

# SHAFTESBURY HALL

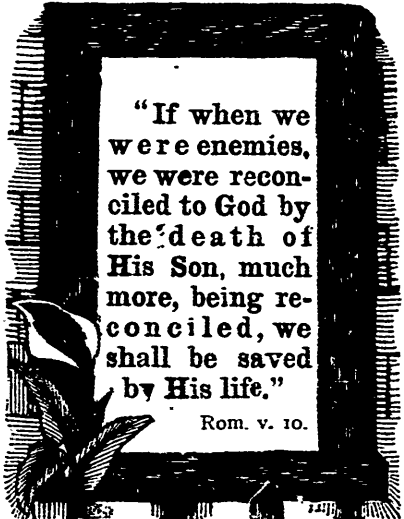
## WEEKLY BULLETIN.

PUBLISHED BY THE  
TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

VOL. II.

TORONTO, JANUARY 22, 1881.

No. 4.



"If when we  
were enemies,  
we were recon-  
ciled to God by  
the death of  
His Son, much  
more, being re-  
conciled, we  
shall be saved  
by His life."

Rom. v. 10.

### TOO BUSY TO LOOK HEAVEN- WARD.

**I**T is said that Henry IV., on one occasion, asked the Duke of Alva if he had noticed the eclipse that had recently occurred. He replied, "I have so much to do on earth that I have no time to look up to heaven." Alas! how large is the number of the persons who have so much to engage them on earth, in the form of possessions, stocks, bonds, business, pleasure, or evil works, that they have neither time nor disposition to concern themselves about heaven or the eternal destiny of the soul.

Opportunities are very sensitive things; if you slight them on their first visit, you seldom see them again.  
—Uncle Ezek's Wisdom: Scribner for September.

### "THE SHINGAKU PREACHERS OF JAPAN."

**S**UCH is the attractive title of the second lecture of our free course to be delivered next Tuesday evening in our parlor, by Rev. Geo. Cochrane. The lecturer's long residence in Japan, and the fact that he is a close observer of men and customs, leads us confidently to expect a most profitable and pleasing evening's entertainment. All are invited.

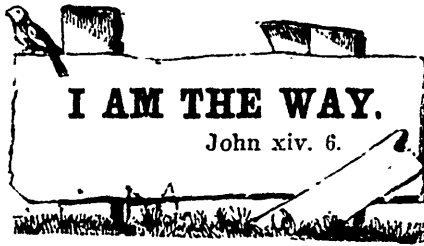
Mr. Spurgeon remarked, in a speech at the anniversary of the London Religious Tract Society, that he did not draw a line between the secular and the sacred. Would, he said, that every meal were a sacrament, every garment a vestment, every breath a prayer, and the whole of life a hallelujah!

### WORK vs. TALK.

**T**HE earth is now traversed by self-denying missionaries, who encounter every hardship to carry Christianity to remote regions. But where is the infidel who has exiled himself from his country to civilize savage tribes? Not one is to be found. They sit at home nursing their pride, and deriding the virtue they cannot equal.

"Whosoever will, let  
him drink of the Water  
of Life freely."

Rev. xxii. 17.



“THE PLACE OF RELIGION IN ASSOCIATIONS FOR YOUNG MEN.”

Extract from an Address by Rev. W.M. GUEST, at the Annual Meeting of the Y. M. C. A., Islington.

**I** HAVE come to a period of life when the mind gathers up the teaching of the past, and when the lessons learnt round themselves in a completed form. The one conviction which I desire emphatically to offer here is this: no voluntary organization for the intellectual or moral advantage of men will *abide* where *vital Christianity is not made the supreme, the ever-ascendant, and the all-controlling principle.*

I remember in my youth the flourishing Mechanics Institutes that then existed. Never was anything attempted under more favourable auspices. Never was there a movement originated with loftier expectations or with better intentions. A vast network of these Institutes spread all over the land. They were wonderfully popular. Where are they now? They have only here and there left a trace behind them. The scheme was *baseless*. It never attempted to introduce and maintain vital religion.

Since that time I have seen scores of local Young Men's Improvement Societies started with excellent purposes. Little by little the healthy salt of a purifying religion has been excluded, and from that time I have seen them melt away like snow in July.

I have known of Literary Associations in connexion with places of worship. They meant well, gradually, however, religion was put in the background. Entertainments became the chief object. Those who could best cater to such entertainments were brought to the front. The history of such Associations has been a two-fold beacon of warning. If they did not die out sud-

denly, they lingered to injure the Christian community with which they were connected.

I bear therefore this witness after more than thirty years of public life; that efforts to promote the moral elevation of men which set aside the influence and ascendancy of spiritual religion will disappoint their originators. The Young Men's Christian Associations of Great Britain and of three continents—those of Europe, America and Australia, *where Christianity has been strenuously maintained as the vital and ascendant element, are now among the MOST PERMANENT, FLOURISHING, and useful Associations* on the face of the globe. If in an evil hour the passion for amusement should enter these associations, *and the paramount control of religion, be set aside, they also* will be numbered among the well-meant but abortive schemes of the past. I care not how right a movement may appear, if, for the sake of swelling the numbers, you tempt into it men who do not themselves want to be right towards God, you will find that such men will strangle that movement. There is nothing more instructive in the life of the Lord Jesus than the manner in which He shook off from Him men who wished to live in the sunlight of His temporary popularity, but did not care to accept His teachings or to sympathize with His spirit.

I would also like to say this. The conception that everything connected with religion is necessarily dull, and everything connected with worldly entertainments is necessarily brilliant, is the most consummate and astounding misconception ever entertained. Mr. John Hullah said lately, at a meeting held in Westminster Deanery, that his visits to music halls had impressed him with these two facts: “The remarkably good behaviour of the people, and the astonishing, the stupendous, the incredible dullness of the entertainment.” So have many of us found when brought into connection with worldly enjoyments. Why, in the name of all reason, is religion to be called duller than this “astonishing, stupendous, and incredible dullness” of certain forms of worldliness? We repudiate the notion? It only proves the profound ignorance among men as to the rich enjoyment to be found in engagements that bring them into the sunlight of God's great love.



HE peace which Christ gives to His disciples is not a peace which comes of the disciples' surroundings; it is a result of nearness to Him who is the centre of the universe, and who is unmoved by surroundings. The Christian's peace is as great in times of storm as in times of calm, when the tempest of sorrow or of opposition rages on every side, then he who is one with Jesus realizes "the peace of God, which passeth all understanding."

## —OUR FREE— COURSE OF LECTURES

'AN EVENING WITH THE SHINGAKU PREACHERS  
OF JAPAN.'

BY

**REV. GEO. COCHRANE**

ON

TUESDAY, JAN. 25th, at 8 O'clock.

**ALL ARE INVITED.**

### Bulletin for Week Commencing January 24, 1881.

MONDAY.....	Jan. 24....	12.00	M.	THANKSGIVING & PRAISE MEETING. Ps. ciii. Rev. John Burton, B.D.
	"	8.00 P.M.		YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS. H. A. Bruton
TUESDAY.....	" 25....	12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. Suffering Joyfully for Christ. Acts v. 41; Matt. v. 11-12. Rev. R. Hewitt.
WEDNESDAY ..	" 26....	12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. A tried, precious, sure Foundation. Isa xxviii. 14 20. Rev. J. M. Cameron.
THURSDAY.....	" 27....	12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. For Colleges. Ps. cxix. 97-104. Rev. Dr. Rose.
FRIDAY . . . . .	" 28 ..	12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. A Faith Cure. Matt. viii. 26-40. Rev. H. M. Parsons.
		8.00 P.M.		BOYS' MEETING. Charles Edwards.
SATURDAY.....	" 29....	12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. Our Unerring Teacher. 1 John ii. 6. W. Marks.
		4.50 P.M.		TEACHER'S BIBLE CLASS. Hon. S. H. Blake
		8.00 P.M.		YOUNG MEN'S MEETING. Decision of Character. Dan, i. 8-21. J. O. Anderson
SUNDAY.....	" 30....	9.30 A.M.		WORKER'S MEETING FOR PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY.
		3.00 P.M.		EVANGELISTIC BIBLE CLASS. S. R. Briggs
		8.30 P.M.		GOSPEL & SONG SERVICE. S. R. Briggs.

Requests for prayer may be addressed to the Secretary.

### RAILROAD MEETINGS.

SUNDAY, Jan. 30, 3.00 P.M.—At Union Station.—HON. JOHN McMURRICH and REV. R. A. BILKEY.

At Nipissing Station.—Messrs. JAS. GREENE, and A. MUNRO.

COTTAGE MEETINGS are also held every MONDAY 8 P.M.—11 Monck Street, THURSDAY 8 P.M.—6 Trefann St.

### FREE CLASSES.

ELOCUTION.....	MR. R. LEWIS.....	MONDAY, 8 P.M.
PHONOGRAPHY.....	MR. R. McNAB... }	MONDAY and SATURDAY. 6.45 P.M.
BOOKKEEPING.....	MR. McINTYRE.....	TUESDAY, 8 P.M.
DRAWING.....	MR. H. B. GORDON.....	FRIDAY, 8 P.M.
GYMNASIUM (for Young Men).....	.....	MONDAY and THURSDAY, 8 P.M., SATURDAY, 4 to 6 P.M.
GYMNASIUM (for Boys).....	MR. BRUTON... ..	MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY 4.30 to 6 P.M.

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