

MONTHLY NOTES

being pretty active would jump down and keep the rest of us supplied with the tempting fruit until we came to a tunnel at the foot of the hill about five miles west of Brock's Monument, where we all got down and walked up the hill, getting in again at the top and after about another hour's ride we found ourselves at the world renowned Horseshoe Falls; here we put the horses in an hotel stable while we went down to the park and had our luncheon in the Park. After this we had two or three hours to see the sights and wonders, also as some of the boys had some money burning in their pockets it was a splendid opportunity to buy souvenirs, and by the time we were ready to go back to the waggon quite a number were seen to have cardboard boxes under their arms containing ships made of hells, etc.

On the return journey we went by Queenston, stopped at Brock's monument and recalled the battle fought there, explored the earthworks thrown up by the enemy and made our way down the steps to the stone erected by the Prince of Wales at the spot where General Brock fell, here we met the caretaker, an old pensioner who told us some interesting anecdotes of his service in Canada. We met the waggon at the foot of the hill, it going around by the road while we went straight down by the steps and foot path. By the time we drove down the beautiful River road to Niagara on the Lake it was 8.30 p.m. just two hours too late to avail ourselves of the kind invitation of the congregation of St. Mark's Church, which was also extended to the choir of St Mary Magdalen and the Church Boys Brigade who were camping there at the same time, to an ice cream entertainment, so that we sent an apology and drove out to the camp arriving there shortly after 9 p.m., a pretty tired lot of boys.

The remaining days passed so quickly that we could scarcely realize we were near the end of the third week, but the last Thursday was the birthday of one of the boys and on the eve of that day we sent to town to get the ingredients to make a plum pudding with which to celebrate the occasion, we also invited our host and hostess to dine with us, they accepting the invitation; and if anyone would like to know how the dinner went off, let them just ask any one of the boys who was there.

For the benefit of those who are interested in this annual outing perhaps some would like to know how the expenses are paid. The total expenses amounted to \$72.30 of which seven dollars was subscribed by various members of the congregation, the remaining \$69.30 by the boys themselves, each boy being assessed one dollar per week. It will be seen that there is a surplus of \$4.00

The thanks of all concerned are due to those members of the Congregation who have helped by their subscriptions, and to our host Mr. Bernard who made us as welcome on his farm as if we had been his own boys, and did everything to make us enjoy ourselves, besides having our luggage carted, driving us about,

supplying us with vegetables, and giving us the run of the orchards; all this being done out of sheer good will and kindly hospitality.

SO RUN THE RACE WHICH IS SET BEFORE YOU.

I have been asked to prepare a paper to be read at this meeting and would claim your attention for a few minutes while I endeavor, to the best of my ability, to show how by fulfilling our Brotherhood vows of prayer and service we may best overcome the hindrances we meet with in running the race entitled Life so that we may secure the much coveted prize of a place in our Father's Kingdom. Unlike an earthly race our course is full of obstructions and the contestants are not limited, for every one is entered but all can secure the prize by running in the right direction. All athletes know that to excel in any form of sport training is very essential; you also know that a Christian's training commences at the Baptism and is continued to their Confirmation, so for the sake of being brief, as this is addressed to Christian members, we are all in a fit condition to enter, if we have not already done so, in this race. But entering is not only sufficient, we must be prepared to meet obstacles which as I have said, beset our path and herein comes the benefit of the first part of our vows, namely Prayer, for without it we are of no avail; the course is long and night comes on bringing darkness in its train and how often in this darkness we are careless and stumble over the rock of indifference, sometimes, also, over-confidence, especially when we think we are perfect and cannot be better; this, then, is surely the time when we should be on the alert and show the benefit of our training but which we can only do by the grand strength of never ceasing intercession with our Father who is always ready to help those who call upon Him.

Another sharp pointed obstacle over which many a runner has a fall is the word Success, as used in a worldly term, for the heart and mind are so often fixed on the thought of how to heap up this world's gains, very often at the expense of other people, that its dazzling brightness, which after all only lasts a brief space, produces selfishness and many other lusts of the flesh which are the wiles of the Devil who is ever in the path ready to hinder if not to disable us altogether. This obstruction can also be safely passed by stopping to think for one moment from whom all these material things are obtained and then pass on living for others instead of for one's self, doing all that lies in our power to help along any poor benighted brother who from various other causes fall.

Also consider for a moment the great force there is in the example of a life well spent. We are marked men, liable to be pointed out at any post, so we should show our colors at all times; never be ashamed or