

see the *Eclectic Commentary* we transcribe the entire paragraph here:—

The great central truth of this lesson is the promise by Jesus of the gift of the Holy Spirit, under the figure of the water of life. The gloss of the evangelist himself at this point, explaining his meaning, is of immense value. It surely presents the gift of the Holy Spirit as more than the communication of teaching in words, and its enjoyment as more than the remembrance of these, however loving and tender. If the reply is, "True, but this special gift is only for those of that age, and carried necessarily miraculous power, we must not look for it now;" we answer that it is to be looked for by all who believe on Him, as much as eternal life itself. The reasoning that would limit the one to the first age must limit the other to be consistent, and this is evidently absurd. Moreover, while miracles were often wrought by those who had the Holy Spirit, nowhere is this ability pronounced inseparable from the gift. We plant ourselves on "which they that believed on Him were to receive."

There is a whole volume in that paragraph, and if any reader feels like taking issue with it we recommend him to carefully review the question with the New Testament in his hand.

The discussion of the Revision of the Westminster Confession of Faith is being revived in the United States sooner than was expected. The subjoined note is from the *Presbyterian Review*:—

The subject of Revision is again to the front in the Northern church. Renewed interest in the great question has been aroused by Prof. Warfield's criticism of the Committee's Report in the last issue of *The Presbyterian and Reformed Review* and Prof. Morris' reply thereto in his pamphlet, "A Friendly Talk About Revision," in which he earnestly dissects from both the substance and the spirit of Dr. Warfield's paper. Add to this, Dr. W. C. Roberts, the Stated Clerk, is out with a long circular letter in which he communicates to the church the important information that the Report was prepared as the final report of the Committee, but, just at the close of the last session at Washington, a number of important considerations were urged in favor of making it a report of progress, with the request to send it down to the Presbyteries for consideration, criticism and amendments. He also gives the information that the Report was acceptable to only two-thirds of the Committee. We begin now to understand why Principal Patton at the Detroit Assembly advised the Presbyteries to "tear the report to pieces" if they were not satisfied with it. The religious papers are girding on their armor, and interest in Revision promises soon to surpass interest in the Briggs case.

It will be an exciting contest. It is doubtful if the Northern Presbyterian church will come out of it whole.

Co-operation Notes.

We have already heard from a number of Sunday schools that took up collections for Home Missions September 6th, but none are ready to send a full statement of the amount contributed; awaiting the return of all the envelopes distributed.

It seems likely that the schools heard from will give twice as much this year as last. It is to be hoped that other schools will do likewise, for the work is enlarging on our hands rapidly and the demands upon the treasury increasing correspondingly.

Once more let us say, if our friends can pay their subscriptions now they will be very acceptable.

GEO. MUNRO, Cor. Sec.

On the west coast of Africa, embracing Sierra Leone, there are 60,000 Christians. Missionary labors began there in 1816.

Church News.

TORONTO JUNCTION.—Two additions since last report.

OWEN SOUND.—There have been five additions by baptism to the church here recently.

ORANOVILLE.—The Disciples of Christ are in future to meet in the Templars' Hall at 3 o'clock on Sunday afternoon.—*Oranoville cor. Hillsbury Reaver.*

WEST LAKE.—Interesting special services are being held at West Lake by Bro. A. C. Gray. Tozo Ohuo has been rusticated at West Lake and delivering a few addresses.

MIMOSA.—Bro. Robert Stewart is home from Vaughan. He spoke at Mimosa, Sept. 6th. We understand Bro. Stewart has resumed his studies at Guelph Collegiate Institute.

home or to of whom as much as A church early fifty yet God, would

TORONTO.—On Lord's day, Sept. 6th, Bro. Baker, of Everton, preached in the church on Cecil St., morning and evening, and on the 13th Bro. Lediard of Owen Sound. The Young People held their first meeting, after the summer holidays, on the 6th inst. at 10 o'clock a.m. A goodly number was present and took part.

RIDGEMOUNT, Sept. 7th.—Bro. Hugh McDiarmid was with us Aug. 31st. He gave us two excellent discourses. In the evening two came forward and made the good confession and have since been baptized. We all regret Bro. McDiarmid's short stay, feeling, as we do, that if he could have remained with us for a few weeks much good would have been the result. Our morning meetings are well attended.

H. BROWN.

WILKINSON, Sept. 7th, 1891.—One good sister confessed Jesus as Lord and was immersed Aug. 26th. Three others have been received by letter. We have been cheered and helped by the presence and words of many visiting brethren during the holiday season. Sister Brown cheered church and town, and Bro. J. Munro and others rendered valuable assistance in our prayer meetings. The church is active and the S. S. vigorous.

A. T.

By The Way.

MOSSA.—Bro. J. D. Moore spoke for the church here one Lord's day in July, and the writer one day in August. The church is composed of some twenty or more families scattered over a considerable territory. The people are more noble here than in some places, in that they do not neglect the assembling of themselves together. They are willing to support an earnest worker—one who will naturally care for them. If there was a worker in this field who would speak in the morning at the meeting-house, which is three miles from Alvinston, and in the evening in the town, and would work faithfully from house to house during the week, much good would be done.

STRANNOV is about midway between Mossa and Lobo churches. There are a few Disciples in this town who should be encouraged to start work. It would do Mossa and Lobo both good if they would join hands in establishing the cause in this important town.

APRIN.—The church at this place has not been meeting regularly of late. There are now very few Disciples near the place. Bro. J. D. Moore spoke for them twice during the summer. Bro. Wm. Black and his family comprise the most of those who now remain. Bro. Black is very active for a man over eighty years of age, but is now very sorrowful, having been called upon this year to mourn the death of his beloved wife and eldest daughter. May the Lord comfort his last days.

CHATHAM.—There are seven or more families in this town who should be encouraged to start work here. They are well able and some are very anxious to have something done. Now that Blenheim is doing such grand work it may not be long before Chatham will do likewise.

WINDSOR.—The few brethren here should be encouraged to buy a good lot for future use in this growing city. Property is bound to advance in value here. Spy out the land and buy while property is cheap. The Detroit people are able and seem willing to assist in establishing the cause on this side of the river.

BLENHIM.—This is one of the places where young men are doing a grand work. It did my heart good to go home and see how much has been done there the last few months. To see large audiences morning and evening and a Sunday school of one hundred scholars instead of a small meeting once a day is a proof of what diligent, earnest, persistent work will accomplish. Bros. Stewart and Weaver are in the midst of a very successful series of meetings. Thus far seventeen have been added. The young men and the church are working hard, and the Lord is blessing them abundantly. Bro. Stewart will remain in Blenheim. He is finding the field white to harvest. Bro. Weaver has already proved himself a workman that needs not to be ashamed, and that church is happy which is fortunate enough to secure his services. Don't discount a man because he is young, but receive him for his work's sake. Whatever church receives his services will be able to rejoice that they are strengthened, increased and built up in every way at the end of his labors—they will consider him a laborer worthy of his hire, and one who will naturally care for them. The future of the work in this country depends on the encouragement the churches give the young men. Don't compel one of our young men to seek work in the States. If any of them go to the States it is because the churches here have not done their duty. The boys are willing to make sacrifices to stay here. Any church that is living at a dying rate had better wake up before it has slept its life away for ever. Bro. Hugh McDiarmid gave us an excellent sermon one night. The meetings are continuing with increased interest.

ALDRON.—As announced, Bro. Kesser was with the church on 30th August at their annual meeting. There were meetings Saturday evening, Lord's day, morning and evening, and Monday morning. The day was dull in the morning, but in the evening the weather was fine and there was a crowded house. There were very few from a distance this year compared with past years. Bro. Ash was not able to be out on Lord's day, but was there and spoke Monday morning. The brethren here, without exception, are very hospitable, and those who fail to attend this annual gathering miss a great treat, both for their spiritual and natural man. May these meetings

get better and more helpful from year to year.

Bro. J. D. Stephens was with the brethren here for a few weeks. All were well pleased with him. The more they heard him and the more they were impressed with his earnestness and zeal. These are the men that are wanted—men who will leave the church better than when they came. Would that there were a hundred like him going about doing good.

On Lord's day, Sept. 6, the writer spoke at Rodney in the morning, West Lorne in the afternoon, and at Eagle in the evening. These churches here have been without regular preaching since Bro. Baker left. There is plenty of work in this field for a faithful, hard-working man.

Many people in this part of the country are well acquainted with Squire Munro, who is upwards of ninety years of age. It was a great pleasure to me to have a short visit with him, and have him express his delight with the good news THE EVANGELIST brought him. He thinks that everyone who likes the spirit of the New Testament should like THE EVANGELIST. He is sorry he is not younger so that he could be instrumental in giving it a wide circulation. He understands that a good, live paper will do a great deal for our people in this country. If all the Disciples in Canada realized this as they should, we could soon have a weekly paper. Every one can help in this good work.

D. MUNRO.

Detroit Convention.

As announced in THE EVANGELIST the Michigan Disciples held their annual convention in Detroit, from Aug. 20 to 23. It was a grand meeting. Every one was more than pleased with it. There were 160 delegates and visitors present. The Detroit people were exceptionally kind. You would almost believe that some of them must have moved from Canada. Ample provision was made for lodging and feeding every one. No one who was at this meeting can ever forget the hospitality of the Detroit people, or the Christian fellowship enjoyed with the Michigan Disciples.

It was a great pleasure to meet here a number of prominent brethren from other States. Of these we would mention Chas. L. Loos, President of Kentucky University; E. V. Zollars, President of Hiram College; H. S. Earl, late of Liverpool, England; W. F. Richardson, of Allegheny City, Pa., formerly of Grand Rapids, Mich.; J. H. Garrison, of St. Louis, Mo., editor of the *Christian Evangelist*; F. M. Kirkman, editor of the *Christian Oracle*, Chicago; A. M. Harvont, of Greensburg, Pa., agent for Bethany College; W. B. Thompson, the former minister, and J. B. Johnson, the present minister, in Detroit, contributed largely to the success of the Convention. They are both workers and know how.

There are 5,500 Disciples in Michigan in 84 congregations, with between 40 and 50 ministers. Now that they have new houses at Ann Arbor and Detroit, and nearly every congregation in sympathy with the State work, it may be expected that the membership will increase very rapidly in the future. H. N. Allen, State Evangelist, gave a very encouraging report of the work. This year along with his other work he has edited the *Michigan Disciple* in the interests of the mission work. Every one was requested to assist in circulating this paper. For the present year this paper will be conducted by W. J. Russell, of Grand Rapids. One year

has proved to them the benefit of a paper devoted to their work.

If they consider it desirable to conduct a paper at an expense, should the Canadians be careless about encouraging a good paper devoted to the interests of the work in this country?

During the sessions business was the order of the day. No department of work was allowed to monopolize the time to the neglect of other interests. Considerable time was given to the consideration of the different fields, not like our convention this year rush it all through in one or two hours when many people had gone home. If there is anything that people don't know, and should know and must know before they will be interested in the work as they should, it is the condition of the work in every congregation. The strength and weakness of every field should be known. I am persuaded Michigan will give this more consideration next year, and Ontario should.

The question of keeping an evangelist in the field came up. President Loos made an excellent remark on the question, urging them to keep one going about among the churches continually; be Apostolic, never think of dispensing with him. How would it do for Ontario to think about this?

There never was a better feeling existing between the two congregations in Detroit, and now that they both have new houses free from debt they are in a splendid position to open up new points in the city. It would be delightful if they would assist the few brethren in Windsor to start work there.

D. MUNRO.

In the Samcan group, after fifty-five years of missionary work, 60,000 children are in Christian schools.