

## The Bible School.

DEAR BRO. MUNRO: Since the meeting of the Ontario Co-operation I have thought a good deal about the proposed school for preachers of the Word. The last issue of the *Christian Standard* contains an article entitled, "The Curriculum of Higher Ministerial Education," by J. W. McGarvey, of Lexington, Ky., which in several points is so thoroughly to my liking that I make bold to call the attention of your readers to them by way of liberal quotation. He says, "The church needs a few thoroughly trained scholars, who shall be able to discuss any question affecting her welfare and progress which may spring up in the learned world . . . who shall be able, indeed, to spring upon the world any advance in human knowledge which may promote her power and prestige. I say a FEW such men, not because a large number would be an incumbrance, for she cannot have too many, but because at least a few are indispensable to her progress."

But she needs even more than she does these few a host of men who are not profound scholars, who are only preachers, but preachers suitably educated for their work. It is this class of men, chiefly, though not always suitably educated for their work, by whom sinners have been turned to the Lord, and congregations multiplied, throughout the whole history of the church. . . . It is a well known fact that very few of the great preachers of the world are ranked among the world's great scholars."

Following this the writer pleads for what he terms "the English course," because it necessitates a knowledge of the English only, for this by far the larger class of useful preachers. The course should be such as will constitute them "educated" men, and it should be thorough, and thoroughly pursued so far as it goes. Permit me to say that some months ago the *Standard* published an article over my name in which identical sentiments were expressed. It is gratifying to me now to find one of our most experienced educators working the same vein of thought. We need men such as Bro. McGarvey has described, men thoroughly educated in English and the English Bible; men trained to the shepherding of flocks, and in whom there is the spirit of the "Chief Shepherd;" men who are lovers of souls and lovers of God; men full of faith and fervent in prayer and wholly consecrated, and who, counting not their lives dear unto themselves, are determined to stand by the cause till they see something come of it. I understand that such an ideal, however feebly I have given expression to it, is cardinal with the promoters of the proposed Ontario school. If so, may God in His providence hasten it, and God in His benedictions be with it, and the Spirit of Christ be its ruling, guiding spirit always.

W. J. LHAMON.

## Obituaries.

FERGUSON.—Died, at his residence Township of Egremont, County of Grey, brother Daniel Ferguson on 30th day of April, 1894, of a very painful disease of over a year's duration, which he bore with Christian patience, being supported in his affliction by his confident trust and assurance of hope through Jesus Christ. Our brother was born on

the Island of Islay, Scotland, in the year 1842, and was married to Lydia Ferguson, 1862. The fruits of this union were eleven sons (two of whom died in infancy) and three daughters. He was baptized by Robert Macintyre, a Baptist minister, at the age of 16 or 17 years. It was the writer's privilege to be intimately associated in Christian work and fellowship for a period of over ten years with this true and faithful friend and brother.

And never while memory lasts, shall I forget his genuine piety, honesty and faithfulness which he manifested in all the affairs of life, both secular and religious. I do not exaggerate when I say that our brother was no ordinary man. He was endowed with more than common capacity of mind, and although his educational advantages were limited, by his love for knowledge, and zeal for the truth, he attained to a high standard as a teacher in the church at Priceville, over which he presided for a long period of years. Brother Ferguson was well acquainted with the scriptures of both Old and New Testaments, which he studied with a devout spirit and critical eye, and also with the literature of the brotherhood. He was bold and courageous in maintaining as well as able in defending the truth, and yet full of humility and gentleness. In short, he possessed the Spirit of the Master in an eminent degree. Brethren and sisters who knew him and had the privilege of listening to his faithful teaching, wise counsel, and fervent exhortation, loved and honored him. He will live in their memories. Our brother labored in word and teaching from the time he was baptized faithfully and earnestly to the extent of his opportunities, till laid on a bed of sickness, a period of about 34 years, without the desire or expectation of any earthly reward, but he now "rests from his labors and his works do follow him."

A large concourse of friends, relatives and brethren followed the remains to the little burying ground west of Priceville, where his weary, corruptible body rests until the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised, but his spirit is with God who gave it.

To the faithful widow and family we extend our heartfelt sympathy, and commend them to Him on whom their faithful, devoted and indulgent husband and father depended through all the vicissitudes of life, and also through the valley of the shadow of death. May God help you to live the life of your dear departed, that your death may be like his.

HENRY KING.

Orangeville, Ont.  
(*Christian Standard* please copy.)

BEECROFT.—At Flesherton, Co. Grey, Mary E. Beecroft, wife of Bro. George Beecroft and daughter of the late Bro. John McKechnie, elder of the Church of Christ at Priceville.

The subject of this notice was born at Priceville, Co. Grey, Feb. 14th, 1857. Twenty years ago she was immersed in Toronto by the late Bro. Scott, and from that time until death took a deep and lively interest in Christianity; was an active member of the church at Priceville, and although in failing health for years (with bronchitis) and living over six miles from the church, she, with her husband, tried to be present when opportunity permitted. She was of a loving and gentle disposition, full of affection, making everybody feel happy in her company. But although she left a devoted husband, three affectionate children, an aged and

feeble mother, five brothers and two sisters to mourn her departure, she died without a tear, and having her reason and the use of her speech until a few minutes before she expired. She spent her last words in giving comforting advice to those around her bedside. It was said by those who witnessed her last moments that it was one of the most affecting and beautiful death-bed scenes ever witnessed. Her esteem was manifest by the unusually large crowd that attended her funeral. Her remains were laid in the family burying ground near Priceville, where she awaits the resurrection of the just. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

"Dearest sister, thou has left us,  
Here thy loss we deeply feel;  
But 'tis God that hath bereft us,  
He can all our sorrows heal."

"Yet again we hope to meet thee,  
When the day of life is fled,  
Then in heaven, with joy to greet thee,  
Where no farewell tear is shed."  
D. McKECHNIE.

## Literary Notes.

TO PUBLISHERS.—All books, tracts, pamphlets, magazines, etc., intended for notice or review in this department must be addressed to the Editor of THE CANADIAN EVANGELIST, 85 Wellington Street North, Hamilton, Ont.

THE TREASURY OF RELIGIOUS THOUGHT for July is, like its predecessors, filled with excellent, suitable matter for all preachers, Christian workers and families. Its frontispiece is a portrait of the Rev. Dr. Thos. W. Anderson, of the First United Presbyterian Church, New York City. His sermon on The Advancing Kingdom is a strong, sensible presentation of the truth. A view of the church building is also given, with a lengthy biographical sketch of the pastor. Other full sermons are by Drs. John Hall, J. H. Duryea, G. P. Mains and A. C. Dixon. There are also several excellent Leading Thoughts of Sermons. The Creation of Air is discussed by Prof. J. Murphy, D. D. A suggestive and helpful article is on Choosing a Minister. Light Holders, by Dr. T. L. Cuyler, is presented in an attractive style, well adapted to interest and benefit its readers. How to Improve the Church's Spiritual Life should be read by both pastor and people. Several short articles on Family Life will amply repay careful reading. Excellent brief, pithy articles are given, helpful for Young People's Devotional Meetings. There are also Thoughts for the Hour of Prayer, Light from the Orient and from Mission Fields, Thoughts on Secular and Religious Issues, a Survey of Christian Progress. Also Beautiful and Illustrative Thoughts, with Reviews of Books,

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E. B. TREAT, Publisher,  
5 Cooper Union, New York.

We have pleasure in calling attention to Volume XII of "The American Church History Series." The first 162 pages contain an account of the "Bibliography" prepared by Samuel Macauley Jackson, D. D. The work is published by the Christian Literature Co., Clinton Hall, Astor Place, New York City. This volume will be sold separately for \$3. Canvassers are desired to sell the book in all our churches. We are assured that good terms will be given.

## Woman's Work.

Conducted by Mrs. S. M. Brown and Miss Jessie R. Agnew, 372 Shaw Street, Toronto. Everything intended for this column should be sent to Mrs. S. M. Brown, Warton, Ont.

O. C. W. B. M.

President, Mrs. W. B. Malcolm, 89 Church St., Toronto; Cor. Sec., Miss L. V. Riach, 225 Maria St., Hamilton; Treasurer, Miss Jennie Fleming, Kilsyth.

## Auxiliary Programme For Aug., 1894.

Hymn 301.  
Scripture reading, Matt. xxv. 14-30.  
Prayer.  
Minutes.  
Roll Call, with scripture quotation bearing on subject. 1 Cor. vi. 19, 20; 1 Jno. ii. 28; Jno. xv. 2; Heb. xii. 2; Matt. xiii. 10, xxii. 13; 1 Peter iv. 10; 2 Tim. ii. 12; 1 Cor. xv. 10; Luke viii. 18.  
Business.  
Reading of paper on subject, or interesting missionary items, or papers.  
Hymn 734.  
Prayer.

In this parable Christ is evidently speaking of Himself "as a man travelling into a far country." By the "servants," he means those who profess to take him as their master. His "goods" means all their gifts and endowments. When one becomes a servant of Christ Jesus, all that he is, and all the gifts and talents he possesses, are offered up to Him. Christ gives them back again to be used in His service. He does not give to all the same gifts and talents but requires the same fidelity.

The one to whom the Lord gave five talents, and the other to whom was given two talents received the same commendation—"Well done, thou good and faithful servant," because both had been equally faithful. The one whom He rebuked was not condemned for not having had five talents, or two talents, but because he failed to make use of the one he had. Just here let us take this lesson to ourselves and ask—

1. What is my talent?

Is it good house-keeping, hospitality, conversation, music, painting, visiting or nursing the sick, caring for children, teaching children in the home or in Sunday-school? Or is it the gift of dressing and making "auld claes look maist as guid as new," so that thereby the poor and destitute may be helped? Perhaps it is conducting a mission band, helping to carry on an auxiliary, or adding to the interest of a prayer meeting.

2. What use am I making of my talent or talents? Is my talent for good house-keeping wrapped up in a napkin? Do I forget to be

hospitable? Are my powers of conversation used to curse and not to bless? Is the piano or the organ allowed to be silent weeks at a time, and is the voice that once was wont to charm the home, now only heard to scold and to repine?

These are some of the plain questions we should all ask ourselves. May the Lord help us so to live that they may be answered in such a way as may not put us to shame.

A. M.

## Notes.

According to the report in the daily papers, the C. E. Convention at Cleveland was the largest and most successful in the history of the Endeavor Society.

We are glad to have Bro. Lhamon write up the Bible School. We hope to be authorized to make in next number an important announcement concerning it.

LAST CALL.—We have received a number of responses to the "Last Call" sent to those a long way in arrears. We trust to hear from many more of them soon.

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