

THE Canadian Evangelist

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY
AT
85 WELLINGTON ST. NORTH,
HAMILTON, ONT.

Terms, \$1.00 per annum in advance.

GEORGE MUNKO, - Editor and Publisher.

All matter intended for publication, and all exchanges to be addressed to George Munko, 85 Wellington Street North, Hamilton, Ont. All business communications and remittances to be sent to George Munko, 85 Wellington Street North, Hamilton, Ont.
Remittances sent by post office order or registered letter will come at our risk.
No paper discontinued without express orders and payment of all arrearsages.
In ordering change of address, be sure to give the old post office as well as the new.

HAMILTON, JAN. 1, 1894.

Every Reader an Agent.

READ THIS.

We are grateful that a goodly number have responded to our appeal in last paper and have paid their subscriptions to the EVANGELIST. Some friends have also sent in new subscriptions. We have forwarded those who have sent three new subscribers a set of the Christy Knives. Now, we wish to constitute every reader an agent, not by way of taking the place of our regular agents, whose assistance we value very much, but just to do a work which the agents cannot well do.

We find that many people will take the EVANGELIST if a little pressure is brought to bear upon them. Look around, friends, and see if there be not those within easy distance of your home who do not now take the EVANGELIST, and who, you think, would be benefited by reading it regularly. Go to them, explain the merits of the paper, and ask them to subscribe. You may find, as others have done, that all that is needed to secure their names is a little persuasion. One dollar during a whole year is not much to devote to a paper of the character of the EVANGELIST. Every family of Disciples in this country should have it, and many not Disciples would take it if properly canvassed.

We appeal to our friends. We depend upon them. With their aid and the blessing of God, this paper will prosper and do good. Send us at least one new subscriber this month.

The New Year.

How prone we are to moralize at this season on the flight of time and kindred topics! This number of the EVANGELIST bears witness to that in nearly every department. Now we look back, we look forward, we hope, we fear. We mourn because of the past, we resolve by God's help to do better in the future. We experience a feeling of relief that the end of another year has come, that we have reached the point at which habit says we may turn over a new leaf, may close the book of 1893, and open that of 1894 with its fair, clean pages. What has 1893 been to us? What has there been in our history—our individual history—that has been of unusual moment to us? What have we done, what have we said, yea, what have we thought? It has left an indelible impress upon our beings? Ah! friend, all our acts, and words, and thoughts have contributed towards the sum of character that we have added to our previous stock during the year just closed. And what is the outcome? Better or worse? A year of life, but have we advanced or retrograded spiritually? As the Great Weighmaster weighs us in His balances, are we found wanting? Or can we thankfully hope that He notes some nearer approach in us to the likeness of His Son?

What a year 1893 has been? What turmoil and unrest among the nations, some wars, but more rumors of wars! Great statesmen wrestling with great problems that seemingly will not be solved; the great masses of men who think at all marvelling why things are thus, and longing for the better day when human life will not be so burdensome, when human hearts will love more than they hate. Our neighbors in the United States have had a most trying year. Very perplexing to her public men, very hard on many of the common people. For it has come to pass even in that great country of boundless resources that thousands, yea, hundreds of thousands of honest, industrious men cannot get work. And not having money laid up for such a prolonged period of depression, they enforce must ask and accept bread for their families in a way that is always humiliating to a man of spirit.

Who shall solve this great industrial problem? Where is the wise man who can show how the masses of humanity may enjoy God's bountiful provision for man upon the earth? Bread, bread, everywhere, but not a bite to eat, thousands might almost say today.

Our own country suffers with the States, though as yet in a less degree. Humanly speaking, what we seem to need here in Canada most is a race of patriotic statesmen, men who care for the country more than for self and self. We have a great country. There is no reason why it should not be the home of a prosperous people. May the Lord deliver us from place-seekers, partisan politicians, and send us men, high-minded men. And may God help us all to make 1894 the best year of our lives.

What are the Five Points of Calvinism?

Rev. Mr. Tolmie (Presbyterian), late of Brantford, has removed to Windsor. On Dec. 24th he preached a sermon, an extract from which we find in the *Toronto Globe*, as follows:

"Yesterday morning Mr. Tolmie took for his text, 'The power of the Pulpit,' and defined what he considered a preacher should be. The aim of the preacher should be to bring the pulpit and pew together. This can never be done by prosy sermons. Taking up the subject of the congregation, he said that he did not intend to all the time talk brimstone to them. 'I have no use for the man,' said Mr. Tolmie, 'who wants to go to heaven because of fear of hell. I would like to ask those present why are they Presbyterians, and I venture to say not even three of the elders can recite the five rules of Calvinism. The great trouble is, too many are Presbyterians because their parents were. Why, they do not know.'"

As the bulk of our readers are probably like the Windsor Presbyterian elders, we shall set down here the five points of Calvinism: Predestination, particular redemption, total depravity, effectual calling and the certain perseverance of the saints. It is rather hard on Mr. Tolmie's predecessor in Windsor (from the Presbyterian standpoint), if not even the elders are well up in the doctrine of the church. That is not as it used to be. Time was when the little children had to know those five points, and more, too. A change has come over Presbyterianism, as even a superficial observer may note. If Mr. Tolmie should undertake to indoctrinate his congregation in the five points of Calvinism, what would happen? Why, he would stampede his congregation. Very few Presbyterian churches would endure the old-fashioned Calvinistic theology. The popular impression is that Calvinism has about died out in the Presbyterian churches in Canada.

Mr. Tolmie says, "The great trouble is too many are Presbyterians because their parents were." It is not a very bold assertion to say that if they did not become Presbyterians for that reason, they would not become Presbyterians at all. If Mr. Tolmie thinks otherwise, let him try to make a few disciples of John Calvin in Windsor.

Just experiment a little, friends, for yourselves. Ask your Presbyterian neighbor whether he believes that, "By the decree of God, for the manifestation of His glory, some men and angels are predestinated unto everlasting life, and others fore ordained to everlasting death." If he is a big man, keep a respectful distance from him when you are putting the question, for he might knock you down on the impulse of the moment for suggesting that he might possibly believe that horrid doctrine. No, Mr. Tolmie, you cannot revive an interest in the five points of Calvinism in Ontario, not even in the minds of your elders. Try your hand at the gospel as preached by Peter on the day of Pentecost.

"The Wife of Fairbank."

Whenever anything is done in church or state, it is done in some way, and whenever there are two or more ways of doing a given thing, if a number of people have a voice in the matter, there is the possibility if not the probability, of a difference of opinion, and when there is a difference of opinion there is the probability of ill feeling being aroused, and when ill feeling is aroused, the number of evil possibilities is manifold. "The Wife of Fairbank on Kirks and Ministers," suggests these reflections as applicable to the employment of preachers by churches.

When a church decides to engage a preacher, a number of points may have to be considered. There may be several known available men for the place, and each of these may be the choice of different sections of the congregation. It is neither desirable nor possible to lay down rules for the guidance of a congregation in such a case. But here is one rule that should always be kept in mind (1 Cor. xvi; 14): "Let all your things be done with charity," or still better, as the Revised Version has it, "Let all that you do be done in love." May we not say that this rule would almost suffice of itself? To it might be added (Rom. xii: 16): "Be not wise in your conceits," and ver. 17, "Take thought for things honorable in the sight of all men." Now, these scriptural precepts being carefully followed, the matter of engaging a preacher can be managed without causing trouble, and engendering bitterness, that may curse the church for years. It is not some highly wrought system that is needed for the carrying on of church work, but that the members of the church should exercise their wits and common sense in a Christian way, and under the guidance of New Testament principles of honesty and love.

Our Omnibus.

1894.

We wish all our readers a Happy New Year.

We direct attention to the change in our offer of the Christy knives.

"Fair play is a jewel," so thinks the Methodist friend from London, whose letter appears in another column.

"Jimmie State," just to hand and, as the paper is filled up, must wait till next number, boys and girls.

How have you voted to-day, brother? Have you given the legalized liquor traffic a good, hard knock?

Our selections will be found interesting. Do not skip the long piece about the conference of Presbyterian ministers in Cleveland.

The *Michigan Disciple* is henceforth to be issued from Ann Arbor, and to be edited by Prof. H. L. Willett. We wish it abundant success.

We pay a good deal of attention to our Baptist friends in this number. We want to keep our brethren posted as to what is going on among that people.

We have decided to make a standing offer, for some time, of a copy of the Revised Version of the New Testament, which sells at 25 cents, for one new subscriber to the EVANGELIST.

Bro. R. Moffett passed through Hamilton, Dec. 25th, on his way home to spend a few days. He was looking well. He expects to be in Alymer, Jan. 7th.

A living, loving, lasting word,
My listening soul believing, heard
While bending down in prayer,
Like a sweet breeze that none can stay,
It passed my soul upon its way,
And left a blessing there.

We join very heartily in congratulations to President Loos, of Kentucky University, upon the fact that he has celebrated his seventieth birthday. We are happy to learn that he is well, happy and hopeful as usual. He is one of the grand old men.

The avaricious man says, "He that grows rich is wise."

The ambitious man says, "He that grows famous is wise."

The literary man says, "He that gains knowledge is wise."

But God says, "He that winneth souls is wise."—*Central Baptist*.

Immediately after our last announcement of Bro. Johnson's condition he seemed to have a relapse, which alarmed his physician, but at this writing he has rallied again, and seems to be once more hopefully improving. He is making a gallant fight with disease and weakness, and we are sure he has the sympathy and prayers of all our readers. He is receiving all that medical skill and tender nursing can do for the sick, and we are hopeful of the result.

The above information is from the *Christian Evangelist*, Dec. 28th. We trust brother Johnson will soon be entirely well. He is one of the men we feel we cannot spare yet awhile.

Church News.

GRAND VALLEY, Dec. 25th.—Doubtless many of the readers of the CANADIAN EVANGELIST will be surprised to learn that the writer of this brief article has returned to Canada, the Land of the Brave. Have engaged for a year with the Church of Christ at Grand Valley and Marsville, delivering my introductory sermon last Sunday to good and attentive audiences, notwithstanding it rained hard all day. The audience at the latter place was not so large, owing to the rain and bad roads. Received a hearty welcome at each place. The brethren here are going to work, heart and hand, for Christ. "Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified, even as it is with you."

D. STEWART.

SMITHFIELD, OHIO.—Bro. W. G. Charlton is holding a protracted meeting at this point. There were three added by confession and baptism when we heard from him.

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE.—One more confession at International Bridge since last report. Large audiences and

splendid attention. I think there is no other church in the province, considering all things, that can show the growth of this church. The little band has been blessed from the beginning with consecrated men and women.

R. BENTLEY RAY.

GUELPH.—The meetings in Guelph, conducted by Bro. R. Moffett, were so successful, and the future prospects are so bright, that the congregation has again invited the pastor, Geo. Fowler, to remain at least a few months longer.
J. P. REED.

RIDGETOWN and BLENHEIM, Dec. 21st.—You will please change my address from West Lorne to Ridgetown. Am engaged here and at Blenheim for this year; began my labors at these points Dec. 15. At my last discourse in Rodney one noble young man made the good confession and was baptized the following Wednesday evening.
R. M. AINSWORTH.

GEORGETOWN.—The Disciples held their Sunday school entertainment last Friday evening. The weather was unfavorable and yet the attendance was fair. The programme was given by the children, with the exception of a well rendered duet by Mr. and Mrs. Stephens. Santa Claus was present and gave all in attendance, big and little, a treat of candies, oranges, etc. Mr. D. McKechnie acted as chairman.—*Georgetown Herald*.

HAMILTON.—Lord's day, Dec. 24th, was a high day for us in Hamilton, albeit the weather was unpropitious. We had Prof. Everman to sing for us at both services, and Bro. John Munro to preach for us in the morning, and we had a baptism in the evening. The S. S. social on Thursday evening, Dec. 28th, was counted a great success, the best, it is said, that our people have had here.

BOMANVILLE.—On last Sunday night the Disciples' church was filled to hear the discourse upon King Agrippa's response to Paul's searching sermon, as recorded in Acts xxvi, 28: "Then Agrippa said unto Paul, almost thou persuaded me to be a Christian." A historical account was given of Agrippa, as well as the family from which he sprang, and all the circumstances under which these impressive words were uttered. Paul's audience was one of the most brilliant. Agrippa and Bernice, with great pomp, the chief captains and principal men of the city, "besides Festus," and most likely his court. Paul did not lose his head or refrain from preaching the plain gospel. The question must have flashed upon Paul's mind, as he made hasty preparations to appear before that splendid audience, the bare possibility of winning a Herod over to the cause of Christ. The following points were observed, (1) What is it to be a Christian? (2) What was necessary for Agrippa to do, in order to become a Christian? (3) What is it to be almost persuaded to be a Christian? (4) The importance of being altogether a Christian. The sermon was very impressive, and then, at the conclusion of it, the large audience was privileged to witness an immersion. The Disciple church is adding to its membership almost weekly under the preaching of their new pastor.—*West Durham News*.

An Enjoyable Anniversary.

LONDON.—A very enjoyable time was spent at the Elizabeth St. Christian Church last evening, the occasion being the Sunday school anniversary and a Christmas entertainment by the scholars. Supper was served in the lecture room of the church at 6 o'clock, when the children, numbering over 120, sat around the tables, and, as is always the case in such circumstances, enjoyed to the utmost the good things provided for them. Those present then adjourned to the church building. After the opening hymn, "All hail the power