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66 AND 68 FRONT ST. W.

"MY TIMES ARE IN THY HAND."

I know not care

If days be dark or fair,

If the sweet summer brings delight,

Or bitter winter chills the air.

No thought of mine

Can penetrate the deep design

That forms afar, through "days and moons,"

The purple clusters of the vine.

I do not know

The subtle secret of the snow,

That hides away the violets

Till April teaches them to know.

Enough for me

Their tender loveliness to see,

Assured that little things and large

Fulfill God's purpose equally

Add this to me,

With other gifts so free—

That I may never turn my face

In any evil hour from thee;

Nor on the sand

Of shifting faith and feeling stand;

But wake and sleep with equal trust,

Knowing my times are in thy hand.

—Selected

LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the

Lord's Day Alliance of the Dominion

of Canada met in the City Hall, Ottawa,

Friday evening, March 22nd. The

President Hon G.W. Allan, Speaker of

the Senate occupied the chair, and

amongst those present were, Rev. Dr.

Armstrong (Secretary), Archdeacon

Lauder, Rev. Messrs. Pollard, Wood,

Herridge, White, Egan, Short (Wal-

terton), Nichols and Scanlon (Mont-

real), Senators Hon. Messrs. Vidal, J.

Macdonald, Work, McKay, Stevens,

John Charlton, M.P., Prof. Weldon

Q.C., M.P., J. Armstrong, M.P., J. Free-

man, M.P., Dr. Thorburn, Dr. Janson,

Messrs. J. McMillan, P. Armonth and

J. Hardie and a number of ladies.

Rev. H. Pollard opened with prayer,

after which the minutes were read

by the Secretary, Dr. Armstrong.

Letters had been received from Rev.

Dr. Parsons, Toronto, Rev. George

Bruce, St. Johns, Rev. Thomas Cum-

ings, Truro; Rev. A. P. McDiarmid,

Dr. Christie, Lachute; Thompson, Van

cover, and others regretting their in-

ability to be present and take part in

the Alliance

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The President opened the meeting

with a short address. He stated that

the Alliance had been formed for the

purpose of vigorously fighting against

the desecration of the Sabbath and

more especially to promote the stopping

of work on Sunday or railways, canals,

on the postal service, on public works

generally over which the Government

has control, and of Sunday labour of

all kinds throughout the Dominion.

They did not, however, propose to make

a cast-iron rule. The secretary had

issued circulars to all the different

railway companies with regard to the

minimizing of Sunday traffic on their

roads, to which only two companies

had responded. He was glad to say that

the C.P.R. was one. The Alliance

at the doors of the U.S. Senate for a

Sunday Rest Bill. Dr. Armstrong also

reported on behalf of the Committee

on the Constitution and moved:

"That the name of the Alliance be

the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada."

"Object—To protect and preserve

the observance of the Lord's Day."

"Basis—The basis of this Alliance

is the Divine authority and the univer-

sally and perpetual obligation of the

Sabbath, as ordained by God at the

creation of the world, enjoined in the

Fourth Commandment of the Moral

Law, and continued and maintained

by the Church of God to the present

day, and as essential to the best phys-

ical, intellectual, moral and social wel-

fare of mankind."

The resolution was seconded by

the Rev. Mr. Short of Walkerton, the

representative of the diocese of Huron,

who thought that great good would

come of this Alliance, the establishment

of which could hardly fail to promote

in the Dominion a more fitting observance

of the Lord's Day, to the comfort and

welfare of the people, than at present

exists

LEGISLATION.

Mr. Charlton, M.P., reported on behalf

of the Legal Committee. He discussed

at length the legal aspects of the

question, pointed out the difficulties

that had to be surmounted, explained

the difference between Dominion and Pro-

vincial legislation. He declared it to

be his opinion, and that of the Com-

mittee, that Dominion legislation in

some important directions could be

constitutionally obtained.—He moved—

"Resolved, That in the opinion of

this meeting the Parliament of Canada

is competent to enact laws to secure

the better observance of the Lord's

Day. Section 91, subsection 27, of

the British North American Act, em-

powers the Parliament of Canada to

enact criminal laws. Parliament can

therefore clearly bring Lord's Day

legislation within the scope of this

subsection, by making breaches of law,

in such matters, misdemeanors."

"We are further of the opinion that

the power to make the laws for the

peace, order and good government of

Canada, includes the power to secure

the due observance of the Lord's Day

by proper legislation.

"We are also of the opinion that

legislation securing the better observ-

ance of the Lord's Day in matters per-

taining to general railway traffic, the

management of the postal service, and

the management of the railways and

canals belonging to the Dominion, is in

the highest sense necessary for pro-

moting peace, order and good govern-

ment in the Dominion of Canada."

Prof. Weldon, Q.C., M.P., of Albert,

seconded this motion. He said he

would gladly join hands with Mr.

Charlton in drafting a bill to be

presented at next session of Parliament.

Rev. Messrs. Nichols and Scanlon,

of Montreal, then addressed the meet-

ing, presenting resolutions from the

Montreal Ministerial Association which

gave its cordial support to the Alliance.

PETITION COMMITTEE.

Rev. Dr. Armstrong said the Alliance

must be extremely gratified at the

finding of the committee. The work

of the Alliance now was to have peti-

tions in favour of such a Bill sent in from

all parts of the Dominion.

A committee consisting of Rev. John

with the aims of the Alliance. It was

agreed to ask the cooperation of

Bishop Duhamel in furthering the ob-

ject aimed at, the better observance of

the Lord's Day.

An executive committee was appoint-

ed to meet to discuss the financial

aspects of the Alliance. Thanks were

given to the Mayor and corporation for

the use of the city hall, and the meet-

ing adjourned.

MISSION WORK.

SHALL WE SEND DELEGATES?

The following extract from an address

given at an annual Presbyterian meet-

ing in one of the neighbouring States,

will be of interest to the ladies of our

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society,

in view of the approaching annual

meeting, to be held in St. James Square

church, Toronto, on April 9th and

10th.—

Should Auxiliary and Presbyterial

Societies send delegates and betray

their expenses to all important meet-

ings, and should such societies bear

the official expenses of their officers in

the way of correspondence, etc., inci-

dent to their position?

The question naturally falls into two

divisions—a question of expenses and

one of delegates. I should answer the

question of expenses with an unquali-

fied Yes.

But, says one, "Our society is so small

and we are so poor, if we should pay

the expenses of a delegate, and submit

to a Presbyterial tax, we should have

no money left for Missions."

This might prove to be the best con-

tribution that you ever made to Mis-

sions.

The greater the fame, the greater

necessity that the sisters should be sent

down to Egypt to buy corn, and if at

the same time you can send "a little

present of balm and honey and spices,"

it will be well received and may prove

a highway to the land of Goshen.

In our large, well-to-do societies

there are those who are able, and who

indeed prefer to pay their own expenses.

To these I would suggest that in order

that all the members should feel alike

in their support of the cause, it would

be a kind and beautiful thing for such

members, when elected delegates or

officers, to draw their expenses from

the general fund, and make their con-

tribution in some other way. But, secondly

—Why send delegates? Trades, pro-

fessions, politics, art, science, to ensure

life and progress, must encourage study

and experiment, and make frequent

interchange of experiences and results.

Hence the political campaign, medical,

musical, literary and scientific associa-

tions, from the most unpretending vil-

lage club, to the Royal Society of Lon-

don or Paris.

Missionary interest is no exception to

this general rule.

These meetings stimulate and supply

our first great want—Knowledge.—In

formation.

Of that part of the work of Foreign

Missions which has come so wonder-

fully and so exclusively to woman, in

the last twenty years, that no Christian

woman dare shut her heart to the call

—how much there is to learn—of

its fields, its subjects, their wants, the

supply, our investments and the re-

turns, our trusts, and corresponding

obligations, best ways of eliciting and

continuing interest.

We need an intelligent faith. Twenty

years ago the Mission fields of the

world and of our Presbyterial Church

were as much a terra incognita to most

of our women, as was the interior of

Africa before we had a Livingstone or a

Stanley.

But will not missionary literature

meet all these demands?

The confession of a minister's bright,

cultured wife that she never thought of

opening the "little green-covered book"

that came monthly to her husband's

study table—the old-time Foreign Mis-

sionary—was not a solitary exception.

Our Sabbath-school children of ten

years, know more of our missions and

missionaries, than did their mothers a

few years ago.

This great missionary awakening is

largely due to meetings where devoted

leaders from various parts of our land,

and missionaries from the field, have

brought to masses of women the results

of patient research, untiring effort, lov-

ing devotion, ripe experience. We

cannot afford to lose the benefit of

these Training Schools, where as Mrs.

Willing so admirably puts it—"100,000

women are monthly bringing the best

products of their brains, where 36,000

women are learning to preside, to keep

Secretaries' books, and Treasurers' ac-

counts, and where all are learning to

collect and judiciously expend several

million dollars annually."

Who can estimate the possibilities

of a meeting of one of our Woman's

Societies!

What our Methodist sisters call

"sound conversions" often occur.

Send the sister whose horizon needs

broadening—who does not believe in

Foreign Missions.

Send the timid, modest, shrinking

sister, so bright, active, efficient; so

quick to perceive, so clever to plan, so