

# The Ontario Evangelist.

A RELIGIOUS MONTHLY.

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T. L. FOWLER, EVERTON, ONT.,  
GEO. MUNRO, ERIN, ONT.,  
EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS.

All matters for publication should be addressed to GEO. MUNRO, Erin, Ont. All remittances should be sent to T. L. Fowler, Everton, Ont.

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MAY, 1888.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

All those, whether delegates or visitors, intending to be at the annual meeting are particularly requested to notify Robert McMillan, Hillsburg, Ontario, before May 20th, so that arrangements may be made for their entertainment.

## ENCOURAGE THE YOUNG MEN.

The cry from almost every quarter for preachers and the difficulty experienced in securing them should teach us the advisability of encouraging those young men who are now fitting themselves for the most important work of preaching the gospel. Besides this, it is a duty the churches owe to them, but a duty not sufficiently recognized.

That it is difficult to induce preachers of the right stamp to leave the States and come to Ontario to labor is not strange. The reason is obvious: They have plenty of work at home and receive better pay for their work than our churches can afford to give. Canada has produced a large number of preachers, and the most of them are to-day successful laborers in the United States. Who is to blame for this? Certainly not the churches in the States. They have only done their duty in the matter, but in doing it they are blessed with the preachers which the Canadian churches have lost through negligence and lack of faith. No one can blame young men for going where there is an opportunity of doing good.

If the churches in the Dominion were as ready to recognize the young preacher and to sympathize with him in his struggle to fit himself for usefulness as are the churches over the border, it is possible that the difficulty in getting suitable men would not be so great as it is.

It is, however, not too late to mend. Let the churches encourage those young men who are now under course of training for the work, and we venture to say that they will devote their energies to the building up of the cause at home.

There are many churches in the Province which need—badly need—the work which students could do during the summer holidays. Why not lay the matter before your church, appoint a committee to see how much money could be raised for such a purpose, and then invite one of those students to come over and spend his summer holidays with you in the interest of the church? It would be mutually beneficial. Why not try it? If you could not succeed in getting him to come, your effort would do the church good and the encouragement to the student would last him through a whole year.

The sacrifice made by a young man in preparing himself for the work calls for remuneration. The offer of free board, providing he board around, with a patronizing smile thrown in, will not suffice. You would not work for nothing yourself, and what right have you to ask others to do so? You may have never spent an hour in special preparation for the calling you follow, and yet when called to spend your time for others you look for remuneration, and rightly so too. Why then should you expect a young man with ability, not only natural, but acquired by the sacrifice of time and money, to labor for nothing? It is unchristian to ask others to do what you are unwilling to do yourself. Let the churches make one half the sacrifice that our old preachers made and that the young ones are making, and there would be rejoicing on every hand; for the wilderness and solitary places would be glad, and the desert would rejoice and blossom as the rose.

If any of the churches would like the services of a student during the summer they can correspond with the undersigned.

T. L. FOWLER.

## THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The June meeting has become to the Disciples of Christ in Ontario an interesting and important event. The first Lord's day in June is to them like the beginning of a new year. Although the Annual Meeting was not always held upon the first Lord's day of June, yet with the exceptions of a few short intervals there has been a meeting of such a character for upwards of forty years; and it has been found that those annual gatherings have not only been interesting, but very profitable. Some have reminded us of the loss of time and waste of money incurred in attending these meetings, but we are not surprised at this. There was a Judas in the family of the apostles who was ready, when Mary anointed the feet of Jesus with the costly ointment, to cry out, "Why this waste?"

Religious dyspeptics may not be able to see the profit of these meetings, and never will until they discover that the fault is not in the meetings, but in themselves.

According to the testimony of the older brethren, many of whom will be at the meeting and are still active in the Lord's vineyard, the yearly gatherings for worship and consultation have been a source of great spiritual good, and of much benefit in many ways to the cause of Christ. It does us all good to look into the faces and take the hand of our brethren whom we see but once a year. The encouragement and strength which each receives is a great help in the struggle against sin and error.

There are many true disciples scattered throughout the Province who are deprived of the fellowship of the church on account of their isolation. Such look forward to the June meeting with no little interest and return from it rejoicing, being comforted and strengthened. We give in illustration of this the following extract from a private letter recently received, "The church of the 'Disciples' is seldom heard of here. I look back to the 6th and 7th of June, 1886, at Everton (the only time I have ever had the opportunity of meeting with the 'Disciples' of Christ assembled together) as the happiest period of my life." To inveigh against these yearly feasts is an indication of narrowness and selfishness of which the followers of Jesus should not be guilty.

Saturday and a portion of Friday will be devoted to the transaction of important business. If our co-operative efforts would be crowned with the largest success it is necessary that the delegates to the meeting should take the Home Mission Work into serious consideration and decide upon the work to be undertaken. If this is done and then faithfully carried out by those who are appointed to manage the work, we may expect unanimity, liberality and success.

Bro. J. R. Gaff, who has been secured for the Toronto work and who is, we are told, an able and eloquent preacher, will be the chief speaker. Try and come to the meeting, that we may confer with each other upon the things which pertain to the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

## ANOTHER WORD TO THE SISTERS.

MRS. O. A. BURGESS.

We are informed by Sister Brown that Mrs. O. A. Burgess, widow of the lamented and honored O. A. Burgess, will be at the annual meeting. Sister Burgess is Vice-President of the Christian Woman's Board of Missions in the United States. She is a talented and devoted Christian woman. She comes to assist the sisters of Ontario in getting their department of the Lord's work in order. She should be greeted by a large representative gathering of our earnest sisters who have a "mind to work." If there yet be among us any sisters who have doubts as to the propriety and scripturalness of women doing religious work by themselves, we wish they would come to the annual meeting, and see and hear Sister Burgess. We will guarantee that if their doubts be not entirely removed, they will go home with altered conceptions of the work these noble women are undertaking. "Come and see."

## NOTES.

Volume III., Number I.

We can hardly realize that we have been engaged in the publication of the EVANGELIST for two whole years, but it is even so.

Two years ago we felt we were making an experiment; now we feel otherwise. We enter upon our third year with brighter prospects and higher hopes.

Two dollars sent to us will pay for the *Christian Standard* and the ONTARIO EVANGELIST for one year.

Brethren interested in the item headed "Situation Wanted" will please correspond with the Editors of this paper.

We are sorry to have to say that Bro. A. McLean cannot be at our annual meeting. He is going to London, England, instead, to attend "The World's Conference on Missions," June 5-19. He hopes to be with us next year; we hope so too.

Our readers will be glad to hear that Elder Kilgour's health is much improved. He is not able to preach yet, and it is doubtful that he will be able to do so for several months. We trust that he may regain his wonted strength and energy.

Bro. Dickson, of Guelph, visited us at Everton two weeks ago and favored us with two discourses. We liked him well, both as a man and as a preacher. We are sorry that his services cannot be retained in Guelph.

We note with pleasure that the leading Toronto dailies in speaking of the late Scott Act defeat agree that they are not to be taken as signs that the temperance sentiment is dying out in Ontario, but rather as indications that the Act was a failure. Perhaps it was, but if so, whose fault was it?

THE FAMILY EDUCATOR.—Webster's Unabridged Dictionary is a great family educator, no family of children ought to be brought up without having ready access to this grand volume. It will answer hundreds of questions to the wide-awake child. It is an ever-present and reliable schoolmaster to the whole family.

Bro. P. L. Mitchell, of Brandon, Manitoba, writes desiring us to remind the brethren throughout Ontario of the needs of Manitoba. The Baptists and other sects are establishing themselves in every available place. Now is the time to go there with the primitive gospel. We hope the interests of that section will not be forgotten at our coming annual meeting.

Contributions from Ontario to Foreign Missions since last report in this paper:—Bowmanville, \$37.00; S. S., Warton, \$3.50; Everton, \$4.00; Mimosa, \$8.25; John McKellar, Poplar Hill, \$20.00; S. S., Guelph, \$5; Estate of Arch. McArthur, Stayner, \$30.00; three sisters of Vaughan Church, Concord, \$2.50; Daniel Robertson, Acton, \$2; Duncan Robertson, Acton, \$3; John Robertson, Acton, \$5; the Misses Robertson, Acton, \$5.

Literature is an illustrated weekly magazine published by J. B. Alden, 393 Pearl Street, New York. The issue of April 21st contains articles on "International Copyright"; "Who steals my purse steals Trash"; "Study of English Literature"; "How many words do we use"; "Irish Wonders," &c., as well as interesting items about authors and publishers. It is only \$1.00 per year. Send for a free specimen copy and judge for yourself.

We regret to learn that Prof. J. W. McGarvey has been compelled by the pressure of other work to resign his position as Editor of the *Apostolic Guide*. He will, however, for a time at least, prepare the Exegetical Notes for the *Guide*. Bro. C. P. Williamson who has been assistant editor for the past year will now be editor-in-chief, and it is determined that the *Guide* shall continue to go on towards perfection. We congratulate Bro. Williamson on his elevation to so influential and responsible a position, and pray that he may always fill it with honor to himself and with advantage to the cause of Christ.

Alden's *Manifold Cyclopaedia of Knowledge and Language*, of which five volumes have been published, and which is expected to be completed in thirty volumes, will bring gladness to many a household. It is not only a Cyclopaedia in the ordinary sense of that term, it is also a Dictionary of the English Language. The low price and the handy size of the volumes are features that will be appreciated. Specimen pages are sent free, or a specimen volume may be ordered, and returned if not wanted; 50 cents per volume for cloth, 65 cents for half Morocco binding; postage 10 cents extra. Greatly reduced rates are given to early purchasers. Send to J. B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl Street, New York, for full descriptive catalogue of this and all other of his publications. You will be amazed at his low prices.

For robust presumption of the masculine gender commend us to the following from *The North West Baptist*—

"Unless Baptists teach what they believe, the world will be left in the dark with regard to a large part of the Word of God."

Well, well! A large part of the Word of God is not taught by any religious body except the Baptist! They certainly have a mission to perform. It may be on account of our obtuseness, but we can think of but one idea which would be lost to the world were it not for Baptist teaching, and that is, that a person may be acknowledged by them as a Christian and fit for heaven, but altogether unfit for fellowship in a Baptist church. We think the world could stand the loss when we remember that the idea is as foreign to the teaching of the New Testament as *infant baptism* or the doctrine of *transubstantiation*. The Baptists are an excellent people, but they can't afford to throw stones.

An editorial in a recent number of the *Christian Standard* discusses in a very calm and dignified manner the subject of human expedients in carrying on the work of Christ, as it was understood by the Campbells and their co-laborers. Among other quotations from the writings of those men it presents the following brief passage written by Thomas Campbell, which we commend to the careful consideration of our readers. Consider it, maturely, and see what wisdom it contains, what a multitude of troubles it would free us from, if we would put it into practice. We commend it not because Thomas Campbell wrote it, but because it is obviously and almost axiomatically correct.

Lastly, that if any circumstantial indispensably necessary to the observance of these ordinances be not found upon the page of express revelation, such, and only such, as are absolutely necessary for this purpose, should be adopted UNDER THE TITLE OF HUMAN EXPEDIENTS, without any pretense to a more sacred origin, so that any subsequent alteration or difference in the observance of these things MIGHT PRODUCE NO CONTENTION OR DIVISION IN THE CHURCH.—*Apostolic Guide*.

The EVANGELIST has pleasure in presenting to its readers the above paragraph of concentrated wisdom, with the accompanying remarks of the *Guide*. We are not "Campbellites"; and of course very properly repudiate the name. But we have sometimes been tempted to wish that some of the Disciples were "Campbellites." We mean such as are constantly charging that the great majority of the brethren are violating the principles laid down by the Campbells. For if they were really intelligent, well-informed "Campbellites," they would know (and being "Campbellites" would be bound to hold) what the Campbells taught, and knowing that, they would soon cease to be "Campbellites," and would find themselves in line with the brethren they now so bitterly and unfairly condemn. But that they profess to have examined the writings of Alexander Campbell, we should feel sure that they had never even seen them! Alexander Campbell was a broad-minded, large-hearted Christian man; those who have in these days undertaken to be his chief exponents and defenders, seem to be neither the one nor the other. Beware of those who, while denouncing the expedient of others, are unable to see the difference between their own expedient and a Bible ordinance.

## TO THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST IN ONTARIO.

DEAR BRETHREN,—Do not forget that our next Annual Co-operation Meeting and June Meeting will be held at Erin Centre, commencing Friday evening, June 1st. You can reach this place readily by taking the C. P. Railway to Erin or Hillsburg, arriving from the east at 11.00 a. m. or 7 p. m.; arriving from the west at 6 a. m. or 6.30 p. m. Good homes will be provided by the brethren to all Disciples who choose to attend; therefore we extend a cheerful invitation and hearty welcome to all brethren. There can be no excuse, much less a good reason, for any church failing to be represented by one or more delegates or visiting brethren at the coming June meeting. Come praying, planning and working for the spread of the Truth. Come with some good plan or scheme for the more effectual spread of the gospel through this fair land of ours; and you will go home rejoicing. The order to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" is still good, and the harvest is great and the laborers are few. Can we and can you do anything to bring able young men into the field and to rouse to action those latent and dormant powers among us? Come and hear the reports from the churches and bring a report from your church and let us know what you are doing, what you propose to do, what you can do and what you are willing to do for the promulgation of the gospel. Come with a clear knowledge of what your church will do for co-operation work in Ontario this year. We can do mighty work