

# The Canadian Evangelist.

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"GO . . . SPEAK . . . TO THE PEOPLE ALL THE WORDS OF THIS LIFE."

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## THE Canadian Evangelist

is devoted to the furtherance of the Gospel of Christ; and pleads for the union of all believers in the Lord Jesus in harmony with his own prayer recorded in the seventeenth chapter of John, and on the basis set forth by the Apostle Paul in the following terms: "I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beseech you to walk worthily of the calling wherewith ye were called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long suffering, forbearing one another in love; giving diligence to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, even as also ye were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all, and through all, and in all."—Eph. iv. 1-6.

## THE ANNUAL MEETING.

### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Time has brought us on its course, and to-day, by the kindness and mercy of God, we are again permitted to meet, that we may counsel with each other and endeavor to do more in the future for the furtherance of the cause of our Redeemer.

Truly we live in privileged times! The march of progress in every department of human knowledge has been quickened in the few years past; and with increasing power the forces which are moving the world are spreading onward and lifting up mankind in knowledge of material things until the human seems as though it were grasping the divine. God has indeed opened the windows of heaven, and is pouring out great and precious blessings upon our race. I fear we do not realize that these blessings are bestowed upon us that we might use them for the glory of God, the exaltation of the Saviour of the world, and that we might make haste in the service of our King. In view of the great responsibility of living in such favored times and receiving such wonderful evidences of the goodness and mercy of God, I trust we shall each resolve to be faithful in the discharge of the duties resting upon us.

When we look about us in the religious world to-day we indeed thank God for the progress of truth—the truth, and nothing but the truth. While sin and unbelief try the hearts of God's people, yet the world to-day seems as though it were reaching out after God; and the Bible, that word which is spirit and life; and the Son of man who gave his life to redeem the world, and the Son of God whom the grave could not contain, and the God of all grace who has loved our race so much, are to-day exalted to a place in the judgment and in the hearts of more people than ever before. In the religious world we see much to give us hope, in that the cause of our Saviour is being more faithfully preached and more fully believed all over our wide world than ever before. Who will say that the grand old Gospel of the grace of God has lost its power, or that human need is beyond the reach of Christ's power to save? In our land great

things have been accomplished for God and humanity in a few years past. The Bible is gradually gaining its place of authority to the church in all matters of faith and practice. As we consider the humble part that we as a people are taking in the great work of preaching the Gospel to every creature, we are constrained to say: Oh! how good the Lord has been to us; he has caused the light of his truth to shine into our hearts, and we have indeed beheld his glory as we have seen the triumphs of the cross of Christ. As we look back over a few years and compare the cause of the truth we love with its position then, who can say that it is not the Lord's cause, and that the Lord has not been with us? I have the utmost confidence that if we are faithful to the plain old Gospel, the great abiding truths so clearly taught by Christ and his Apostles, that there are richer blessings and greater joys awaiting all who honor that grand old Gospel of our salvation which has brought pardon, joy and hope to men, and gives the glory of our salvation to our God and his Christ. The religious world is getting tired of sectism, divisions, religious party issues, ecclesiastical institutions, and are, Berean-like, searching the Scriptures. The people and the press are doing much to bring about that day when God's people shall be free. Let us, brethren, hold fast to all the truth and all the scriptural practice which has marked this movement for a return to primitive Christianity; and remember also that there are depths and heights in this great treasure house of God's will to man which we have not yet reached; we need not be vainly puffed up with the little we know, but as obedient children study the Word, desiring to know more and more, that we may be able to do more and greater things to save the world and glorify our God.

I am glad to say that not only in a general way is the cause in a very prosperous condition in the province, but at all the points which are being assisted by your offerings, there are evidences that satisfactory work is being done. God's word is being lovingly and faithfully preached; the marked progress at nearly every point gives abundant cause for thankfulness. Without any prejudice to other places the city of London is our newest point and also one of the most encouraging and hopeful. Bro. Dr. Leonard, who has so devotedly persevered in his purpose, that there should be, during his residence, a church in the city of London, where the ancient Gospel should be preached, his faithful work to that end eternally alone will fully reveal. Bro. John Campbell, by whose willing sacrifice and material assistance the movement was placed upon a firm basis, and Bro. T. L. Fowler who took charge of the work, and to whose kindly manner, good judgment, and faithful preaching of the Gospel of love from God to man, have all their part in the honor of the success at that point—to God be all the praise. During the year the Board have been compelled for want of means to refuse assistance to important and needy points; we have exercised all the wisdom we had in this regard. We trust the churches contributing

assistance and the churches needing aid will each feel the need at this point in the work of faithfulness and patience. We greatly admire the unselfish patience of the churches at some points in this respect.

During the past year we have been sorely pressed for means, our faith has been often tried; in faith we labored on, believing that the work is the Lord's and that the earth is his, and the fulness thereof. We have realized our expectations and indeed more than we had hoped for. It is wonderful how this work has grown from the little that we are doing; there are many now points prayerfully and patiently waiting the help they must receive to have any success. We have raised more money for the Lord's work during the past year than in any previous year, and more work has been done and more success has crowned our united efforts. If we but continue faithful and increase our efforts, as capability increases, we cannot estimate the work that God will accomplish through us. I pray that God may strengthen us and increase our faith and enable us to be faithful stewards of all his mercy and goodness. The members of the Board have made some sacrifices in order that the work should go forward with greater activity; some of the members have travelled a long distance, at considerable expense and sacrifice to their business, in order to be present at the meetings and give their counsel to assist in the work, and not a dollar of the funds has gone to pay back such expenses. I am thankful to note the hopeful growing interest in every department of church work. The C. W. B. M. are doing a grand and great work, and I am sure our sisters are realizing that it is a blessed privilege to labor for Christ. The children's Mission Bands are accomplishing wonderful things. They are contributing nearly as much as our united offerings for mission work amounted to a few years ago, and God is surely blessing them and training them for his service; their young hearts are burning with zeal to do work for the Master. May God richly bless them.

I cannot close without a reference to our highly esteemed brother, Duncan A. Sinclair. He is not with us to-day; it has pleased our Heavenly Father to take him home since our last meeting. We deeply feel the loss of his removal from among us, but we know that our brother is with Christ he loved so much, and that is far better. I am thankful that it was my privilege to know Duncan A. Sinclair. I feel that his earnest devotion to the cause of the Saviour has been a strength and an encouragement to me. His words to the young men, at our meeting at Owen Sound, will never be forgotten. Although an invalid for years he was always active, and accomplished more in stirring up zeal in the furtherance of the Gospel, its power to save and its ultimate triumph, than many of us can hope to do in a long life. The legacy he left, to be used for educating young men for the ministry, will be a living monument to his memory.

I trust that we all realize in some measure the love of God to us, his

mercy and care for us, the sacrifice that Christ has made to redeem us, the value of the Word of God, and all the blessings that come to us because we are God's children, and honestly endeavor to do our duty in assisting in the great work of preaching the Gospel to every creature, that all the world may enjoy like blessings with us.

May unity and harmony, consistent with an effort to work for the spread of the Gospel, mark all our deliberations, and may we all, when we return from here to our homes, carry with us every resolve to live nearer to God and be more active in his service.

HUGH BLACK.

## THE CO-OPERATION OF DISCIPLES OF CHRIST IN ONTARIO.

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS FOR THE YEAR 1891-92.

Dear Brethren of the Annual Meeting.—The Board of Managers have great pleasure in again greeting the brethren and sisters in the Annual Meeting, and in laying before them an account of the work carried on by the Co-operation during the year just closed. The Board has sought, as far as possible, to carry out the recommendations of the last Annual Meeting, and where it has been found necessary to act without instructions, the object has always been to do what would meet the approval of the brotherhood.

### REPORTS FROM MISSION POINTS.

#### Muskoka.

Bro. Wm. M. Crowson sends the following report from Muskoka:—

Isenla sketch of Muskoka mission field for the year ending June 1st, 1892.

Huntsville has eight members. One baptism during the year. Meetings fortnightly, but are hereafter to meet two Sundays out of three. The attendance is small. We attend to the breaking of bread whenever we meet.

Brunt.—Meet in two places. Membership 26. Break bread in Township Hall every third Lord's day. Attendance small; no additions. Sometimes have a prayer meeting.

Naysville.—About 14 members. I did meet with them each third Lord's day, but do not now.

Ridout.—About 14 members. Bro. Wm. Palmer meets with them each Lord's day now. They break bread and have a prayer meeting. Attendance small.

Macaulay.—Over 20 members. I meet with them twice on each third Lord's day. We break bread at one place. Meetings well attended; prospects hopeful. Many staunch Disciples there.

They would like to have another preacher in Muskoka to take a part of the work. I have to earn a part of what I need to support myself and family by manual labor at unremunerative wages, and cannot give the time and attention to mission work that it needs. I must do more in Huntsville than ever before if we are to succeed; if I cannot we may as well give it up. I did not use the envelopes or take up the May collection for Home Missions, as any who have the ability to give are doing all they can for me at present, and that is not much. I have

received from Macaulay about \$1.50 each trip, besides my fare. At Naysville they tried to make the collection come up to my fare. In Brunt the collections are very small, as they count on giving me a bag of potatoes or oats, etc.

Quite a number of our members have moved away to distant places: some to Oregon, British Columbia, Manitoba, and the North-West Territories, and others have gone further back in these districts. We are weakened thereby.

All of which is respectfully submitted, Your Brother, W. M. CROWSON.

### Welland.

This was one of the points left by the Annual Meeting to be dealt with according to the discretion of the Board. Accordingly it was decided to appropriate one hundred dollars towards the support of the work in Welland, provided sufficient funds were raised from other sources to insure the keeping open of the house until June 1st, 1892. Bro. Alex. McMillan continued to labor with the church until near the end of 1891, after which Bro. P. A. McArthur took up the work. Bro. McArthur sends the following statement of finances for the period beginning March 1st, 1891, and ending May 31st, 1892:—

### Receipts.

Individual contributions in Welland	
Sunday collections	44 38
Special	13 56
Home and Foreign Missions	17 34
The Co-operation	162 51
Y.P.S.s and Young People	44 25
Individuals in Ontario	5 00
Church, Wainfleet	48 75
" Gainsboro'	23 00
" Jordan	27 00
" Selkirk	24 00
" Beamsville	9 25
" Smithville	9 00
" Smith's Corners	8 50
	\$530 06

### Expenditure.

Repairs on building	\$151 04
For Preaching	280 00
Missions	17 34
Running expenses	36 17
Int. on mortgage	60 00
Cash on hand	5 51
	\$550 06

We are yet behind \$55 of back interest: also Bro. Young's note of \$15. We think it will be necessary to raise about \$400 to carry us through another year. That means about \$300 for preaching, \$100 for arrears of interest, and \$60 for current interest. We can raise probably something over \$60 here, besides our Sunday collections to pay running expenses. We are therefore forced to ask the Board to help us liberally for the coming year.

As far as I can make out the number of those who claim membership here is about 34; additions by baptism since last June, 4; lost by removal, 6. We are likely to lose 4 more, as another family intends to move away.

### Collingwood.

Sister A. M. Frame, Secretary of the church in Collingwood, reports as follows:—

Since our last Annual Meeting the church in Collingwood has to report mainly regular and systematic work during the year, that is, regular Lord's