

PATRIOTISM.

Sometimes it occurs to me that as Canadian churches we are not patriotic enough. I venture the assertion that the average church member knows more about preachers and churches of the United States than he knows about preachers and churches of Canada. We lose ourselves in the United States. United States has set the pace for us, and we submissively march by her orders. If Canada can set the pace in the college and on the battle-field in other lands, why can't she lead her own religious forces in the home land? Why can't she be independent? The child never knows its own strength until it begins to walk alone. Let the churches of Canada as children of the United States, let go their mother's apron strings, politely and respectfully, and let them feel their own strength and their own responsibility. Let us manage our own finances, for Home Missions and Foreign Missions. Let us have at least one standard periodical of religious news, containing articles on the principles of Christianity, statistics, progress of churches, etc. The Church of Christ in Canada can never measure its own strength, either numerically or financially. How many in the Provinces knew of Ontario's strength until the facts were given us by E. E. Crawford, a native of the Island, who is now laboring successfully with the church in St. Thomas, Ontario. We rejoice to learn that we have 45,000 men and women in Ontario who are not the only Christians but Christians only. On the Island we have about 300. How many are there in the other Provinces? Let us estimate our strength and clear the ship for action. We all know the number of disciples in the United States, the number of people brought into the churches during last year, the amount of money raised for Home and Foreign Missions. These facts are known by every one, but how much do we know about Canada? Brethren, let us arouse from our lethargy. Let us learn to walk alone. Let us agitate the cause of Christ in Canada. Let us educate our people out of the United States into the interests of Canada. I don't speak disparagingly of the great work that is being done in the United States, but rather I rejoice in her wonderful progress, the marvel of the nineteenth century. I simply express these few thoughts to create a greater Canadian interest. There are many other things I would like to say on this subject, but I will write again.

A. N. SIMPSON

Correspondence.

A LETTER FROM NEW YORK STATE.

DEAR CHRISTIAN,—Having many dear friends in the Maritime Provinces, and especially on P. E. Island, and my heart still there, I thought I had better write and give a short account of my place of labor and a report of the condition of the work.

Troy and Lansingburgh are now united, and we have what the citizens are pleased to call "Greater Troy." There are four good-sized cities, and several towns, all in a cluster, with a population aggregating over two hundred thousand inhabitants. The cities are Troy, Watervliet, Cohoes, Albany; the

towns are Green Island, Waterford and Reusiter. Troy is renowned the world over for its great collar and shirt manufactories. I believe it the greatest centre of this industry in the world. Here may be seen thousands of women and a great many men and boys entering these large factories every day. Here they succeed in making very good wages. I have been informed that expert hands make from \$15 to \$20 a week, and many go even higher than that. As the women earn such good wages Troy is called "the lazy man's paradise." It is a very good centre for work in the gospel. I left the dear little Island on the 18th of January with an aching heart. Crossed over in the S. S. "Minto;" landed in Pictou, N. S., met brethren Allen and Fullerton hopeful for their coming meeting which, I have been informed, has been fully realized. While in St. John I had the pleasure of visiting a few of the brethren and the new church on Douglas Avenue. I was greatly pleased with its appearance. It will certainly be fine when finished. On Friday evening I continued my journey and reached Troy about 4 p. m. on Saturday; boarded a street car for Lansingburgh, and ended my journey in a dark, cloudy, wet evening. Oh, but I had a siege of home-sickness and lonesomeness! All were strangers, but those whom I met received me cordially. Sunday morning came, the weather still dark and disagreeable, I went to the hall where services were held every Lord's day. On my way down I passed the new church still far from being finished, the corner stone of which was laid on the first day of January, 1900. At the hall a few brethren and sisters, about twenty, or perhaps twenty-five in number. I felt so homesick I could scarcely control my feelings. There was a letter lying on the table addressed to me, written by an elderly sister in the church, who, on account of sickness in her family, was unable to be present at the meeting. She expressed a most hearty welcome and sympathy for me in the work of the gospel. These words served as a ray of sunshine amid the shadows. The brethren present realized the situation and were warm and tender in greeting me. After preaching service was over and the Lord's supper had been partaken, they all came and thanked me for the gospel I had preached. They appreciated my work and were not backward in expressing themselves. This also helped to relieve my depressed spirits. The Sunday-school was called to order, and about twenty were present, men, women and children. Since then our congregations have steadily increased. On the 18th of March our church was ready to open. Dedication day was one of tremendous importance to us. Much depended on our success in a financial way. President E. V. Zollars, of Hiram College, preached the dedicatory sermon. The day was clear and cold, the exercises carefully planned and occasion well advertised. It was a success. Our house was crowded. The president was equal to the occasion, and a good subscription was secured toward paying off the church debt. In the afternoon we had communion service, several ministers were present and offered congratulations. Another appeal was made by President

Zollars and more subscriptions were secured. The evening service witnessed a most masterly address, and at the close of the service our subscriptions in cash and pledges reached up to between fourteen and fifteen hundred dollars. We all felt that we had crossed the Rubicon. I continued to preach every evening for over three weeks with a fairly good attendance and some success in the way of additions. Our plea is entirely new to the people in this part of the city. We added fourteen or fifteen new names to our roll of membership, and our Sunday-school has grown marvelously. We had last Lord's day nearly seventy present.

Our attendance at the regular services has been excellent, especially in the evening, when our congregations test the capacity of our house. This condition of things I do hope shall continue, and that a strong church may be found to the glory of God and the salvation of men. Notwithstanding all this, my heart seems to be in our dear Canadian home. I did not realize I was so thoroughly British until I came to this city. There are so many sympathizers with the enemies of Great Britain. My patriotic soul is frequently stirred within me with righteous indignation. How very soon people forgot their best friends! Had it not been for Britain the United States would never have taken Cuba and the Philippine Islands. But I must close. God bless you all. More another time.

R. W. STEVENSON.

DEER ISLAND LETTER.

On a recent Sunday evening the Court of I. O. F., of Lord's Cove, attended service in Lord's Cove Church. There was a large attendance. A sermon was preached from the text "Quit you like men." The court here is a large one, with a membership of nearly one hundred, all strong and hearty.

A parish Sunday-school convention was held at Fair Haven on Thursday, 17th May, but as it turned out to be a stormy day the attendance was small. On Friday evening, Mr. Lucas, the travelling secretary for N. B., gave an address in Lord's Cove on the "Home Department."

The concert given by the Mission Band was a grand success, a good collection was taken for missions. Now that we are going to have an evangelist in the field, why could not our Bands and Auxiliaries divide the money they raise and give half to the home work?

We are planning the arrangements for our County Meeting to be held in July. We expect several prominent brethren from the States. I will be able to give you the time, place and speakers in the next CHRISTIAN.

Leonardville church contemplate some quite extensive repairs on their building ere long. The meetings are well attended and interesting. The outlook for our work in these provinces is certainly good. We now have seventeen preachers and the prospect of two or three more in the near future. I think this is the strongest force we have ever had. Are we going to reach high water mark this year? That is, are we going to have 500 additions and 1500 dollars. I wonder if the agents appointed by the secretary are good ones and are doing their work? Seventeen