any subject; the discussion of which
might make the issue of an election campaign
doubtful.

The objection is urged in certain quarters
that we have unwisely carried on a discussion
on the eve of an election; and we have been
pressed to keep quiet on the subjects now agi-
tating the public mind. Might we ask of those
who thus complain of our action, whether they
are not virtually admitting that there is some-
thing concerning these subjects which needs to
be, in the interest of party, suppressed?

We say frankly we have no confidence what-
ever in the party politicians on either side when
the question of the Catholic vote is at stake.
We look forward with no hope to truth and
righteousness prevailing with out-and-out party
men—ministers or laymen—when in competition
with the desire for place and power. But we
believe that God reigns and our purpose is to
trust in Him and do the right though the
heavens fall.

Mr. Mowat and some of his followers have
been denouncing us for refusing to send out as
a fly-sheet to all our readers his Letter addressed
to Mr. Milligan. Did he ask us to do that be-
cause he thought any of his followers would not
be reached by the active steps he took to scatter
his manifesto broadcast over the Province? Not
at all. His object was simply to coerce the
"Review" into the ridiculous position of circulat-
ing an attack upon itself and so to drag it tri-
umphantly at his heels throughout the country,
or to make what capital he could out of our re-
fusal. If we had listened to his proposal a
large number of our readers would have been
indignant, and if we had picked out extracts as
our contemporary the "Canada Presbyterian" did
—culled with great care so as to injure the
"Review" and its friends—we would certainly
have done a poor service to Mr. Mowat. Let
Mr. Mowat address a letter to the Editor of
this journal on any question that has been dis-
cussed in it, and it will appear at once, and be
fairly dealt with. But it is quite in vain for him
to seek to entrap us into political partisanship,
or to seek to do us injury with fair minded
people because of our refusing to be entrapped.

We answered the parts of his letter which con-
cerned us; and if we did him injustice our
columns were open to him for reply. Every un-
biased reader of the "Review" however, is aware
that nothing on our part would satisfy Mr. Mowat
but an absolute surrender of our independence,
and neither he nor Mr. Meredith may ever look
for that. To say we want to injure him is absurd;
we desire to speak the truth, and if our speaking
the truth hurts him or any one else, we are not to
blame.

The present excitement will soon be over, but
we shall continue to uphold the principles for
which we promised to contend when we issued
our first number; and we are not without hope
that even those who have expressed themselves
bitterly concerning us will by-and-by acknow-
ledge the service we have rendered our country
by our faithful dealing with these momentous
questions, and seeking to inform the public
mind with regard to the encroachments of the
Church of Rome.

THE RESULTS OF A TRUE
REVIVAL.

WE have heard deplorable accounts of the
sad results of so-called revival move-
ments in Canada and the United States. Minis-
ters having some right to speak with authority,
tell us of districts in our western peninsula,
where special services, as conducted by mere
sensationalists of other denominations, have left
behind them a moral and spiritual wilderness,
where churches will to-day take no root and the
gospel receive no welcome. Now, we are not
in a position either to confirm or deny these
statements; but we are ready to repudiate with
all earnestness the idea that such are the results
of a genuine revival of religion. Let us, how-
ever, consider what have been the results of
revivals in the Presbyterian Church. Will any
one venture to suggest that the results of the
revival at the Kirk of Shotts were evil. The
testimony of history establishes the fact that an
impetus was there given to the spiritual life of
the Church of Scotland which has never been
lost. What about the revivals in Kylesyth and
in Dundee? Would anyone hesitate in describ-
ing these movements as of mighty influence in
the onward march of the Church of Christ.
Many noble Christian men who have been the
pioneers of our Church in Canada, as is well
known, were converts of McCheyne or William
Burns; and some of the most devoted ministers
and missionaries of the generation passing away,
received their first spiritual impulse from the
times of blessing in those Scotch churches.
What of the revival in Ireland and Scotland
covering the period between 1857 and 1859,
and spreading in its mighty influence across the
ocean to the United States? In not very
remote days a large proportion of the students
in the divinity halls, it was observed, were the
fruit of these revivals; and we believe the same
fact was noted at that time in all the theological
halls in the United States. What about the
results of the work of Moody and Sankey in
England and Scotland in 1873 and 1874? This
much many can say, from personal experience,
that all the evangelical churches were helped
and strengthened by the good work of these
men, and as in the other cases, a large accession
was made to the ranks of the ministers, mission-
aries and evangelists.

But general statements of this kind have little
weight with objectors, because they are perhaps
able to bring testimony in rebuttal gathered from
those who stood aloof from these revivals. It is
perhaps best to confine ourselves to such facts

as have come under personal observation during
the past twenty years.

1. We have seen a great change wrought
upon ministers through revival work. They
have become expert soul-winners and earnest
and faithful preachers, whereas they had been
before but cold and half-hearted in their
work. They have become delighted students
of God's work when before they only seemed
to think of it as a book of texts. They have
reaped great harvests of precious souls, when
before they had only been sowers of the seed,
and exceedingly discouraged sowers at that.
Surely every Christian minister would be thank-
ful for a revival which produced such results in
himself and in his brethren round about him.

2. We have seen God's people wonderfully
stirred up by a revival. There are in all our
churches large numbers of Christian men and
women whose gifts and graces are covered over
and encrusted by prevailing worldliness, and
who are powerless to help in the Lord's work
either by word or deed while in this unhappy
plight. Let there come a genuine revival and
these Christian people will be the first reached
and influenced to action by it. The member
who has been inclined to grumble will be put to
silence and to shame when he sees his own son or
daughter distressed on account of sin and seeking
the Saviour. The member who has always refused
to bear his share of the financial burdens of the
church "because of the way things are man-
aged," will open his purse strings and astonish
his fellow-members by his liberality. The mem-
ber who was too busy to attend week-day services
will seldom miss a meeting, and will ever after
enjoy these means of grace. The member who
sharply criticised the preaching, and wished the
minister would give them "something worth
listening to," will shake that astonished man by
the hand and thank him for his faithful words.
The member who was officious and capricious
will become gentle and modest. All these fruits
of a genuine revival have been frequently seen,
and we are sure all our ministers will say, God
send us a revival if any of these results may be
looked for.

3. From genuine revivals there frequently
arises a large increase to the church from among
its own adherents and young people. There
are, it will be granted, in all our churches, many
who are very near the kingdom, who give an
attentive hearing to the Word, and whose life
and conduct show that they are somewhat, at
least, under the power of the world to come. A
revival always brings in many such, and it is
found that these often put the older members to
shame by their zeal and faithfulness. But there
are other young people, the careless children of
Godly parents, who are likely to be reached in
a season of revival through the prayers of their
parents and the whole church. A minister who
lately took part in such meetings attests that
the pastor began every service by reading requests
for prayer, requests coming largely from Chris-
tian fathers and mothers for the conversion of
wayward sons and daughters.

4. We have seen those who had no church
connection brought in through revival work. It
is a strange fact that those who will not attend
services in the church on the Lord's day, and
who never think of going to an ordinary prayer
meeting, will attend evangelistic meetings. We
have never known such meetings to be held
without men and women appearing in the audi-
ence whom everyone was surprised to see there.
Nay more, we have never known a genuine
revival where a number of such wandering sheep
have not been gathered in. The Church of
God must be aggressive. And how is she to
reach the careless if not by such meetings as
are found suited to attract them and instru-
mental in leading them to the Saviour?

The above are some of the practical results
witnessed from revivals. Every statement we
have made can be confirmed by ministers who
speak out of their own experience. It would be
most profitable to our readers if we could get
from the pastors of our churches such practical
testimony as would prove encouraging to those
who have hitherto been afraid to venture upon
such work, and we cordially invite our friends
to ventilate this great question in our columns.

SABBATH SCHOOLS AND MIS-
SIONS.

TEN years ago a few far seeing women, in
our Church, discerned the difference between
general and special interest in mission work, and
demonstrated by experiment the possibility of
enthusiastically enlisting in a special depart-
ment of Christian work large numbers who had
before taken only a general interest in the gen-
eral work of the Church. The growth of the
Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, in ten
years, from 18 Auxiliaries to 191, from 3 Mis-
sion Bands to 50, and from a contribution in
1877 of \$1.00, to \$13,453 in 1886, proves con-
clusively that the principle of their organization
is a sound one. Their work is for the women
and children of heathen lands, and though all
their contributions come to the Foreign Mission
Committee and all their workers are appointed
by and are under its direction, they know
just where their money goes, and what it accom-
plishes, for they have regular letters and reports
from those sent and supported by their con-
tributions.

The Alumni Association of Knox College, on
the same principle, now proposes to establish a
mission of its own in some part of the vast
heathen field as yet unoccupied by any Church.
It will easily raise, by special contributions, from
the students and graduates of the college,
enough to support one missionary, and may
perhaps be able to send two. The undertak-
ing we need hardly say will be of immense
advantage to all who have a share in it, and in

PREMIUMS.

In order to compensate those who are willing to assist in increas-
ing the circulation of the "Review," the publishers offer a DYM-
TAGUE MONEY COMMISSIONS TO AGENTS (send for
terms to agent or any of the publishers mentioned below.)

N.B.—The subscriptions must be new, and for not less than one
year. The same subscription may, however, extend over a period
of years, at \$1.00 a year.

1. Schaff's Bible Dictionary. With illustrations and col-
oured maps. 1 vol., cloth, \$1.50. An excellent work for S. S.
superintendents and teachers, for four new subscriptions.
2. Folsom's Notes. On the International Sabbath School
Lessons for 1887. 1 vol., cloth, \$1.25, for three new subscriptions.
3. Vincent's Notes. On the International Sabbath School
Lessons for 1887. 1 vol., cloth, \$1.25 for three new subscriptions.
4. Concordance. Cruden's Concordance, Morgan and Scott's
popular edition, unaltered. 764 Imperial 8vo pages, \$1.75, for
five new subscriptions.
5. Bible: The Revised Version. Pearl 16mo, No. 1
cloth boards, and edges; \$1.00, for three new subscriptions.
6. Bible: Revised Version. Mission 8vo., paste grade
imp., gilt edges, with six maps, \$2.50, for five new subscriptions.
7. Commentary: Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown's. In two
large volumes, 8vo. The best and cheapest commentary pub-
lished. In cloth binding. 7rs., by express, as a premium for 25
new subscriptions.

SPECIAL PREMIUM.

LATEST AND BEST.

PAUL E. WIRT FOUNTAIN PEN.

An Absolute Success. Gives Entire Satisfaction on
Any Work, and in Any Hand.

UNDER U.S. AND FOREIGN PATENTS.

Remember every pen is guaranteed to give satisfaction, and
money will be refunded or pen replaced, in case of a defective one.
Price \$3.00. Paid by mail for 5 new subscriptions. Remit by
P.O. order or registered letter.

GEO. H. ROBINSON, Manager,
P.O. Box 5667.

THE "REVIEW" FOR 1887.

We invite attention to the inducements we offer to our
old subscribers to renew promptly, and to all who are
interested in the welfare of the "Review," to assist us in
adding to its subscription list. We are happy to be able
to state that the past few weeks have been a season of
unexampled prosperity, and that in the ordinary course
of business several hundred names of new subscribers
have been placed on our books. With the inducements
now offered we hope to have the list greatly augmented
during the next few weeks. Will the friends of the
"Review" kindly exert themselves in its behalf by entering
upon a vigorous canvass? Our advertising columns testify
to the appreciation in which the "Review" is held in the
mercantile world. During the Christmas season we may
be obliged to give up some of our usual reading space to
the demands of trade, but friends will be glad to learn
that we have completed arrangements to go into effect
with the New Year, for meeting those growing demands
without abridging the space for reading matter.