

**HUMBER SUMMIT.**—Prayer-meetings were begun in the above church on Tuesday, February 13th, and were continued each night up to Friday. These were preparatory to a week's special evangelistic meetings to be conducted by the pastor. The interest increased each evening, and the church members are expecting a great blessing. Will the readers of the INDEPENDENT pray that God's rich blessing may be realized, and that many souls be won for Christ as the result of these special efforts?

LIZZIE BENTLEY.

**LISTOWEL.**—Mr. Robert Hopkin, of Hamilton, has gone to Listowel, Ont., to take charge of the Congregational church there. If Mr. Hopkin is as diligent and efficient in the important work fallen into his hands in Listowel, as he was attending to the INDEPENDENT, and other denominational work, in Hamilton, the church will have no reason to regret his coming among them.

**YARMOUTH, N. S.**—We are glad to learn from private letters that the beautiful and comfortable new church built last year, is well filled every Sabbath; and that the remaining debt on it is only \$975, and the friends there hope to pay off the one half of it this year. Rev. Wm. McIntosh is the pastor.

**FOREST.**—All going well here. Seventeen have lately been received into membership. All our congregations are good. I am giving "Warwick" and "Lake Shore" a weekly service now, which, with my own work, gives me seven services per week.

J. I. HINDLEY.

### CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

**ZION C. E., TORONTO.**—During the past year, the Y. P. S. C. E. of Zion, Toronto, raised the sum of about one hundred and twenty-five dollars, which was distributed as follows:—\$13 to the church, towards the renovation of the parlors; \$25 to the Sunday School Improvement Fund, \$10 to the Congregational College, Montreal, \$12 towards the expenses of the late International and Provincial Conventions; \$18 for the education of a native boy in India; and \$15 for one in Turkey.

F. S. K.

**SELMA, N. S.**—The Selma Society held its special meeting on Endeavor Day, and listened to addresses mostly on missions by the pastor, and also by Mrs. Anthony and Mr. Fulton Main. The collection for Foreign Missions was very encouraging.

J. S.

### Correspondence.

#### LETTER FROM MR. BURTON.

DEAR EDITOR,—Your February number reached me where I have been trying to free myself from the dregs of *la grippe*; and though some ties have been severed since I last wrote, the one tie which lasts still happily 'inds to those with whom sweet counsel has been taken in days past; you will, I am assured, accept a few thoughts that occurred while the pages were scanned; and since the habit of preaching is a fixed one, let me sermonize.

Firstly: The sentence from Principal Barbour's letter is suggestive: "Mr. Silcox, in Emmanuel, has salvation to preach." Yes, we need positive preaching, not negative; and as some of Mr. Silcox's sayings have appeared in the Montreal papers, I heartily say "Amen" to the kingdom of heaven, which the salvation he preaches brings, first here, in creating a new heaven and a new earth, on to that other country where in glory we shall see our Salvation as He is.

Secondly: Your own article, on "Union of Churches," struck a responsive chord. I am not so sure, however, that "the first occasion for sects—was when Christianity was established by Constantine." Rather did the evil begin when men made it their business to keep other people's consciences, and mount guard over the opinions of their brethren. In truth, at Nice, if history is to be depended upon, the moderation of the unlaptized emperor contrasts favorably with the frantic bitterness of the opposing ecclesiastics and doctrinaires. Intolerance, as you well point out, manifested itself when the Jewish converts would have imposed *their* rites upon the Gentile world. That the "State" church intensified the evil is undoubted, but our present divisions where no State church is, and our justifying of the same, is still perpetuating the spirit which anathematizes and rends asunder not only communities, but homes. May I give my poor emphasis to some of the truths you uttered? Oneness in our faith *on* the Son of God. Mark *on*, not *about*. One in receiving the Scriptures, which they honestly sought to read, not using them as an armory wherewith to furnish themselves with weapons against those who dared to differ. And thus the