

CHRISTIAN WORKER

ISSUED MONTHLY

Printed by A. Sauter, at the office of the *Christian Worker*, for the *W. P. P. B. B.*

H. B. SHERMAN, EDITOR

LAW & WHITELAW

PUBLISHERS & PROPRIETORS

To whom all business letters should be addressed

Subscriptions 50 cents per annum

OUR WORK.

"To the work," our Master orders. He did the call that is true belief. Linear call upon the worker. Lead, of the rich harvest.

Original

The letters are pouring in from all quarters... about our success in the good work of preaching the "glad tidings" to a lost world. We are pleased to note that every letter closes with, "I pray that the Lord may abundantly bless the preaching of the word, and that many may be led to obey the gospel." We are overwhelmed with letters of encouragement from every quarter, and desire to say to all that have thus written, "God bless you brethren, and sisters, for your words of cheer and encouragement in the field." For the information of all we beg to report that the gospel is "triumphing gloriously." We have never had more to encourage us than at the present time. Kind friends and true brethren are standing by the work holding up our hands in a noble manner. We are now at the end of a six weeks siege in the town of Welland, and the siege has not been raised yet. The good Lord has blessed our work beyond our most sanguine expectations. We have a meeting house that will seat 400 people often full to overflowing, and always well filled, our average attendance being nearly 300, which is the largest ever known in the town on similar occasions. And now at the end of six weeks the interest is unabated and growing day by day. A goodly number of the good citizens have come out and been "buried with Christ," and "the end is not yet." The outlook is brighter now than at any time during our meeting. We have banded together about 30 baptized believers as a congregation of disciples of Christ, and have the elements of success in our number. As soon as one comes out and obeys the gospel he immediately sets to work to induce some one to come and do likewise. Such expressions of joy and peace are made by those that have come out on the Lord's side is very cheering to me. We have organized a Sunday school, and have men of experience for officers, and the teachers are of the staying kind. We give the minutes of our meeting "to organize," as given by Bro. D. Burtch, secretary and treasurer, in another place. Let no one think that this has been accomplished easily, or without an effort. We, first of all, attribute our good success to the Lord Jesus, who has promised to be with his disciples, in this work, "even to the end of the world." Without his help we could do nothing, and our hearts go out to him in devout thankfulness for his help. In the second place we have been aided by the good brethren and sisters from Welland and Gaisborough by their presence and words of cheer. In the third place we have been ably assisted by such men as A. Heudershot, D. Burtch, D. Young, John Ennis, John McGinnis, J. Linn, and of noble women not a few. Bro. C. J. Lister is everywhere present with a pocket full of tracts, and a word of advice and exhortation; his help has been invaluable. We have been assisted by the opposition of brethren, who...

lued to go on and convince them that we are unworthy of the harsh things said against us. We have been ably assisted by the brethren who are co-operating in supporting the wife and children, thus enabling us to give ourselves wholly to the work of the Lord. Finally, we are made to feel that "all things work together for good to them that love God."

Of course we are meeting with some opposition from sectarianism. They are trying to get the Salvation Army to come and overshadow us; but our work being of God it cannot be overthrown. We have been lately impressed with the statement of the *Zionist*. Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The truth is, we do not attribute much credit to ourselves, except it be that the preaching has been all done by the Lord, save one sermon by Bro. Hertzig. We believe that the name of Christ has been honored here, and rejoice that we have been permitted to bear some humble part in the work. We are having additions at nearly every meeting, and how long it will continue thus we are unable to say; but from present indications we will be able to report many more before we close at this place. I ought not to forget the noble-sacrificing Bro. Swaze, who has been with me from the beginning. He looks after the fires, lamps, house, and sees to it that the baptistry is kept full of pure water. We will be able to give a final report in our next.

IN THE FIELD.

To the careful observer who is watching the movements in the field, the outlook in some directions is very cheering. The army of workers in the field are keeping up a steady fire all along the line, and in many places the war is waging with tremendous fury. The large force of proclaimers in the field who are backed up by the Elders and Deacons of the churches are becoming a terror to evil-doers and tradition-mongers. The wicked city of New York has only one man to stand before the people holding forth the plea for a restoration of the primitive teaching and practice, but he is a mighty "man of God," and will be the leaven that will "leaven the lump." Bro. J. Z. Tyler, in Brooklyn, N. Y., will make himself felt, and will make the people feel the force of truth. In Philadelphia we have three preachers and the reports of success are most encouraging. Washington city is now blessed with a good bidding and one of the best preachers in the Restoration, Bro. Power has a strong hold on the hearts of the people in that city. A movement is on foot to establish a mission on a firm basis in the city of Boston, and the prospect for success is quite assuring. As we travel west to Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, etc., the warfare among the people for Christ is the strongest. The host of able preachers in these States are doing a valiant work, and the reports of success are marvelous, and will cheer the hearts of all true disciples who read them. The disciples are co-operating with each other in the good work as never before, and thus insuring the greatest success possible. On the Pacific coast the work is progressing grandly, as will be seen by all who read the *Christian Herald*. Let it not be thought by any that these achievements are being wrought without any opposition from our own brethren. There will be found a few here and there all over the United States who will not work themselves and do what they can to prevent others; but we are glad to note that the influence of this class is

growing beautifully less every day. The field here in Canada is an inviting one, and as we take a look over it we feel like exclaiming, "who is able for these things?" Calls are coming up from a score of places for the pure gospel, and who will supply the want? Those that cannot do this alone are quite anxious to co-operate and thus do a part of it at least, but in this they are opposed by those who could do the work but will not touch it with one of their fingers.

The workers are now busily engaged carrying on the work successfully and winning many souls to Christ. The reports from our field are beginning to be more cheering than heretofore. Our force of laborers is not as large as it should be by half. To supply this lack we must encourage young men to enter upon the work. We are not so anxious about how this work is done, but we are very anxious that it shall be done. And if any brother sees a better way to reach the people with the glorious gospel of Christ than the way it is now being done we bid them God speed, and will not "forbid them because they follow not us." But what we are opposed to is this "do nothing policy." "Go ye therefore into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, and he that believeth not shall be damned." *Jesus Christ. May God help us all to work.*

THE LORD'S ARMY.

Every night during the last three weeks the town hall, Meaford, has been crowded to overflowing. The Lord's Army, as they call themselves, an offshoot of the "Salvation Army," having besieged the town, continue to attract crowds to their meetings, and the wild kind of excitement prevails thereat. As a people they appear to be very much in earnest, and claim to be engaged in a work of restoration, even the restoration of old-fashioned Methodism, and if a work of that kind requires only zeal without knowledge they will no doubt succeed in the undertaking. The officers of the aforesaid army are women of average intelligence, inferior education, and apparently have not the slightest conception of the scheme of redemption as revealed in the Bible. They exhort sinners to come to Christ, to take up their cross and follow him, yet they wholly disregard the plain teaching of our Saviour and his apostles, when they undertake to tell sinners what to do to be saved or how to come to Christ. The great commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved," is never quoted, and when the day of Pentecost is referred to at all it is to show the necessity for obtaining a baptism of the Holy Ghost now. The examples of conversions as recited by Luke in the Acts of Apostles are not referred to; in fact they do not seem to have much use for the Bible at all. They depend more upon exhortations, praying, singing, and the recitation of religious experiences by boys and girls, (some not over ten years old), and men and women. The singing is lively and frequent, and the exhortations are generally short but intensely earnest. Everything is done that can be done to keep up the excitement, and consequently many converts are being made.

Looking at it as a reformatory work or movement, there is no doubt but that good will be accomplished. But considering the absence of gospel or scriptural

teaching in their meetings, the amount of irreverence manifested not only in the audience, but by many who claim to belong to the Army, and the ungrounded hopes the converts are encouraged to entertain and express, I am inclined to think if they succeed in restoring old-fashioned Methodism, and cause thoughtless people to depend upon their feelings only, as an evidence of pardon, they will have accomplished their mission.

WALKERTON, April 8th, 1884. Box 25.

DEAR BROTHERS, - I began a meeting in Luther on the 6th of March and continued over three Lord's days. The Luther church sent Bro. Jas. Kilgour, of Guelph, to supply my place in Walkerton the last Lord's day of the meeting. His visit was much appreciated by the Walkerton brethren. I might just mention here that I have received much encouragement in my labors from this faithful brother and veteran in the Master's work. I will never forget his services. We found the Luther church in rather a disorderly condition in some respects. An effort had been made to put things right ere I arrived. This effort did good, and by the able assistance which we received from Bro. Grier, Bro. Tough, and others we succeeded in getting things just right. We directed the first few discourses to the stirring up of the church. How far we succeeded in this will be seen by the success of the meeting. We next began teaching the first principles of the gospel, using a chart to instruct by the use of the eye as well as the ear. I find the chart of great benefit in these meetings. The church (with a few exceptions) worked well during the meeting. 21 were added during my stay, 18 by baptism and three wandering ones restored. A Sunday school (a thing they never had before) was organized. S. S. supplies sent for and new hymn and tune books for church and school. The school is large and promises well. I enjoyed, during my stay, the hospitality of Bro. Tough, whose wife is a daughter of Elder Robert Royce, late of Everton, now of Acton. These are faithful and zealous workers in the church. Elder Grier spent almost the entire three weeks with me, taking me from place to place with his horse and cutter. He is a noble, self-sacrificing Christian, and is of good report of those that are without. Much good was accomplished by our thus canvassing the neighborhood; audiences were large during my stay. Bro. Crowson, McClure, Dixon, Bell, Kings, and others were active workers in the meeting. A movement is in progress to get an Evangelist to settle in the neighborhood, also to build a new meeting house in Luther, I hope to see both efforts successful in the near future. The advantages of this church are second to none of the churches I have visited in Canada, I trust and pray that they will improve their opportunities and advantage.

A. SCOTT.

At a large meeting of the temperance workers of Welland recently, a resolution was passed condemning the cowardly utterances of our M. P.'s on the 26th of March. It is a good plan to bring home M. P.'s to their senses who want to carry a bottle of whisky in one pocket and a temperance speech in the other. Let the resolutions come thick and fast. Lend your WORKER to your neighbor and ask him to subscribe.

MEEDITATIONS.

No 1.

A SCOTT.

"For this thing I besought the Lord thrice that it might depart from me. And He said unto me, 'My grace is sufficient for me.'" 2nd Cor. 12:8, 9.

What a significant answer is this to the Apostle's prayer! Have we not frequently found it so? I appeal to those who have passed through the dark and stormy billows of trouble and sorrow. How often are our requests denied and yet our prayers are granted. In the dark hours of grief in the midnight quiet I stretch forth the hand and ask for the day star. Does it come? No; but there comes a new power into the eye which makes me independent of its coming. I ask that this heavy burden be lifted from me; it is not lifted, but I received new strength to bear the burden which makes its removal unnecessary. The Israelites asked Moses to intercede with the Lord to take away the serpents. The serpents were not removed but a remedy was provided whereby those who were willing could be delivered from their power. We remember the alternative prayer in Gethsemane, "Let the cup pass from me, if not let 'thy will' be 'my will.'" In the Gethsemane which we may be called upon to pass through, let that be our alternative. God forbid that we should without condition ask the cup to pass from us. The refusal to drink it may be death to us. But we can ask for assistance in taking the cup.

As the angel of the Lord strengthened Christ in the garden so will the Lord strengthen us; for he has not said "I will never leave thee, no, never forsake thee." Again, "He will not allow us to be tempted (or tried) above that which we are able."

Yes, His grace is sufficient for us. Tired are we of life? We must not ask to be taken "out of the world" but to be preserved from the evil. Ask to have the seeming sorrows become the real joys of life. "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations, knowing this that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." James 1:2. Ask not to be released from toil; but that toil become a real pleasure to us. The individual who was watching the golden sunset supposed he was to be disappointed when he saw the dark cloud appear on the horizon which he thought would hide the sun from his view. Imagine his joy on seeing the bright rays of the "Sun of Righteousness" thus illuminating our souls, making the supposed dark spots the really bright spots of our lives. "We see only through a glass darkly" now; but the day is coming when we "will see face to face." Then we will be able to look back upon what now seems the worst journey and exclaim, "O comforting sorrows! O happy afflictions! O soothing pain! O sweet bitter! O healthful sickness! O peaceful storms of trouble, anguish, adversity, bereavement! 'For before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I have kept thy laws.' Hadst thou not sent those afflictions and sorrows I should have forgotten thee, and thus have missed heaven. Did not our Saviour himself, from under the shadow of the cross, speak of His peace. The soldiers took his garments. Joseph took his body; but the disciples got His peace. 'Peace I leave unto you.' 'My peace I give unto you.' Yes, peace that passeth knowledge came from under the terrible clouds of sorrow which overhung and surrounded the Cross of Calvary; Surely the 'reliefment' of our peace was upon him." Sweet Peace thou art the fruit of

such sorrow as man has never experienced and knows little of. Mary having gone to great trouble and expense in preparing spices and ointment came to the sepulchre expecting to find the body of Jesus. But alas! what disappointment the body is gone, the sepulchre empty. In various places she asks, "Sir, tell me where they have laid him." It is hard for us to prepare our space and come to the very door of the Sepulchre and find not the body of our Lord. But "God's ways are not as man's ways." The cause of Mary's great disappointment was the cause of her greatest joy, she came expecting to find a dead Lord; she found a living Lord, O! the grace of the broken ointment box! O! joy of restoration, I have found more than I sought. Here I found not weary Christian. This is the way God deals with us. Take courage. Be not too eager for the earthly fumes of our hopes fulfillment. Be not too anxious for the trappings of life, lest we lose life itself. God grant that we may from our lowest soul be able to say "Thy grace is sufficient for me."

THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

What was promised by Peter in the phrase "Gifts of the Holy Spirit?" One writer in the A.C. Review, says, it cannot be the spirit, because we cannot possess any thing of which we cannot take cognizance by our senses. The old Quakers would make sad work of that objection. The Scripture said to the Friend, he could not accept this, and that about Christianity, because he could demonstrate by his senses. The Friend queried, Hadst thou a mind, a spirit a soul? O, yes, just like other men. Canst thou feel it? No. Canst thou smell it? No. Canst thou hear it? No. Canst thou taste it? No. Canst thou touch it? No. Then by thine own testimony thou hast none; and why should I hear the longer? Another writer says: It is not the Spirit. It is one of the Spirit's Gifts, and as the Editor stated, "It is the gift of eternal life." Baptism for remission is plain enough; but the term, "Gifts of the Spirit" requires a deal of doctrinal before it is fit for the people. Another sectarian method of teaching God's will. Do any of those writers really know? Is there any scripture which testifies that it is not the spirit, that is promised; but only one of the Spirit's gifts? And if one of the Spirit's gifts do they know which one? Would not a sectarian be a little more consistent with himself, and as consistent with the Scriptures, if he would affirm that if it were not the spirit that was promised, it was faith? "And to another faith, by the same Spirit." If we are not willing to accept the statements of the apostles at par value, why should we be so forward in condemning others, for practicing "all sorts of turnings and twistings? May God help us to be just and faithful to his living word. c. r. l.

LOOK FOR THE GOOD.

There is a great deal of good in the world. But there would be even more, if that which is there were recognized, appreciated and used more. And this is especially true of individuals. It is very seldom that a man's character will be bettered by our continually picking out its flaws and throwing them at him. Usually it only serves to harden him and confirm him in his evil. But look for the good in him, no matter how little it be, and how hard to find. Show him that it is recognized, and that it is so far gains him respect; and it will soon reach out, spread, and perhaps eventually encompass the whole character. It is in this sense, too, that we are to "overcome evil with good" by directing the grain of good that is in a man, cultivating, sowing, developing it, until it gradually crowds out the evil by the vigor of its own growth. Planting and watering is always more profitable than weeding. - The Gospel Advocate.