

BOWMANVILLE CHURCH DESTROYED BY FIRE.

I have no doubt that most of the readers of the *INDEPENDENT* have already learned from the daily press of the destruction of our beautiful church by fire on Saturday afternoon, 7th July. Yet, I dare say, that many will be glad to learn further details of the sad occurrence. The correspondent of the *Globe* described the church as, without doubt, "the handsomest of its size in the Dominion." However true or not that may be, it certainly was not surpassed, either in the beauty of its external form, or the richness of its internal furniture, by any church of our denomination known to me. There were also, in connection with the church, a school house and a sexton's dwelling house, both wooden structures. Adjoining the rear of the church lot were the sheds and outhouses of the Alma Hotel. The fire commenced in these sheds, and spread from thence to the sexton's house; then the school building caught the flame, and from there the fire leaped across to the roof of the church. Every effort was made to save the building, but in vain. The furniture was, however, nearly all removed, and without great damage; and the walls of the church being well built, remained unharmed.

Happily we were fairly well insured, and by the prompt settlement of the Company, we shall be able to begin to rebuild at once. We propose, also, to build a substantial and well-appointed brick school room in the rear of the church. To do this, we shall have to mortgage our property to some extent, but we feel that now we are building we had better build well.

While the fire was raging, I saw through the smoke the announcement of my Sunday morning theme, which I had chalked on the notice board the day before, "*Glorifying God in all things.*" I was resolved to do it now; and so, mounting a chair, I wrote on the board a notice that the usual services would be held in the Town Hall the next day. We met; and never have I seen my people so united in faith and love. We feel that it is a time for re-consecration. God has driven us out of our accustomed place of worship that we may do work in unaccustomed lines. We are making

special efforts to reach those that go to no place of worship. Thus far we have been much encouraged. On Sunday night last we had an audience such as has never been seen in the church, and which the church could not possibly have held.

We have received many expressions of sympathy and good-will from our fellow-townpeople, and several letters have come to me from my ministerial brethren, breathing the kindest spirit possible. These have given us much encouragement, and both I and my people are very grateful for them.

W. H. WARRINER.

Our Story.

THE NEW REVIVAL.

A Story of Church and Social Life in Toronto.

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CHAPTER VIII.

CONVERSATIONS IN THE HOME AT MONTVALE AND BY THE WAY—MR. THOMPSON AND JUDGE DALY—MAJOR CAULDWELL AND MR. PATTERSON—THE SALVATIONISTS—MISS THOMPSON AND HENRY WANLESS—MR. CROSBY AND MISS WILLIAMSON—FIRESIDE CONVERSATION BETWEEN MR. THOMPSON AND HIS SON AND DAUGHTER—ON SAM JONES' CONSISTENCY AS TO TEMPERANCE, AND ON JUDGE DALY'S PAPER, AND PROF. HARCOURT'S QUESTION.

As the strain of the last hymn died away upon the ears of the audience, the sentiment lingered in many minds with a much greater influence. The third meeting at Montvale had been unlike the two that had preceded it. It was shorter. There had not been in it the same zest of song and prayer. The spirit of devotion, as usually estimated, had not run so high. Judge Daly's paper had been made the prominent feature. It had been calmly, but impressively read, and stillness, like that of the grave, had rested upon them as the people sang and prayed for—

"A heart resigned, submissive, meek,
My dear Redeemer's Throne,
Where only Christ is heard to speak,
Where Jesus reign's alone."