

There is also a faithful little band meeting regularly at Carman. During July Bro. H. A. Lemon assisted us in a meeting in Portage la Prairie, and five made the good confession. During 1889, sixteen have united with the church in Portage la Prairie; thirteen during '88, and ten during '87. Counting out two losses it leaves us a net membership of sixty two. A few of these are living at a great distance.

We note with pleasure that the Portage la Prairie church stands head of the list of Canadian churches contributing to foreign missions for 1890. They have also contributed \$160.00 for Poplar Hill work, besides building a very commodious "Parsonage," (though occupied, cannot be finished till spring), which will carry but a small debt into 1890. A happy New Year to all.

A. H. FINCH

MUSKOKA MISSION MATTERS.

Two baptized since last report. Took a trip to Dufferin Bridge, in Parry Sound district, to see Bro. and Sister Brooks, and remained over three Lord's Days, preaching in a school house, an Orange Hall, and a private house. One very estimable lady obeyed the gospel, and a number of others have had their attention called to the gospel and its requirements, and a few were almost persuaded to come out of sectarianism. A visit in the near future to the same place may be attended with greater success. Still, some good accomplished.

We have received boxes of presents for distribution among the needy from sisters in Toronto (Denison Avenue), Erin, centre and Everton, which have been as carefully and judiciously distributed as possible.

We have some depressing circumstances to contend with out here in many places, but often meet with good and true men and women, and cheering episodes in our labors and travels; and we try to make all things work together for good, knowing that "Our Father in Heaven," is watching over us, and leading us onward and upward through tribulation to the glory, honor and immortality of eternal life.

Trusting that some who are now in darkness may be led to the True Light that now shines in the gospel of Christ we labor on.

Huntsville, Dec. 26, '89. W. M. CREWSON.

W. C. W. B. M.

A SUGGESTION.

There was a suggestion I intended making at the St. Thomas meeting, but the time was so fully taken up with business there seemed no auspicious moment. I trust it is not yet too late. My suggestion is, that every sister interested in our missionary work spend a few minutes every day in earnest prayer to God that He may smile upon our individual and united efforts. And let the time be the twilight of each day. Will the dear sisters all over Ontario—beginning with the day on which they see these words—join with me in this united effort at the time stated? And thus we may form a cordon of prayer about our work that will effectually shield it from the snares and temptations surrounding us.

Wainfleet, Sept. 23, '89. MRS. WM. ANGLE.

CO-OPERATION NOTES.

All contributions for Home Mission work and for the Hamilton Building Fund should be sent to George Munro, Cor. Sec., Erin, Ont. Any one not receiving credit for money sent should notify the Cor. Sec. promptly.

Further returns from Children's Day for Home Missions:—

S. S., West Lake .. \$2 00
Twelve Sunday Schools have so far sent in contributions. That makes a very good start all things considered.

In addition to the sums reported last month the following is from the November collection: Church, Mosa .. \$4 00
The number of churches that have responded to the request to take up a special collection for Home Missions indicate that the idea of such a collection commends itself to many of the brethren.

Contributions for Home Missions not reported elsewhere:—

Geo. E. Williams, L.M. \$5 00
Mrs. Chas. McMillan, L.M. 5 00
C. C. Crawford .. 1 00
John Munro 1 00
Church, Nassagaweya 5 50
S. S., St. Thomas 5 00

Received for Hamilton Building Fund since last report:—

Mrs. T. S. McCurdy \$5 00
Geo. E. Williams 2 00
John D. Thomson 2 00

Mrs. A. C. McIntyre 1 00
George Moot .. 0 50
G. Wells 5 00
Hugh Black 5 00
Mrs. J. W. Moot 5 00
Miss E. Gregory 2 00

In looking over the sums subscribed at St. Thomas, it is found that a good many of them are not yet paid. The Board has no other thought but that they will be paid. At the same time, since the money is constantly needed, it is thought proper to urge all to pay as soon as possible. Those who subscribed large sums, if they are not prepared to pay in full, might send on a part of their contributions.

The Cor. Sec. finds among the papers left by Bro. Fowler a list of names of persons who appear to have been requested to canvass the churches on behalf of the Home Mission Work, and to whom it is presumed blank subscription lists were sent. From many of those persons no word has been received by the present Cor. Sec. He will feel greatly obliged if all those who have been requested to act as canvassers will notify him whether or not they are doing the work, and if they are, what success they are meeting with.

It is expected that the Board will have another meeting soon. It is therefore very desirable that all churches that would like to have the services of a young man during next vacation should write to the Cor. Sec. at once, in order that the Board may be in a good position to deal with the matter of assisting students to obtain work.

GEO. MUNRO, Cor. Sec.

The Critic's Corner.

Arrangements have been made for the undersigned to occupy a small space each month in the ONTARIO EVANGELIST, in criticisms upon important and difficult passages of the Word of God, and he will be pleased to receive any suggestions or queries in regard to such from any of its readers; with the understanding, however, that only such questions as relate to what is practical and useful will receive attention, and that subjects of mere speculation or idle curiosity will be discarded.

Walkerton P.O., E. SHEPPARD, Bruce Co.

"And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."—Matt xvi, 18.

It seems to me that the general view taken of the latter part of this verse is incorrect,—owing to a misapprehension of the two words "gates" and "hell"; that "hell" here means the dominion of the Devil, and the "gates" the belligerent force of the infernal armies making unsuccessful assaults upon the church of Christ.

Now the word translated hell here is not Gehenna, but Hades, which means the unseen,—the realms of death which receive all mankind; while the term "gates" certainly does not imply an active and aggressive power but a passive means of admitting or of confining.

Hence the meaning of Christ's words would seem to be, that, as he has the keys of death and of Hades, in overcoming him that had the power of death, that is the Devil, he delivers his church with an everlasting triumph; for as it was not possible that he should be holder of death himself (Acts ii, 24), so, in the words I am considering, he declares that the gates of Hades must open at his bidding, and set free his people for the enjoyment of eternal life in his kingdom.

E. S.

"Useless and hurtful memories can be crowded out by filling the mind with better things. Much of such recollections are mere idle reveries that can be swept away by the fresh breeze of enthusiasm, activity and duty. Happy memories, kindly feelings, noble ideas, generous plans, may so fill the heart and employ the mind that there will be neither room nor place for mournful and futile reminiscences."

LITERARY NOTES.

THE DEVIL'S MISSION OF AMUSEMENT.—A Protest, by Archibald C. Brown.—Published by Fleming H. Revell, New York and Chicago. 35 cents per dozen, or 50 copies for \$1.00. This little book is worthy of a wide circulation and a careful reading by Christian people; especially by any who may think that it is part of the church's mission to provide amusement for the people with a view to winning them to her ranks. The author in a very forcible and earnest way emphasizes the great truth that the gospel of Christ, and not amusements, is the power of God unto salvation.

PENTECOST'S BIBLE STUDIES on the Sunday School Lessons for 1890—strong paper cover, 69 cents; cloth \$1.00; A. S. Barnes & Co., New York and Chicago, publishers. These "Studies" will be found very valuable as helps to the understanding of the Sunday School Lessons for the current year. The careful student may find some things in them with which he will not agree, but he will find much more which he will cordially endorse. The very low price of the edition in paper covers places it within the reach of all Sunday School teachers, and we presume it can be obtained through any bookseller, so that those desiring it need not go to the trouble and expense of sending to the publishers.

GROWTH OF A BIG BOOK.—When Webster's Unabridged was first published in one volume, it was a comparatively small book. Some years after, an addition was made of 1500 Pictorial Illustrations, A Table of Synonyms, and an appendix of New Words that had come into use. A few years later came an entirely new revised edition of larger size, with 3000 Pictorial Illustrations; then, after an interval of a few years, a Biographical Dictionary of nearly 10,000 Names, and a Supplement of nearly 5000 New Words were added; and now there has come another new and most valuable addition, A Gazetteer of the World, of over 25,000 Titles. The work is now not only the best Dictionary of the words of the language, but is a Biographical Dictionary, a Gazetteer of the World, and a great many other good and useful things in its many valuable Tables.

THE MONTREAL WITNESS is offering great inducements to its subscribers this year. In the way of books and pictures, comprising 198 different offers, including Macaulay's and Hume's Histories of England, Dickens', Walter Scott's Works, George Eliot, Cooper, Thackeray, and Washington Irving's, handsomely bound in sets; also Pansy, and other leading books. The pictures are "The Horse Fair," "The Angelus," "Christ before Pilate," "A Scottish Raid," all celebrated pictures of the day. The WITNESS enters on its forty-fifth year, and continues to be the favorite family newspaper and champion of temperance and moral reform. Its County Historical Story Competition, which every school boy has heard about, and which has created so much interest in the Dominion, is being continued this year prizes of greater value being offered. The premiums are extended to the subscribers of the DAILY WITNESS and the NORTHERN MESSENGER, so that all will have an opportunity to secure them. The prices of the different publications are:—DAILY WITNESS, \$3 00; WEEKLY WITNESS, \$1.00; NORTHERN MESSENGER, 30 cents.

ALDEN'S MANIFOLD CYCLOPEDIA.—Splendid speed recently marks the progress of Alden's great popular Manifold Cyclopaedia. The sixteenth volume extends from Galvanized Iron to Gog and Magog. This old beginning and ending illustrates the magnificent scope of the work, taking in as it does the very latest discoveries of science and the remotest traditions of antiquity, and all between including an unabridged dictionary of language as well as a cyclopaedia of universal knowledge. The small handy volumes, contrasting so remarkably with the usual unwieldy quarto or octavo volumes of other cyclopedias, the large handsome type, the numerous illustrations, the excellent printing and the neat, strong binding, are features which every one can appreciate; and not less will the majority of readers appreciate the wonderfully low price; 60 cents a volume for cloth binding, or 85 cents for half morocco, or, if ordered immediately, the publisher offers the sixteen volumes for the reduced price of \$7.50 for cloth binding, or \$10.70 for half morocco. At these prices it is sent prepaid by mail or express. A sample volume may be ordered and returned if not satisfactory. JOHN B. ALDEN, Publisher, New York, Chicago or Atlanta.

OBITUARIES.

BRADT—Sister Bradt, wife of Elder Thomas Bradt, deceased died in Cayuga on the 18th inst, and was buried on the 20th beside her husband's grave, in the burying ground on the farm of brother Andrew Henslar, in Pelham. All who know her loved her. She died as she lived, true to the cause of Christ. All seemed to feel it a certainty that she only left us to receive a "crown of righteousness." Not many tears, but sorrow deep and real, and hope steadfast. How calm we can be when "all is well!" Hastily "They're crossing the river one by one." Sep. 23, 1889. J. B. L.

BLACK.—On the fourth day of December, Bro. Thos. Black exchanged a life of suffering for the blissful scenes of Paradise.

On the 18th June, 1885, at a barn-raising on his own farm in the Township of West Luther, by the accidental falling of a beam, his spine was so seriously injured that all the lower part of his body was paralyzed. During all those four and one half years he was comparatively helpless. All that medical skill could do; all that the most loving, faithful and never wearying attendance could accomplish; all that patient and submissive resignation on the part of the sufferer, could contribute, was ineffectual to save a life so precious in the family and the church.

He is a grandson of the late Bro. James Black, and the oldest son of Bro. John Black. He was born in Eramosa, February 8th, 1850. Was married to Myra Laight, daughter of the late William Laight of Eramosa, in 1882. Bro. Black obeyed the Saviour when only seventeen years old, and has ever since lived a good and consistent Christian life.

He was roused from Luther shortly after the accident to his father's house in Eramosa where he died. During his last days the writer was privileged in visiting him, and officiated at his funeral. The attendance was very large. Text: John xi, 26. The deceased leaves behind him a most devoted wife and one child.

MARRIED.

COURT—WYNN. At the residence of the bride's parents, Erin, Dec. 25th, by Geo. Munro, Joln Currie of Huron Co., Mich., to Nancy S. Webb of Erin.

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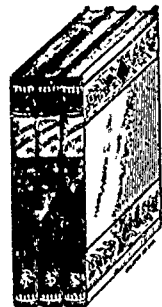
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