

of a pirate. On one occasion, when cruising along the coast of Florida, he landed, and was lying in the shade on the bank of a creek, when his attention was arrested by the soft and mournful note of a Zenaida dove. As he listened, each repetition of the melancholy sound seemed to him the voice of pity. It seemed to him like a voice from the past—a message from childhood's innocent and happy hours; then it appeared like the voice of a deep, sad sorrow for him, the far-off wanderer, the self-ruined, guilty prodigal; and so thoroughly did it rouse him from his long sleep of sin, that there, on that lonely spot, he resolved to renounce his guilty life, and seek the mercy of God; a resolution which, we are assured by the narrator, he subsequently fulfilled.

There is in the human heart, that which responds to the voice of gentle pitying love, when all other agencies have lost their power; when all the thunder and lightning of Sinai itself might roll and flash in vain. Would that there were more among those desirous to do good who would make full proof of the omnipotence of kindness, love and mercy! The spirit of Jesus must be our spirit if we would be wise to win souls.

THE YEAR BOOK.

Our Denominational Annual now lies before us. In typographical execution and general appearance it is an improvement on all its predecessors; while in matter it is richer and more complete than any of them. Some very important features have been added this year—notably the names of the Church, Clerks and the Sunday School statistics of all the churches connected with the different Associations in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba. These latter returns will no doubt be found defective in some respects, but they are quite as perfect as the statistical returns contained in the various associational records from which they are compiled. It will scarcely be credited that so careless are some of the Associations in collecting their statistics, that in two of them the Sunday school returns do not even give the number of scholars in the schools—the most important information a Sunday school report can contain.

We are somewhat pained at the number of churches that appear to have no Sunday school at all, or at least do not report any. In the *Western Association*, out of 25 churches only 14 report a Sunday school; *Middlesex and Lambton Association* with 23 churches reports 12 schools; *Elgin Association* with 21 churches reports 13 schools (one being a mission); *Grand River Association* with 41 churches reports 29 schools

(5 of them being missions); *Brant Association* with 22 churches reports 17 schools; *Midland Counties' Association* with 21 churches reports 16 schools; *Huron Association* with 37 churches reports 15 schools; *Niagara Association* with 19 churches reports 13 schools (3 of which are missions); *Toronto Association* with 23 churches reports 22 schools (of which 5 are missions); *East Ontario Association* with 26 churches reports 20 schools; and the *Amherstburgh* (coloured) Association out of 13 churches reports schools in 10 of them.

The Associations connected with the Eastern Convention reveal about the same state of things.

Of course, excuse may be made for some of these no-school churches that geographical situation or distance from centres of population is the barrier; but we believe that after all even this barrier might in many cases be surmounted if pastors and church members were sufficiently alive to the eternal interests of the young and rising generation about them.

There are other matters connected with the Year Book that may demand our attention on a future occasion; but in the meantime we recommend every Baptist who is loyal to the denomination and interested in its affairs to purchase this Annual, which is replete with information on all our enterprises both Home and Foreign. See advertisement as to price etc.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

GRAND LIGNE MISSION.—This noble enterprise has just entered the 43rd year of its existence. The 42nd annual meeting was held on the 30th of January, in the St. Catharines-st. Baptist church Montreal. Financially, the year past has been one of serious depression, and but for a timely legacy received from the estate of a warm friend in Hartford, Conn., the Society could scarcely have pulled through. But the Lord has provided for the mission in the time of its extremity. Now, more than ever before, the Grande Ligne Mission is dependent on the Baptist denomination for sympathy and support,—and it is *worthy*. The Agent, Rev. Theoph. Gough, is now canvassing Toronto and vicinity, and we trust he may be very successful in enlisting the sympathy and assistance of the Baptists of Ontario in aid of their brethren who are laboring among the French Roman Catholics of the Province of Quebec.

JARVIS-ST. BAPTIST CHURCH.—On Lord's Day, February 2nd, the Rev. Dr. Castle entered the seventh year of his pastorate over Jarvis-st. church in this city. With more

than usual fervour and eloquence he preached and prayed for the people of his charge. Before commencing the morning discourse, the following statistics furnished by the Church Clerk were read:—

Statistics of Jarvis-st. Church, from Feb. 1st 1878, to Feb. 1st 1879:

Increase.	Decrease.
By baptism.... 86	By letter..... 31
letter..... 31	death..... 8
experience... 9	erasure..... 1
restoration... 0	exclusion..... 2
126	42

The net increase during the year is 84, and the present membership of the church, 751.

The following figures represent the spiritual prosperity of the church during the six years since the present honored pastor's settlement:

Increase.	Decrease.
By baptism.... 420	By letter..... 186
letter..... 198	death..... 36
experience... 48	erasure.... 31
restoration... 2	exclusion... 16
668	269

The net increase in six years is 399, so that the membership has more than doubled, having been 352 on the 1st of February, 1873.

The Jarvis-st. church has been highly favoured of God in many ways, perhaps in none more than in having as its minister one so gifted and so kind as Dr. Castle. May he long be spared in health and vigor to adorn his present charge, and may he find all his people to be helpers of his joy in their loyal support, and their earnest service in the cause of Christ!

HOW TO BE CALM AND CONTENTED.—

An Italian bishop, having struggled through great difficulties without complaining, and met with much opposition in the discharge of his functions without ever betraying the least impatience, an intimate friend of his, who highly admired those virtues, one day asked the prelate if he could tell him the secret of being always at ease. "Yes," replied the old man, "I can teach you my method, and will do so very readily. It consists in nothing more than making great use of my eyes." His friend begged him to explain. "Most willingly," said the bishop; "in whatever sate I am, I first of all look up to heaven, and remember that my principal business here is to get there; I then look down upon the earth, and call to mind the space I shall shortly occupy in it; I then look abroad into the world, and observe what multitudes there are who in all respects have more cause to be unhappy than myself. Thus