

Young People's Work. FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.

A Question and its Solution.

In looking over the subject for discussion in our young men's prayer meeting, suggested by our good brother, I cannot do else than believe that every believer in the Lord Jesus Christ is the very best solution of this very difficult problem. "How can we best reach the young?" is, in my opinion, settled as soon as all feel the burden of unsaved souls heavily upon them, as evidenced by their interest in and the responsibility felt in carrying out the great commission, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Doing this as we should, making our life in all things conform to the truth, practising what we preach, we have God's promise that His word shall not return unto Him void, and that our labors shall not be in vain in the Lord. But not one promise gives us a stated time to look for the fruit of our labors. It is here that many worthy people are in looking for the fruit before God's good time, hastening as it were his work, fretting, it may be, that so little apparently is accomplished, forgetting the countless lessons of faithful continuance in well doing, one sowing and another reaping. A striking example occurs to me now; an old minister in Scotland, preached and wept and prayed. The fruit of his labors for a year was seen in the accession of a boy to the church. The faithful minister was discouraged, but in after years the boy was Robert Moffat, and the man who gained Robert Moffat for the church gained a world. Or think again of Judson in far off Burmah, a minister for years with no ingathering, but when the harvest did come, glorious and grand was it beyond all expectations.

Many such examples have we in history, as well as cheering promises in the word to strengthen and quicken us into new life. Therefore, with a patient hope and sublime faith in the promises of God, let us use well the talents He has given us. Paul may plant, Apollos water, but God giveth the increase.

CAPT. JAS. WIGHT. Bowmanville.

GUELPH.—Our Christian Endeavor Society was organized Nov. 5th, 1891, by our former pastor, Bro. J. K. Hester, with eight active and three associate members. At present, we have enrolled nineteen active and three associate members, having doubled our numbers during the year. Two associate members have united with the church and become active members. We have lost, by removals, five active and one associate, also one active member by death. Our membership is still increasing, and one of the most gratifying and encouraging features of the Society is the earnestness with which the members engage in the work, largely due to the untiring efforts of our present pastor, Bro. Geo. Fowler, who is a very enthusiastic worker. Our meetings have been exceedingly interesting from the first, and are still improving. Results of the Society's labors are seen in the church and Sunday School. Our Social Committee makes it a point to welcome all strangers who come to the church, introduce them to the members and invite them to come again. Our Sunday School Committee have succeeded in getting a number of new scholars for the Sunday School; and they visit the absent scholars. These two committees are among the best we have together with the Prayer-meeting, Look-out and Sick or Calling committees. When we look back one year and remember how some of our members were afraid to hear their own voices in a prayer meeting, and now they are

actively engaged in all departments of church work, we indeed have great reason to rejoice. Our prayer meetings are held Sunday evening after church service. Many who come to the church remain to our meetings. We would recommend the Y. P. S. C. E. to any pastor who is getting discouraged and wants a revival among the younger members of his congregation, as the pledge is one of the means to make young people realize their responsibility to the Master.

After careful and prayerful consideration, we formed our Mission Band into a Junior Endeavor Society on the 19th inst., as it was thought we could do more and better work in the future. The following were the officers elected: Honorary Superintendent Geo. Fowler; Superintendent, Hannah E. McDougall, Assistant Supt., J. P. Reed; President, Nellie Reed; Vice-President, John Walker; Secretary, May Clendennan; Treasurer, Edith Kilgour. This society starts out with bright prospects of success, as great interest is shown on the part of the members.

Anyone desiring information about Junior Endeavor work should write to C. J. Atkinson, Provincial Superintendent of Junior C. E. work, 57 Alexander street, Toronto.

J. P. REED, Cor. Sec'y. London.

On Wednesday evening, the 14 inst., the Y. P. S. C. E. of the Elizabeth St. Christian Church, London, invited the members of the church and congregation to a social gathering held in the lecture room of the church. On a black board, hung on the wall, were inscribed the words, "For one is your Master, even Christ, and ye are all brethren." Refreshments were served and good musical selections rendered by some of the young people. After a few kind words by Bro. T. L. Fowler, the highly esteemed pastor of the church, Bro. Chas. Kapleton, on behalf of the church, moved that a hearty vote of thanks be tendered to the young people for their entertainment, which was carried unanimously. Bro. J. J. Smallman, President of the Society, responded in a neat speech, in which he explained that the object of the social was to enable the members of the church and congregation to become better acquainted with each other. He briefly sketched the progress of the Society since its inception in February last. Pointing to the inscription on the black board, he said that, in his opinion, such gatherings did much to promote that spirit of love and cordiality that should characterize all true disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. After a closing prayer the company dispersed, having spent a most profitable and enjoyable evening. F. MACDONALD, Sec.

Aching Pains Removed.

GENTLEMEN.—I cannot but praise B.B.B., for it has revived me wonderfully. I was completely run down, had aching pains in my shoulders, a tired feeling in my limbs, low spirits, in fact I was in misery. Being recommended to try B.B.B. I did so, and with the use of only one bottle I am today strong and healthy. I prize it highly. MRS. B. TUCKER, Toronto.

The third page of the Toronto Daily Mail is noted for "Want" advertisements. If you want a situation, a mechanic, a business, machinery, lodging, if you have lost or found anything, or if you want to find out where anyone is, advertise in the Toronto Daily Mail and read the advertisements on the third page of that paper. The charge is two cents a word each insertion, or ten cents a word for six insertions. Address The Mail, Toronto, Canada.

Children's Work.

Mrs. Jas. Ladjard, Supt., Owen Sound, Ont. to whom communications for this department should be addressed.

Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts ii. 38.

A Happy New Year to all the readers of the Children's Column! If our happiness depends upon our activity for the good of others, there need be no lack for any of us, for there is no scarcity of work to be done, especially at this time of the year. One of the most pleasing and encouraging signs of the times is the growth and spread of a benevolent spirit in the different departments of church work, and even outside the church. At the beginning of the winter, the public schools of St. Paul, Minnesota, were asked for contributions for the poor of the city; and after the three days which it took to convey the food, clothing, etc., to the place named, there was found to be enough to supply the pressing needs of all the poor in the city for the winter. Another instance of the kind is at present interesting the city of Berlin, Ont. The idea (originating with one or two ladies, I believe) for providing all the poor people in Berlin with a Christmas present of what they most need, has spread through the whole city, until it is the one theme of interest at least among the benevolent part of the community. A wave of consideration for others is passing over the land, and bringing in its train, not only a mitigation of want and distress wherever it reaches, but a broadening out of lives who never tried the blessedness of doing good before, and cheering the hearts of those who have tried it under less favorable circumstances. To all such the New Year cannot help being a happy one, and reminds one of the chorus of a quaint little song:

"Oh I don't you know that giving Is just the best of living, When every body thinks of all their friends; If kindness all kept doing, Each others' good pursuing, 'T would bring a Christmas time that never ends."

I was very glad to hear from the "Willing Workers," Cecil St., Toronto. They are holding their meetings regularly once a month, and keeping their interest alive in our mission work. I hope to hear from them again soon.

A new band has been organized in London, with twenty-five names on the roll. I hope to have a full report in time for the next EVANGELIST. In the meanwhile we bid them welcome to our ranks.

An interesting meeting which I had the pleasure of attending was held in the Methodist Church, Owen Sound, last week. Its object was to say farewell to Dr. Retta Gifford, who is about leaving Ontario for China, as Medical Missionary. It reminded me of a similar scene at the annual meeting when we parted with Miss Rioch, our own missionary to Japan. Miss Gifford is clever in her profession, kind and unassuming in her manner, attractive in appearance, and what is best of all is a consecrated Christian girl. She will prove a valuable reinforcement to the mission to which she is going, and will leave Owen Sound with the best wishes and prayers of all interested in Foreign Mission work. She is to stay in Shanghai for the first year to study the language, and then goes on to a mission station, 800 miles from any other. It is a hopeful feature of foreign mission work when our young

people consecrate themselves to the Master's service while they have youth, health and talents to give. May God's blessing be with them all. J. E. L.

Trotfoot and Lightfoot. CHRISTMAS.

Christmas. 'The birthday of Christ. It is fitting that it should be, of all days in the year, Children's Day.

Can we ever cease to wonder that He, whose are the worlds, for he made them, should have been a helpless infant dependent for life upon the care of a woman? Blessed indeed, do all generations call her, highly favored of the Lord. The Messiah did not consider His home in heaven with the blessed, sinless spirits dwelling there nor equality with God to be "a prize," compared to the living as one of us, in order to show us in a human, manly life, all that is perfect and of value in the eyes of His Father and ours.

Is not Christmas Eve as delightful as Christmas Day? Trotfoot and Lightfoot found it so. They did not know what lovely things Santa Claus had in store for them. They might even see him in his fur coat with his long, white beard and his jolly red face. To see his sleigh full of toys and the "eight tiny rein-deer," what fun that would be!

They privately resolved to stay wide awake all night long, and watch for him. It was snowing so hard he would certainly be able to take out his sleigh.

Sleep was too much for them, however, and Santa came and went without being seen. He must have got in at a window for there was no open fire-place, and a stove pipe is rather cramped quarters for a stout old gentleman. What do you think he left piled up between the two cribs? First of all a sleigh, painted brilliant red with the name in gold, "Snow Bird;" then on top of the sleigh, "Chatterbox" and a bound volume of "St. Nicholas;" on the top of that two pairs of skates, oh joy! and on top of that a metallophone in a box with two tiny mallets to strike the music out of the little metal keys.

Before it was light, two little white robed, bare-footed youngsters, pranced around, whispering energetically with joyous little whispered laughs, until Trotfoot couldn't contain it another second; he laughed loud and long with glee and Lightfoot joined. They then flew to their parents.

"Mama, Papa, Santa's been here, he came while we were asleep. I didn't mean to go to sleep, but I did, and he's brought just what we wanted"—there was a merry duet.

Everything was examined, the sleigh was put up when the faint daylight showed its best, and two pairs of cold little feet were warmed by loving hands. Wonders hadn't ceased. When it was time to dress to go to Grandma's for dinner, where do you think Santa Clause had hidden some more things? Why in the end of the dark closet, to be sure. What was it? A new dress and jacket for Lightfoot, and a pretty red hood with a border of soft grey fur, and for Trotfoot a new suit, a warm cap and an overcoat with a cape. Santa Claus knows best what to get for little folks.

How jolly it was at Grandma's. All Papa's brothers and sisters were there with their children, such a lot; there were twenty-two people to eat dinner. All had their presents with them, dolls, books, puzzles, so many things to look at. The children were turned into a large room by themselves, where they rioted to their heart's content.

As it grew dark they gathered around the organ and sang "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," and "When Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night,"



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and other good old carols. They drove home over the moonlit snow to the merry jingle of the sleigh bells, and Christmas was over for another year. I hope that every one who reads these pages will have the true joy of this festival of love, and that it may last through every day of the coming year, and may "God bless us, every one."

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