

Baptists, not of Disciples, we shall not stay to establish what we think scarcely needs proof, though easily proved, viz., that the Disciples are, in effect, at least as much a sect as any other Christian denomination. We wish simply to observe, in reference to other statements of ours which have caused THE EVANGELIST so much surprise, that if it will take the trouble to note the distinction, than which nothing can be clearer, between the general agreement of a number of theological writers belonging to the Baptist body touching a given doctrine, and the adoption of that doctrine as a binding creed by the denomination, composed as it is of a very large number of individually independent churches, in Great Britain, America and other parts of Christendom, it will have the clue which will lead it out of the labyrinth of confusion in which it has involved itself by failing to distinguish between things that differ so widely as do independent churches and those which recognize the authority of ecclesiastical constitutions and courts."

In regard to this we would just say briefly that we shall thank the Baptist to point out in what respect the Disciples are a sect, in the sense that they require as tests of fellowship more or less than the New Testament requires. And as to the question whether or not the Baptists have a binding creed, we have said so much in other places in this issue that we think it only necessary to remark that while we are not unacquainted with the distinction that exists between "independent churches and those which recognize the authority of ecclesiastical constitutions and courts," neither are we acquainted with the practical distinction that exists between Baptist churches and "those which recognize the authority of ecclesiastical constitutions and courts." The more we look into the matter, and the more we are instructed by that omniscient Baptist, Professor Goodspeed—beg pardon, "C. G."—the more evident it becomes to us that, whatever the Baptist churches are in faith and practice, THEY ARE NOT INDEPENDENT. When a society of baptized believers is received into the Baptist denomination, it ceases to be an independent body, and it cannot become independent without withdrawing from the Baptist denomination. Let the editor of the Baptist consider this and he may find the clue which may lead him not only out of a labyrinth of confusion, but also out of the Baptist denomination, so that he may be a freeman in Christ Jesus.

The Baptist persists in maintaining that it is a misrepresentation to say that Baptists teach that "baptism is because of the remission of sins," and declares that "baptism is a profession of faith and an act of obedience." That "baptism is a profession of faith and an act of obedience" we do not deny; but it is more, if we are to take at their face value the words of the Lord Jesus Christ and His Apostles. If the Baptists have really ceased to teach the unscriptural doctrine that "baptism is because of remission of sins," we are heartily glad. But the editor of the Baptist will, we trust, pardon us when we say that we doubt if all ordained Baptist ministers in Canada have ceased to teach it. A few months ago, not a hundred miles from where this article is being written, according to the testimony of intelligent hearers, an ordained Baptist minister maintained the well-understood, time-honored, Baptist doctrine. Does he stand alone—a sort of relic?

We find that space forbids our giving the Baptist's statement of those things which differentiate Baptists. As there is an intimation of the statement being completed in a later number of the Baptist, perhaps we shall be able to present it entire in our next issue.

Half a truth is often a whole falsehood.

We wish all our readers a Happy New Year.

It is expected that Bro. Joseph Franklin will begin a series of meetings with the church in Hamilton the second Lord's day in January.

Our American exchanges inform us of the death of two pioneer preachers among the Disciples: P. S. Fall, of Kentucky, and R. C. Barrow, of Nebraska.

Since all the papers, secular and religious, are saying something about Parnell we may say that, in our opinion, he cares more for Charles Stewart Parnell than he does for Ireland.

We regret to hear of the death, in Fairfield, Nebraska, of Lewis L. Roy Fowler, infant son of Bro. T. L. Fowler. We deeply feel for our old fellow-laborer and his wife in their affliction.

The Canada Presbyterian, of Dec. 11th, has an editorial with the heading, "The Sabbath a Sacred Day." The Sabbath was a sacred day but is not now. The Sabbath belongs to Judaism not to Christianity. The efforts to preserve the Lord's day as a day of rest from secular toil we heartily sympathize with, but these efforts are hindered by the un-Christian use of the name Sabbath, and by the improper appeal to the Old Testament Sabbath laws.

In the December number of the Christian Voice, of Buffalo, there is an announcement of the discontinuance of that journal. The editor, F. W. Norton, and the publisher, D. L. Ransom, both, owing to the pressure of other duties, find themselves unable to devote the requisite time to the paper. We have watched and sympathized with the efforts of the Voice for some time, and were thinking it had recently taken a new lease of life. We shall miss the Voice from our list of exchanges.

The Gospel Advocate quotes from the Central Methodist Dr. Hayes' denial that the Roman Catholics claimed to have changed the ordinance of baptism from immersion to sprinkling, upon which Bro. Strygley delivers himself thus: "I'm sure I don't want to hold the Roman Catholics responsible for what they didn't do. But if they didn't change baptism to sprinkling, who did? Will Dr. Hayes tell us? Somebody has done it, certain, and I don't know any people who would be more likely to do such a thing than the Catholics. John Wesley says that 'buried with him,' in Romans vi. 4, and Col. ii. 12, alludes 'to the ancient manner' of baptism by immersion." Who changed that ancient manner of doing the thing, I should like to know, if not the Catholics? The Western Recorder shows that Dr. Haydock, the Catholic commentator, positively declares that the Catholics did make 'just that change,' and the Pope himself endorses the statement of Dr. Haydock. Taking all the evidence before me, including even the admission of the Pope himself, I must say the case against the Catholics looks decidedly dark, but if Dr. Hayes thinks he can make out a stronger case against somebody else, I will cheerfully hear what he has to say."—Missionary Weekly.

Attention

GRADUATES AND STUDENTS OF BETHANY COLLEGE.

All those living in Canada who are graduates, and those who have been students at Bethany College, are requested to send their names and addresses to Bro. T. B. Knowles, St. Thomas, Ont., immediately.

Church News.

BOWMANVILLE.—One confession since last report.

GUELPH.—We had two good audiences yesterday. Two confessed Christ at the evening meeting; others are almost persuaded to accept Him. Dec. 22. J. K. HESTER.

BRACEBRIDGER.—I am going to Brunel tomorrow to fill Bro. Crewson's appointments. Bro. C. has been absent for several weeks. He has been called to his daughter's, in New York State, on account of severe illness. A. C. GRAY.

DEAN BRO. MUNRO.—At the close of our regular service on 21st instant, eight persons were immersed, and at the close of our service last evening three others obeyed their Master in the same way. Our brethren, after a long season of quiet, are now very much encouraged. Elder Chidley, who preaches for us Sunday evenings, was the administrator. A. YULE. Aurora, Dec. 29, 1890.

AYLMER.—We closed our meetings Dec. 17th. The immediate result was twelve additions. Bro. Shoppard and Bro. Hertzog were listened to by an attentive and appreciative audience as they faithfully unfolded the New Testament plan of salvation; and we feel that much good has been accomplished beyond visible results. They planted the seed of the kingdom and we will seek to water it, and look to God for the increase. We have all been strengthened and cheered by the labors of our good brethren.

Dec. 20, 1890. W. D. CAMPBELL.

TORONTO DENISON AVE.—Seven additions since last report. The young people have undertaken to open a mission in the north east part of the city. There are some forty Disciples in this district. The young people's meeting in the church has developed a large number of earnest and able workers, who are well fitted for carrying on mission work. May the Lord bless them and fit them for every good word and work. The contract for the seating in the new church is let, and the seats are to be in by February 20th. Begin to prepare for coming to the opening shortly after that date.

WALKERTON.—Sister Leonora Whitehead conducts and efficiently teaches a "Band of Willing Workers," assisted by other zealous co-laborers. She gave an entertainment in the meeting house last evening. The selections given by the children were excellent. Everyone inculcated a religious temperance or benevolent sentiment. The house was crowded to the doors. Including the sale of some useful articles made by the sisters and sold in Bro. Thomas Whitehead's store, the sum of \$25 was realized for missionary purposes. E. S.

December 10. Dec. 23.—The Sunday school entertainment given on this date was excellent in every particular. It would be difficult for any school to render a better prepared and more interesting programme. Those who did the work will be amply repaid by seeing the school prosper.

ACTON.—Five young persons from the Sunday school made the noble confession on Dec. 21st. If you ever visited this school you would not be surprised to hear of the scholars becoming Christians. Great credit is due the teachers. The Sunday school entertainment was held on Dec. 29th. The house was crowded to the doors; Bro. Hugh Black, of Everton, was chairman. The school gave an excellent programme of songs and recitations. All the resident ministers, together with Mr. D. Henderson, H. P. Moore, of the Free Press, and Dr. Munro, of THE EVANGELIST, gave short addresses. Every one felt they had spent a pleasant and very profitable evening. Every scholar in the school received a present from the teachers.

DUNSMVILLE.—The work is moving along nicely here. Good hearing; and at Sweet's corner, the audiences are immense, for which I am thankful and take courage. Your brother, R. M. AINSWORTH.

NASSAGAWAYA.—The writer had the pleasure of speaking at this place on Lord's day, Dec. 21st. An appointment was left for one of the students for January 18th. The church is

small in numbers but large in zeal and determination to do good. We believe this is a church where students can do a good work by giving them frequent preachers at small expense. There are a great many churches who need and could use a student if they only know it. There are many places where there is little or no work being done, because they cannot afford to keep a man all his time, and many where they cannot use a man who requires large remuneration not even occasionally. To those the students come and just supply their wants. Many churches can have them every week; some frequently, and all at small expense. Does it not make our hearts glad to continually hear of young men giving themselves to the work of the ministry, and glad to see the churches giving them so much encouragement? Is it not beginning to look as though the Lord was willing that His work should prosper in our hands? D. MUNRO.

COLLINGWOOD, DEC. 11.—Two confessions last Lord's day evening, who were baptized last night, and one came with us from the Baptists, wishing to take the word of God as the whole guide of the Christian life.

Dec. 29.—One added to the Church yesterday.

It was decided upon to hold our annual Sunday school entertainment on the evening of Dec. 23rd, and, notwithstanding the bitter cold and fierce storm, the scholars—as might be expected—were in attendance and a goodly number of others. The ladies of the congregation provided tea for the school, which was an important feature of the evening with the little folks. After refreshments were served and things generally straightened up the entertainment proper commenced, which was opened by the congregation singing "All hail the power of Jesus' name," reading a portion of the word of God, and prayer. The remainder of the programme consisted of music, recitations, dialogues, etc., all of which were in harmony with the occasion, and were well rendered by the scholars. The evening was pleasantly and profitably spent, all being made glad.

C. S. WILKINSON.—Our church circle here has been more than usually active for some few weeks past. November 19th, when our annual church business meeting was held, seemed to be the beginning of the activity. At this meeting two new deacons were appointed and the Secretary and Treasurer re-appointed, also a committee to engage an evangelist were appointed. A week after our church meeting our Sunday School business meeting was held. December 7th was the occasion of our first visit from Bro. J. D. Robertson of Owen Sound. He preached twice for us that day and everyone seemed much pleased. Come again, Bro. Robertson. That week we expressed our appreciation of our leader in song, Mrs. Jas. Trout, by sending her a very nice present. Also our Children's Mission Band gave a very successful entertainment. Bro. Amos Towell was with us and gave an address that evening, and preached twice on Sunday, December 14th. The subject of the morning is in 2 Peter, chapter iii., the first part of the eighteenth verse; and the power and helpfulness of the sermon show Bro. Towell to have taken very "earnest heed" to this exhortation. This morning our church loses by removal a member of very long standing, Sister Selves. On our prayer-meeting night this week the brothers and sisters presented our sister with a token of their love and wish for remembrance.

Dec. 19, 1890. L. E. CRAWFORD.

ST. THOMAS.—A pleasing event took place last evening at the home of Rev. T. B. Knowles, pastor of the Church of Christ, in this city. In the early part of the evening, and during his absence from home, the parsonage was taken possession of and filled to overflowing with the members of his congregation and other friends. After an hour or two spent pleasantly together the pastor returned, when he was called to the middle of the room, and Mr. John Campbell read to him a neatly worded address, expressing the confidence and esteem in which he is held by the congregation, and congratulating him on the day being his fiftieth birthday, of his being still in the enjoyment of sound and vigorous health, and expres-

ing the hope that in the future Father Time would still deal gently with him and Mrs. Knowles, and that they both would be spared many years to labor in their present field of labor. During a pause in the reading of the address, Mr. W. E. Leonard, in a few appropriate words on behalf of the congregation and his many friends, presented Mr. Knowles with a large and very fine easy chair, expressing the hope that he might long live to enjoy this gift which was given as a kindly offering from his many friends. After Mr. Knowles had sufficiently recovered from his surprise he replied in a few well-chosen words, thanking his friends for their kindness and many acts of love to him and Mrs. Knowles during the two years that he has labored in the city. The ladies then assumed control of the proceedings, and passed around coffee and cake to satisfy the inner man. After a bountiful repast, a few hours were spent in social intercourse, singing, etc.; and at a late hour, after the invoking of the Divine blessing by the pastor, all separated to their homes, feeling that another link had been forged in the chain of love that binds this congregation to their pastor and to one another.—St. Thomas Paper.

Co-operation Notes.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

Individual Subscriptions.

John Campbell.....	\$25 00
Marianne Sinclair.....	1 00
Alice Steel.....	1 00
P. J. McKellar.....	1 00
Sara McCloy.....	10 00

November Collection.

Church, Galt.....	\$1 50
" Acton.....	9 09
" Erin Centro (3).....	0 50
" Solkirk.....	1 22
" Lobo.....	18 20
" Rodney and W. Lorne.....	18 00

Children's Day.

S. S. Glencairn.....	\$16 00
" Toronto (D. Ave.).....	7 31

At the Annual Meeting a pledge of \$10 was made on behalf of the Sunday school at Glencairn. As will be seen, that and \$6 additional has been already paid. Last year the Glencairn S. S. made the largest contribution of any of our Sunday schools to Home Missions, viz., \$15.

Five more churches are reported as having taken up the special collection; and we have not yet heard from three churches that took up the November collection last year. If four more churches send in collections, then the number will be twice as many as last year. Another indication of increasing interest in the work.

Bro. Joseph Franklin has agreed to spend some time in Ontario, beginning the second Lord's day in this month. It is not just settled where he will begin his work.

One unpleasant thing connected with the management of the Co-operation is when the Board, through want of funds, is compelled to refuse an application for assistance. Recently one application could not be responded to.

Let us remind the friends of the work that their contributions are helping to do good in Toronto, Hamilton, Owen Sound, Collingwood and Muskoka. Every one who gives, no matter how small the sum, is a fellow-worker.

Geo. Munro,
Cor. Sec.

DON'T MISS IT.

A new and attractive publication containing many useful, interesting and instructive features has just been issued by T. Milburn & Co., of Toronto, under the title of the BURNBROCK BLOOD BROTHERS ALMANAC FOR 1891. It is now in the hands of druggists and merchants for free distribution, and we would advise our readers to secure a copy before the supply is exhausted.