

supposed to have been made. What a marvellous power the contents of the Old Testament were, in the hands of Paul and Peter, and John! while the completed book wrought wonders in the lives of sinful men, as used by Chrysostom, Luther, Wesley, Whitfield, Moody, and many others, who, less famous as evangelists, yet wielded great influence over men in the presentation of its teaching. Is it unfair, to intimate that the contents of the Book are not as familiar to us, the pastors and church-members, as they should be? If the Word of God is the Sword of the Spirit, much reliance ought to be placed on it in conflict with the enemy. Our Lord relied on this very weapon. In, at least, three memorable conflicts with Satan, it was his sole dependence. And it proved worthy of His confidence. It cut deep, and left gaping wounds that have not yet healed. Bingham in his *Antiquities* avers,

"That in the primitive church, not only men and women, but children were encouraged and trained from their infancy, to the reading of the Holy Scriptures. And the Catechumens were obliged to learn Scripture as a part of their discipline and instruction."

Oh, if we had the Bible in the position among our people that the newspaper has! If we could have an interest as deep in its sayings as in the statements of a favorite politician, or society-leader, or a popular novel writer, a powerful impulse would be communicated to our ecclesiastical machinery, and the denomination in Canada would move forward, overcoming all obstacles, whether from men or devil. Rev. R. A. Torrey says:

"The one who would have real success in bringing men to Christ, must have a working knowledge of the Bible. If we would work together with God, the Bible is the instrument upon which we must rely."

Increased attention to the subject of Christian giving is also among the imperative factors in relation to future progress. The law of Christian giving has recently been called the basal thing for the modern church. It will be remembered that at the last Union meeting, in Toronto, a resolution was passed by a standing vote, "Expressive of our determination to raise, not less than one dollar per member for Home Missions, this coming year." It was not, of course, intended to limit our increased benevolence to Home Missions, but to extend it to cover, at least, the College and Foreign Missions. And even with this implied intention, it was not unreasonable; nor was it so regarded by any. But, as will be reported the next few days, by the treasurers of the various societies, the resolution has been honored more in

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