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1893.

The beginning of another year reminds us of the prayer, "So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." As years go by the littleness of time and the greatness of eternity become more and more apparent, and the importance of giving heed to the things that are unseen and eternal, rather than to those things that are seen and temporal, is more deeply impressed upon the mind.

At the opening of the new year, perhaps, most people indulge in a little retrospect, and at the same time look, or try to look, into the future. Retrospect to imperfect beings cannot be wholly agreeable: prospect cannot be entirely without anxiety. But the Christian need not be unduly depressed by the one or the other.

"The past is still in God's keeping, The future his mercy shall clear." As he enters upon another year the Christian may sing:

"So on I go, not knowing— I would not if I might— I'd rather go in the dark with God Than go alone in the light; I'd rather walk by faith with Him Than go alone by sight."

The Toronto World on Union.

It is a gratifying sign of the times that leading city dailies are discussing Christian union. On page one we give an interesting article from the Toronto World. It speaks for itself.

What the World says about the "enormous, costly and wholly inexcusable waste of energy and money in the existing system of working as independent and rival churches, two bodies that are as nearly identical in character as the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches," is a way of looking at denominationalism that will soon become very common. Denominationalism is an expensive and wasteful system. It is conspicuously so in villages and small towns and in country districts. If people will not see that denominationalism is sinful because it is contrary to the plain teaching of the New Testament, perhaps there is some gain if financial considerations lead them to enquire how so much waste of energy and money may be avoided.

"Theological metaphysics" will figure more or less in Christendom until the end come. But what needs to be learned is this, that differences over "theological metaphysics" should not be held as bars to church work and fellowship. What is required is that those who believe in Jesus Christ and love Him should study the question of church fellowship as set forth in the New Testament, and endeavor to unite upon the basis taught by the Saviour and His Apostles. The motto should be, "Nothing shall be required as a test of fellowship or as a condition of

church membership, but what is found in the New Testament, either in expressed command or approved precedent." The great difficulty is that men have added to or taken from the terms of membership appointed by the Master, and so instead of churches of Christ, have constituted human societies.

Our Omnibus.

If you get an extra copy of this EVANGELIST, please hand it to a friend and ask him to subscribe.

At the time of going to press we are not able to say who has won the International Dictionary.

Here is a sentence from a private letter which is striking and suggestive: "I not only want to be ready when He calls, but I want to be with Him while I'm here."

Thou must be true thyself If thou the truth wouldst teach; Thy soul must overflow if thou Another's soul wouldst reach. It needs the overflow of heart To give the lips full speech.

CRYSTAL WEDDING.—The occasion of the "crystal wedding" of Bro. Robt. Royce, of Rockwood, was seized upon by a number of friends to show their regard for him by going to his house unannounced, bearing appropriate gifts.

The temperance sermon preached in the Disciples church on Sunday evening last, by Rev. E. B. Barnes, was an eloquent, practical and faithful one, and no honest minded man could fail to be influenced by it.—West Durham News.

SILVER WEDDING—Nov. 26 was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the marriage of Bro. M. McKinnon, of Erin. A large number of friends and neighbors gathered at his house that day to congratulate him and his wife upon the happy event.

We ask the attention of our readers to the question of Negro Evangelization, as presented by Bro. C. C. Smith, of Massillon, Ohio. Those who can help that work will be helping a good cause. We are glad our brethren in the States have taken hold of it.

The Second Baptist Church, Rochester, has added a gymnasium to its other attractions. Reading rooms are also to be furnished for the entertainment of the young of both sexes. By this means it is hoped to countervail the drawing power of the theatre and saloon.—Hamilton Times.

PRESENTATION.—Bro. P. Baker and wife, of Everton, were recently the recipients of a pleasant surprise. Bro. E. Tolton and wife, called upon them, and in behalf of the church at Everton presented them with a purse of \$40.00. Bro. Baker now wears a visible reminder of the gift in the shape of a fur coat.

If you want to buy or sell a farm, advertise in the Toronto Weekly Mail. That paper reaches 100,000 farmers homes every week and your advertisement should meet the eye of some one who wants to purchase. Advertisements of this class are inserted in the Toronto Weekly Mail for Five Cents a word for each insertion or Twenty Cents a word for five insertions. Address, The Mail, Toronto, Canada.

The last EVANGELIST would inform our readers that owing to ill health, Bro. Sheppard was not able to be present at the opening services at Grand Valley. We regret to learn that he had to withdraw his appointment for the December meeting at West Lorne. The brethren will be

very sorry to hear that his complaint is of so obstinate a nature that he does not expect to be able to fill his appointments for some time. Those who have been expecting answers in the "Critic's Corner" will understand the reason of the delay.

We have received a card with this inscription. "Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Jamieson request your presence at the marriage of their daughter, L. May to Mr. George A Campbell, Tuesday evening, Dec. 20, 1892, at five o'clock p. m., 1315 26th Street, Des. Moines, Iowa." Sixteen years ago George attended a school taught by the editor. He was then in the Second Book, now he is a graduate of Drake University, has made his mark as a preacher, and is married to a good wife. Take courage; boys sixteen years is not long, looking backward. We extend our hearty congratulations to Bro. George.

A JAPANESE POSTAL CARD.

Dear Bro. Munro I have no long letter to write you at this time, but a short one and simply to tell you of the safe arrival of new workers, among whom is your gentle countrywoman, Miss Mary Riach. We appreciate indeed this gift of the Canadian brethren, and would that churches in a hundred other localities could see the blessedness of sending a representative into the dark places beyond, to lift amidst the benighted cross of the Lord of life and light. Bro. Stevens, of the last band of workers, was a college mate of mine. What a happy privilege it was to see his face away out here in the East. His wife, as our sister Oldham, is from my own State. Kentucky has the most representatives in our mission—five. I feel gratified to know this of the once "dark and bloody ground." We are all as well as usual, and bless God for His love and care.

Fraternally, E. SNODGRASS. Tokyo, Japan, Dec. 7, 1892.

Kind Words.

"Please find enclosed \$1 for my subscription to the CANADIAN EVANGELIST for another year. I am very much pleased with the paper."

"I find it is impossible to renew my subscription at this time, but as soon as the Lord enables me to do so I will not forget the EVANGELIST, for I believe in a church paper in every home. So please stop the paper for the present."

So writes an aged brother. But we won't stop his paper. With his leave we shall put him on the complimentary list.

"I enclose a post office order for the paper till May 15, 1892. I am hard up for money, but would not like to give up the EVANGELIST."

"I enclose you two dollars to pay arrears on my subscription to your valuable paper, and renewal of same. Please excuse my neglect in not attending to this before now. Quite excusable, brother."

"Please find enclosed \$1 for EVANGELIST. It is always welcome at our home."

Here is what one of our agents says: "You seem to think that it is kindness on my part to ask people to subscribe for the CANADIAN EVANGELIST. I esteem it a privilege, besides feeling that I am well repaid for the effort. I prize your paper very much; I would not like to be without it. It is the first paper opened when the papers come in. It is the only means whereby our work can be kept before the people; and if they do not know anything about it, they will have no interest in it. I only wish it were a weekly."

It would be difficult to carry on the EVANGELIST without the cheerful assistance of our agents.

In ordering goods or in making inquiries concerning anything advertised in this paper, you will oblige the publisher as well as the advertiser by stating that you saw the advertisement in THE CANADIAN EVANGELIST.

Church News.

GEORGETOWN.—On Friday evening, Dec. 23, the Disciples held their Sunday School entertainment. There was a very good attendance notwithstanding the coldness of the evening. Mr. John Munro, B. A., occupied the chair, and the children took part very creditably. At the close of the pleasing programme the children were made happy by each receiving a suitable present.—Georgetown Herald.

STUBENVILLE, OHIO.—I have been preaching for the church at Steubenville, Ohio, every Lord's day since Sept. 25. The church seems to be prospering nicely. Five have been added to their membership since my labors began. Two by letter, the others by baptism, two of whom were formerly Methodists and the other English Church. I like Bethany College very much and am pleased to know that it is gaining ground. The students seem to be studious and anxious to do well. Fraternaly, W. G. CHARLTON.

HAMILTON.—The Disciples' Sunday School (corner Ca heart and Wilson streets) held its annual social last evening (Dec. 22nd). Tea was served in basement from 7 to 8 to the children and their friends. A prettily decorated Christmas tree adorned the platform up-stairs. It was laden with presents for the children. Among the presents were three Bibles given to the scholars who brought in the largest number of new scholars during the year. The programme of singing and recitations was short and well rendered.—Hamilton Times.

BLENHEIM.—Our Christmas Sunday School entertainment came off on the evening of the 22nd Dec. The children all seemed delighted, so, of course it was a success. Besides home talent, the Dick family from the Creek Road gave us music, and Bro. Bulgin of Ridgetown a short speech. An interesting item not on the programme was the presentation of a dressing-case to Sister Mary Campbell, and a handkerchief-case to Bro. Stewart, given to them by the young people as tokens of their appreciation. COM.

Opening of the New Church in Grand Valley.

Lord's Day, Dec. 11, was a day of special interest to the church in Grand Valley. As early as 10 a.m. there was an unwonted stir in the streets and by 10:30 the new meeting house was crowded with worshippers.

The building is a substantial one of red brick with stone foundation, artistic in appearance and well seated. It has a good platform, baptistry and dressing rooms. It has a commodious basement for Sunday-school purposes, is heated with a furnace, and is indeed in every respect a handsome and convenient house, reflecting great credit on the congregation and especially on the Building Committee, composed of Brethren Tough, Marshall and Dixon, to whose care and labor the church will owe a debt of gratitude. Bro. Lediard preached to crowded houses in the morning and afternoon, Bro. Woolner, the preacher of this congregation conducting the opening exercises in the morning, and Bro. Tough, the elder of the congregation, doing the same in the afternoon. The morning sermon was an able and impressive one from the text, "The tabernacle of God is with men." At 2:30 there was a meeting for the breaking of bread, at which Bro. Woolner presided. Then followed a song service, after which Bro. Lediard again spoke on "The Old Path," to

which profound attention was given. It was an exhortation to return to old paths in principles, in preaching, in practice, and above all in spirit.

In the evening Bro. Baker preached an excellent sermon to a house crowded almost to suffocation, while Bro. Lediard held an overflow meeting in the Presbyterian Church, kindly placed at our disposal. The day's services will long be remembered by all who participated in them. Visiting brethren were present from Erin, Marsville, Mimosa, Everton, Arthur and Orangeville. The collections were liberal at each service, Bro. Lediard making the appeal for offerings in a manner worthy of imitation by all who are called on to perform this important duty. There was no unseemly begging, no appealing to doubtful motives, but a frank presentation of the facts and an exhortation to all to do their duty in the matter and to do it "as to the Lord" and "as the Lord had prospered them."

On Monday night a platform meeting was held at which the resident ministers took part. "The importance of the Word of God" was the theme of all the addresses and the key note was struck not by a Disciple, but by a Methodist minister—Mr. Berry, of Marsville. Bro. Ballah followed by a helpful address on the same subject, as did also Mr. Hill, of the Methodist Church and Mr. Crozier of the Presbyterian, and Bro. Woolner closed the meeting with an earnest call to increased faithfulness and activity. I must not forget Bro. Lediard's five minute talk on the "Consecration of the Money Power to the Service of Christ."

Amongst specially pleasing incidents was the presentation of a handsome pulpit Bible to the congregation by Bro. David Kilgour, of Arthur, who helped us greatly in the service of song. The service of song, too, was a specially pleasing feature and much credit is due to the young people for their work, in this direction.

Great regret was felt at the absence of Bro. Sheppard, who was to have preached on Lord's Day morning, and lectured on chemistry on Tuesday night. A letter was read in the morning from Mrs. Sheppard telling us of his serious illness and special prayer was offered for his recovery to health.

Bro. Lediard's lecture, "Ten Rules for Bible Study," took the place of the lecture on chemistry. There was a full house and for an hour and a half he held the close attention of all the hearers on a subject not generally supposed to be an interesting one. So closed the opening services in Grand Valley. Bro. Lediard will continue with us over next Lord's Day.—S. W.

Minnedosa.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

A new idea was taken up by the church in Minnedosa. As this is an age of conventions we thought we would have a miniature convention on Nov. 24. Here is the programme:

- 1—Devotional Exercises.
2—Report on Sunday-school work. Herb. Darroch.
3—Paper on Sunday-school work. Arthur Darroch. Discussion.
4—Report on woman's work. Aggie Darroch.
5—Paper on woman's work. Mrs. Armitage.
6—Address on woman's work. Mrs. Lister. Discussion.
7—Report on Y. P. S. C. E. J. B. Lister.
8—Paper on the work of Young People. Fred. Burgess. Discussion.
9—Paper on Church Music. Geo. Young. Discussion.
10—Report on Church work. Wm. Young.
11—Paper on Church Work. E. J. Darroch. Discussion.