

work, and we feel encouraged and strengthened. We have had drawbacks and difficulties to overcome, and feel grateful to God for His mercy and goodness to us. We have held two protracted meetings during the year, the first conducted by Bro. Moffett, and the other by our pastor, Bro. Lhamon. Both were spiritual and numerical benefits to the church.

Bro. Lhamon came to us in May last, and has proved himself an efficient leader. Under his direction we are planning greater things for the Master. All departments of the work are flourishing and working towards the advancement of the Master's Kingdom. Before Bro. Lhamon came we had united with us, by baptism, 14, and by letter, 8. Since Bro. Lhamon became our pastor there were 30 by baptism, and 18 by letter and commendation. A summary is as follows:

During the year, by baptism.....	34
" " " " " letter, etc.....	26
Total.....	60
Dismissed by letter.....	3
" death.....	1
Net increase.....	56

5 others have been baptized.

Our Sunday-school has also increased in attendance and interest since Bro. Lhamon came. Each Sunday we take up an offering for missions, home and foreign; half the offering being devoted to each.

On Dec. 21, we held our annual Christmas Tree for the children, and devoted part of the time to a missionary concert. The concert and tree were both successful; thanks to the hearty co-operation of our Sunday-school workers. Brethren, pray for the work in Toronto that the Master's cause may grow. J. L. L.

ROWMANVILLE, Dec. 26th, 1894.—On last Lord's Day night, we had one confession—a gentleman who has heard the gospel preached for thirty years or more. He is probably 60 years of age. He will be immersed Thursday night. R. A. B.

Owen Sound Sunday School Christmas Gathering.

Our Christmas gathering was the most successful one we have ever held. Our school has been making steady progress for some months past, and so the number of children was larger than ever before. As to the programme, it was good enough to be copied, and so I give it:

At six o'clock the children in all their places; then came a plentiful supply of refreshments, provided by the church members; then a Christmas tree with nothing on it. Now commenced a short programme of songs and readings, and then the decorating of the tree began. It quickly put forth its fruits. They were the "Fruits of the Spirit," Love, Joy, Peace, etc., each class sending up a large printed card and fastening it to the tree as the class recited in concert some suitable scripture selection. Now were laid at the foot of the tree the children's gifts, for they gave this year and received nothing,—and the gifts were gifts for the poor,—and what an array of good things! Dolls, books and pictures, and balls for children, garments, and gloves, and groceries, flour and apples, and I know not what besides. These were all put in suitable parcels, and what with giving and distributing, if ever a Sunday-school had a good time, it was the Owen Sound Sunday-school. "It is more blessed to give than to receive," is a passage better understood by our children to-day than ever. The at-

K. D. C. will give strength to the weak.

tendance on the Lord's day following the entertainment was the largest we have had in our history. We tried this plan two years ago and found it a success then, and we strongly recommend it to others who are contemplating a Christmas treat for their Sunday-school. J. LEDIARD.

Literary Notes.

TO PUBLISHERS.—All books, tracts, pamphlets, magazines, etc., intended for notice or review in this department must be addressed to the Editor of THE CANADIAN EVANGELIST, 85 Wellington Street North, Hamilton, Ont.

The enterprise of the publishers of THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, Boston, Mass., has steadily advanced the paper year by year keeping it always in the front rank of the best periodicals. It fills to-day, as no other publication; the popular demand for a practical family paper, one that is equally valued and enjoyed by old and young, and free from all objectionable features.

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Creation, a tract of 26 pages, is a report of a lecture by Bro. J. L. Goodburn, delivered before the Entomological Society of London, Ontario. Bro. Goodburn is a young man, but has given much time to the study of geology and kindred sciences. This tract is written in choice language and not too freely interspersed with technical terms understood only by the initiated. The author is consistent in his limitations of the conclusions of geological research, and very happy in his efforts to reconcile science with the Bible. Some may not agree altogether with him regarding the chronological order of the Mosaic account of creation, nor think his criticism of Hugh Miller well taken. Those interested in this subject would be pleased and profited by a perusal of this tract. T. L. FOWLER.

A NEW VOLUME.—With the first number in January, LITTELL'S LIVING AGE enters upon its two hundred and fourth volume. The field of periodical literature, especially in England, is continually broadening, and including more and more the work of the foremost authors in all branches of literature and science. Presenting, in compact and convenient form, all that is most valuable of this work, THE LIVING AGE becomes more and more a necessity to the American reader, for, by its aid alone, he can conveniently as well as economically keep well abreast with the literary and scientific progress of the age and with the work of the ablest living writers.

The opening issues of the new year will contain, with others, valuable and timely articles in science, politics, biography, theology and general literature, from the pens of Prince Kropotkin, the Duke of Argyll (Bacon and Huxley), Max Muller, the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Hobhouse (The Position of the House of Lords), Edmund Gosse, Lord Ebury (Conversations with Napoleon at Elba), Sidney Low (If the House of Commons were Abolished?), Patchett Martin, W. M. Conway, and other leading writers; together with papers of interest by M. Rees Davies, Stephen Gwynn, etc., etc.; in fiction, the choicest short stories by the best authors.

For a magazine which gives an amount of reading matter unapproached in quantity, and unsurpassed in quality by any other periodical, the subscription price (\$3.00 a year) is cheap, while by taking advantage of the generous club-rates much better terms may be obtained, for the publishers offer to send any one of the American \$4.00 monthlies with the LIVING AGE for one year for only \$10.50, thus furnishing to the subscriber at small cost the cream of both home and foreign literature. The publishers also offer to send to all new subscribers for the year 1895, the thirteen weekly issues for the last quarter of 1894, forming an octavo volume of 824 pages, gratis.

LITTELL & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

Alluding to the recent swindling of a clergyman who went to buy "green goods," the *Harford Courant* aptly remarks: "Figure it down fine, and between the bunco man who tells counterfeit money for good, and the sneak who buys it to unload on innocent people, the buncoer is better than the buncoed. The first swindler cheats one rogue. The rogue plans to cheat honest folk. Off with his clerical garb! Yes, take from him his ministerial half-rate pass on the Erie road." Honest men do not go to buy "green goods." If those who go to rob get robbed they have no claim on public sympathy.—*Hamilton Times*.

Dr. F. W. Gansaulus, the great Chicago preacher, in an interview reported by the *Advance*, gives this good advice: "If I could speak a word to the men who are younger than myself in the ministry, I would say to those who are at present in pastorates which do not require all their time, that the most sad of the questions which have been put to me is that one which you have sent on this list of questions, namely, 'What do you read?' For the answer is, with what the ministry of to-day asks at our hands, it is almost impossible, after one has come to the pastorate of a large church and has entered into the organization of all its forces to read anything at all. I would say to those who have pastorates where they have opportunity to read and study, this—For the sake of your future and those whom you can influence by and by, cease writing to the pastors of the cities asking them for a larger field. Do not for one moment think that any field is too small for you if you have opportunity in that field for study, investigation, and, which is most valuable of all, meditation and writing. I am drawing upon the past with an almost wholesale freedom and rapidity."

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Mr. Douglas Ford, Toronto, Ont., states that Milburn's Cod Liver Oil Emulsion with Wild Cherry Bark is free from objectionable taste, being almost as pleasant as syrup, while for coughs and colds it gives complete satisfaction, acting promptly even in obstinate cases.

The Decline of Quakerism.

Most people cherish kindly feelings towards the Quakers. They have many good qualities. It will be generally admitted that many of the Friends have been noble men and women, distinguished for their honesty, benevolence and truthfulness, and yet the Friends are steadily declining in both Europe and America. It is not difficult to discover the cause of this want of progress. In an age of intense action, earnest Christian work and missionary extension, a denomination of quietists who make a virtue of being non-aggressive, cannot expect to increase. They do not recognize the requirements of these modern times, and they have been greatly weakened by divisions, which have generally been caused by unduly magnifying the importance of comparatively small things.

An article in *The Outlook*, by Mr. Eugene Camp, who is himself a Quaker, gives a very interesting inner view of the condition of the Society of Friends and of the causes that prevent their increase. We learn from Mr. Camp that "New England and New York Yearly Meetings contain fewer members than they did in 1860. Philadelphia Orthodox Yearly Meeting is not one-half as large as it was thirty years ago, while the Hicksite Yearly Meeting only a little less slowly declines. Scores of meeting houses throughout New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, built a half century ago to accommodate large congregations, now house a handful of people once a week, or perhaps once a fortnight, while the long rows of horse sheds, reminders of other and more prosperous days, stand unused."

Though the Quakers have a reputation for being lovers of peace, yet quarrels that cause divisions into hostile sections have been a chief cause of their weakness. Mr. Camp says: "It is a lamentable fact that there are no fewer than four Societies of Friends in America, not to mention further imminent divisions, each of which strenuously denies to all others a right to the name of Friend, and there is one Yearly Meeting, affiliating with none of these four distinct societies, that holds itself wholly aloof from all other Friends, even as individuals, neither growing itself nor helping any other organized branch of Quakerism to do so." There is no tendency towards union.

This writer corresponded with the clerk of the Philadelphia Orthodox Yearly Meeting, to find out the cause of the decay of that branch. He quotes as follows from an address issued by them: "We regard the attempts to introduce into some of our meetings for worship the practice of reading the Scriptures and the singing of hymns as a departure from the spiritual worship always highly prized by our Society, and we mourn over the blindness of some, calling themselves Friends, who have substituted active labors of an outward nature." Mr. Camp concludes his article with the following pertinent comment on the foregoing extraordinary extract: "Thus, in the United States, in the year 1894, a body of Christians officially denounce their fellow Christians for reading God's Word in public, and for the offence of asking sinners to come to Christ, and the body that thus spends its time in writing such denunciations is abandoning its meeting houses, because there are no Friends to occupy them."—*Christian Guardian*.

"I do not wonder that Rome is troubled. Her temporal power gone; her political influence in the councils of the nations a thing of the past; the education of the childhood of the church in the hands of the State; the right to solemnize marriage accorded

to the civil magistrate; and the people demanding the privilege to read the Holy Scriptures without note or comment, all indicate that the Pope is but the ghost of Caesar, and the Roman paganism a fading from the visions of the world as pagan Rome bowed to the heralds of the Cross."—BISHOP J. P. NEWMAN.

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