

# First Church Endeavorer.

"FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH."

VOL. II.

HAMILTON, ONTARIO, MARCH, 1892.

No. 8

## First Church Endeavorer.

A JOURNAL devoted to all Departments of  
Church Work.

PUBLISHED BY THE

Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION 25 CENTS PER ANNUM.

Address all communications to 45 Wellington Street  
North, not later than the first of each month.

THOMAS MORRIS, Jr. - - Editor-in-Chief.  
CHARLOTTE KERRUISH, - - } Asst. Editors.  
JENNIE HARVEY, - - - }  
FRANCES NICHOLS, - - - Proof-Reader.  
ALLAN DAVIS, - - - Business Manager.

## LIFE'S SEASONS.

The Seasons of the year—

They come and go with varying tread;  
Their joys so quickly from us fled,  
We drop for each a tear.

A child with careless glee,  
Singing her songs with sunny, happy face,  
Trying in vain her shadow to outrace,  
And failing laughingly.

Rich in her beauty fair,  
A maiden with dark-fringed eyes,  
Hearing in shy and sweet surprise  
Love's old, old story rare.

As seeing now once more,  
The old time, happy, blissful days,  
A mother in her children's joys and plays,  
Her youth again lives o'er.

Toward her setting sun  
An aged woman's footsteps tend,  
Her journey almost at an end,  
Life's sands are almost run.

The Seasons of the year  
Are likened to each stage of life,  
With all its cares and sorrows rife,  
Its happiness and fear.—J. H.

## LIFE ON THE PRAIRIE.

THOMAS MORRIS, JR.

*Extracts from my Diary.*

May 20th, 1881: eleven o'clock p. m.  
Camp on the bank of Scratching River.  
After leaving our kind hearted French acquaintances, we travelled about twenty-five miles, taking eight hours to cover the distance. We feel thankful that we are as far on our way as we are. Our old horse is completely fagged out. I think I never travelled behind such a mean nag. It was only by constantly urging him forward with whip and voice that we could make any headway. The scenery along the trail is magnificent—now winding in and out among the oak trees and hazel scrub, now skirting the muddy swift current of the Red River, which reveals itself at every bend, ever and anon traversing a poplar bush, while occasionally one reaches a clear open space and gets a glimpse of the flat, limitless prairie beyond stretching away to the horizon. We forded successfully many streams and coulees along the way, and now we are settled for the night. We have our tent snugly fastened up, our horse staked near by, our revolvers loaded and placed under our pillows, and we are about to read a chapter in the Bible and commend ourselves to the care of our Heavenly Father—

Who sees with equal eye, as God of all,  
A hero perish, or a sparrow fall,  
Atoms or systems into ruin hurl'd,  
And now a bubble burst, and now a world.

Sunday, May 22nd: Camp twenty miles south-west of the town of Morris.

Saturday morning we arose at four o'clock, and as we stuck our heads out of the tent were greatly surprised to find that the supposed Scratching River was nothing more than a wide coulee. An immense number of ducks were within gun shot, but, as we were in a hurry, we did not try a crack at them. We had a simple porridge breakfast, and were ready to start, when we heard a church bell ringing violently in the town of Morris, just ahead of us, and we could plainly see

the cause, for flames were bursting forth and licking up one of the town's finest buildings. We entered the coulee boldly, near where we had camped. The water came up to the axles of the buckboard, then above the sides of the box which contained our provisions and blankets. We hastily piled as much as we could on the seat and climbed up on top, but the water rose higher and higher; we were now standing on top of the seat while the horse appeared to be swimming, nothing being seen of him but his head and a portion of his neck. We were beginning to think that it would be necessary to let everything go and swim to save our lives, when the horse seemed to touch bottom again, and the water did not come up any higher, but rather seemed to recede. Soon the horse began to ascend, and we emerged little the worse, except for a wetting, and the loss of a portion of our provisions.

Four miles south of the coulee we crossed the real Scratching River by means of a bridge, and entered the town of Morris. We saw the smoking ruins of one of the town's best hotels. The town looked progressive. There were several good general stores, three hotels, four churches, a lumber-mill, a large white brick school house and county buildings. We came westward ten miles to the Lowe Farm, passing through six miles of water and marsh. We found the farm a bee-hive of industry. About twenty-five men were at work; some were seeding, some were plowing, some were threshing. I was much interested in the steam plow, invented by the manager, Wm. Stevenson, which seemed to me the most complete machine that I had ever seen. It consisted of a traction engine built upon a carriage with immense wheels; the tender was not large, since it did not seem necessary to carry much fuel. Hitched on behind the tender were ten plows, and as the engine propelled the wheels the plows followed, turning over ten furrows at once, and doing it as neatly as if every plow had a plowman behind it. The only fuel used was straw and stubble raked together in heaps in the field and left in rows along the course taken by the engine. The fireman, as he passed each heap, reached down with a pitchfork and drew it up and dropped it in the fire box.

From the Lowe Farm we travelled four miles south and struck a bachelor's shack. No one was around, so we commenced to investigate. There was a wall of sods six feet high, with boards running up from the ground to the top of the wall in a slanting direction. Underneath the boards was a

quantity of bedding and clothes. Outside stood an old rusty stove, which was the center around which congregated a quantity of pans and cooking utensils. We were wondering who the owner was, when on looking up we espied him crossing quickly from an adjoining field where he had been seeding. The man was rough and unkempt, and possibly thirty years of age; his hair and whiskers were long and shaggy, his clothes were ragged, and wooden pegs and bits of nails took the place of buttons which had long since departed. The patches that were to be seen basted on his shirt and trousers in a rough sort of a way evidently had been borrowed from an old grain sack. His whole appearance was extremely dilapidated, and any one could tell from his neglected condition that he was a poor, forlorn bachelor. His salutation was hearty; he greeted us as beings from another and brighter world. We told him that we were looking for Sec. 12, Tp. 4, R. 3, west, and that possibly we might settle near by. This intelligence seemed to please him greatly; his eyes glistened and he said earnestly, "For God's sake, gentlemen, do come down here; it is terrible living alone. Sometimes I never see a soul for days and days."

TO BE CONTINUED.

## DEDICATION HYMN.

GEO. W. ARMSTRONG.

This house, O Lord, to Thee we raise,  
And dedicate it to Thy praise;  
And with it consecrate anew  
Ourselves—thy living temples too.

We pray, O Lord, that in this place,  
May be displayed Thy power and grace,  
Thy power to sanctify and bless,  
Thy grace, to clothe with righteousness.

Here may Thy people love to meet,  
To talk with Thee in converse sweet;  
And may the spirit of Thy love,  
The witness give, our faith to prove.

Here may the Prince of Peace impart  
His God-like mind to every heart,  
And may the lessons of His life  
Dispel all doubt, and fear, and strife.

Here may the three fold cord unite  
Our hearts with Thine, O God of might;  
And may our efforts men to bless  
Be crowned by Thee with great success.

## A LETTER FROM TURKEY.

This is one part of the world where the saying, "Christmas comes but once a year," does not hold good. We have three here every year—ours on the 25th December, N. S., the Greek on the 25th December, O. S., (twelve days after ours), and the Armenian on the 18th of January. This last we have just passed, and once more breathe freely. The day is not an especially trying one on us ladies, but the gentlemen have our sympathy as they sally forth early in the morning, make, perhaps, twenty or more calls, which means, not as in America, eating twenty meals, but simply drinking twenty tiny cups of Turkish coffee, twenty glasses of sherbet, and something less than twenty cups of tea, besides being served twenty times to sweets. Of course, none of this program may be omitted without giving offence.

Some friends from Chicago having sent us a box for our Sunday-school, we gave the presents on Saturday, January 16th. I think if those friends could have seen the happy, beaming faces as the children left that day, they would have felt amply repaid for their trouble. Our Sunday-school numbers about a hundred and fifty, so that unless we have help we cannot give the children this Christmas treat.

From America we had received something over twenty five dressed dolls, but this not being enough, we had to buy eight in the market here. These are not very good—have wax heads, and so are in danger from either extreme heat or cold. Those from America are bisque, and are much more durable.

Before the presents were distributed we had a short program of singing and recitation of scripture verses. The small children of the intermediate department recited prophecies concerning the coming of the Messiah, while the infants followed with the story of the birth of Jesus.

This was followed by the distribution of the presents, and I don't believe a more excited, happy group of children could have been found anywhere. Some of the boys received boats, some balls, and one a horse, while some of the shivering ragged little ones of the poorer class received warm clothing. The women each received a pretty American advertising card, (we have an endless demand for these), and each one, men, women, and children, went home with a candy basket. The girls, as I before suggested, or at least, many of them, received dolls. One of our

girl boarders—a village girl of about twelve or thirteen, had expressed a great desire to have a doll, so we had one prepared for her. When her name was called she came up very shamefacedly to get her doll, as the girls were laughing at her, but after she got safely back to her seat on the floor, we saw her slyly hugging her doll under her shawl. Poor child! I don't suppose she had ever seen a doll out in her village. She is as proud as any young mother, and the doll, I hear, is quite a favorite among the boarders.

Schools have opened again this week, and everything is settling down again with us, as with you, after the holiday season.

M. MACALLUM.

## A TRUE STORY.

One bright, busy Saturday morning some few months ago, there came to our door a young girl, enquiring for the lady of the house. As she carried a satchel she smilingly assured us that it did not contain anything saleable, but that she was directed to us in hopes of obtaining the address of a lady—a friend who was interested and engaged in missionary work in our city. She appeared to be about eighteen years of age and had a very attractive face and winning manner. Although asking that morning to be used "For His sake," in our own home while our heads and hands would be busily engaged all through the day, yet when looking for the first time into the face of the beautiful stranger, the request was, for the moment, forgotten. During a short conversation, some simple remark was made about the pleasure and blessing derived from working, when at once the large dark eyes filled with tears, as she said "Oh, how I wish that I too were a Christian." Then we were privileged to tell "the old, old story" of the only Saviour, "the refuge and strength," "the friend that sticketh closer than a brother," but she seemed to feel that all this happiness could not be hers. She told her life story in a few words, she was born in France, was an actress and had been on the stage ever since her mother's death, which occurred when she was but three years old. The troupe of which her own father was the manager were at the Grand Trunk station waiting for their train and she had taken this opportunity of spending a little time with a friend, whom she had met some years before. She felt that she could not be a Christian unless she discarded her profession entirely, for the excitement and fascination of the stage seemed

almost a part of her being. She was travelling about, from place to place, without a relative or friend with whom she could counsel, but who rather tried to pacify themselves with the belief that there was no future either of reward or punishment. She took our name and address, promising to write, but as yet has failed to do so. Many prayers have followed her that she may be led by the Spirit into light and peace. Inquiries were made, and through her friend it was found that her story was a true one.—B. G.

### IN PERFECT TRUST.

The Angel of Death has been in our midst, summoning our Sabbath-school scholar and class-mate, Jennie Wright, to the home, "not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." Jennie had been ailing for some time past, but her friends did not anticipate any immediate danger until Monday evening, February 8th, when she had an attack of hemorrhage of the lungs, leaving her very weak, but with a strong and perfect trust in her Heavenly Father. During a visit from her class leader and Sunday-school teacher, Jennie asked them to sing the hymn, "Shall we gather at the River?" After the last verse, she said, "I'll soon be there." Is it not beautiful to be a Christian? "Give my love to the girls, and tell them to trust as I have done." Tuesday night and Wednesday Jennie rallied, although suffering greatly. About seven o'clock Wednesday evening she called her parents, sisters and brothers to her; told them, "I am going home to-night. There is only a step between me and Jesus." Then she asked each to meet her in heaven. She also wished to see her class leader, Mrs. Smith, telling her that "she was going home," remarking also "how patient Jesus was." "It is all there, in Jesus is all fullness. Sing, Safe in the Arms of Jesus."

To her sister she said, "I will sleep now." The sister replied, "Asleep in Jesus." Jennie answered, "Asleep in Jesus, that dear friend, on whom my hopes of heaven depend!" And thus passed away triumphantly that happy spirit. Jennie was converted under the ministry of Rev. Mr. Langford, and received a special blessing during the services held by the Misses Dimsdale.—A. D.

#### LONGING TO GO.

I am going home to-night,  
And many friends will greet  
On the other shore, for "Over there"  
Are loved ones waiting with me to share  
Heaven's rapture and music sweet.

Oh, sing once again to me  
Those hymns full of trust and joy,  
Of safety and rest in Jesus' arms,  
By love o'ershadowed, where nothing harms,  
Where evil cannot annoy.

'Tis only a step between,  
And my spirit longs to go,  
To share the fulness which in Christ dwells,  
To join in the victory-song that swells,  
And the bliss of the ransomed know.—J. H.

### THE INFALLIBLE RELIGION.

To feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to lodge the homeless, is the only infallible religion. This is the proposition as stated by Ruskin; it is to be proved, first, by showing that it is a religion, and, second, that there is no other religion without a fault.

Religion is the performance of those duties which one owes to God. Now, God is not on the earth as a visible presence. We cannot bring Him precious ointment, nor wash His feet, as the women did to Jesus, and our duty is to serve him. How shall we fulfil it? Here is the way, "The greatest thing a man can do for his Heavenly Father is to be kind to some of His other children." The three first needs of civilized beings are food, clothing, and homes. Then to be kind in the best way is to attend first to these wants. Here we draw our conclusion for the first half of our proposition—to feed, clothe, and shelter the ones who need it is a religion.

In coming thus far, the second part—it is the only religion without fault, is almost proved, for what way can be better than the best? Men have held many different faiths, different notions of God, some differing widely, others only in trifles; yet of all these religions, that one only which taught active love for fellowmen was of any use in the world, and those which were not of use in practical, every-day life, were certainly not infallible, for they failed in the thing most needful—they did not include all men.

Ruskin stated the proposition, but he is not the only one who has enforced this fact. It was taught by Christ and shown in every action of His life. Professor Drummond says, "Have you ever noticed how much of Christ's life was spent in doing kind things—in merely doing kind things. Run over it with that in view, and you will find He spent a great proportion of his time simply in making people happy—in doing good turns to people." He made them wine at the marriage in Cana, He fed the five thousand when they were faint and weary.

His followers did what He had not time to do. There was Dorcas, of whom it is written that, at her death, "All the widows stood by Peter, weeping and showing the coats and garments which she had made while she was with them." And even when Christ had not yet come, a devout woman made a little chamber to shelter a homeless prophet in his wanderings.—B. H. NICHOLS.

## SELF-DENIAL.

WRITTEN FOR THE "MISSIONARY GLEANER."

Deny means to say "no" to, to refuse to grant, or to withhold. When we deny self therefore we say "no" to a desire of self, withhold from, or refuse to grant to self something. Self-denial also implies sacrifice or cost; so that the something that we deny ourselves must be that which we desire, little or much, according to the degree of self-denial. It would not be self-denial to withhold from ourselves something that we did not want.

It is a fact that we are born with the desire to please ourselves uppermost, and it is also a fact that this self-denial is practised. What is the object those who practise it have in view, do they attain that object, and is there any necessity laid on us for the practising of it, are the three questions I propose to talk a little about.

All real kinds of self-denial do good, but some do more than others, even with the same amount of effort. The monk in his cell in the olden time certainly denied himself the pleasure of mixing with his fellow-men, and he certainly attained his object, to make himself a better man, although it did not do much good to the world. Our Roman Catholic and even our Episcopalian friends during Lent deny their bodies pleasure and gratification, and their characters are so much the better for it, but it does not do any one else good directly, only as it makes their own characters stronger and richer, thus helping to make the world that much purer and better; but the young woman who gives the money that, if she had pleased herself, would have bought a new pair of gloves, to the mission cause, attains a two-fold object, the one she had in view of helping her less fortunate sisters, and one she had not in view of making stronger and better her own character.

Why is it that we may not gratify the desire of pleasing ourselves, or why is it that not pleasing ourselves makes us better men

and women; because our hearts are naturally "deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked;" and unless God by His Holy Spirit helps us to overcome the evil desires of our evil hearts, by always gratifying those desires we shall become more and more selfish and sinful, and of no possible help to our fellow-men.

Sir Walter Scott once said, "There never did, and never will, exist anything permanently noble and excellent in a character which is a stranger to the exercise of resolute self-denial," and it is equally true that all real self-denial elevates, uplifts, and makes purer, stronger and better characters than any other force at work in the world; so that if there were no other reason impelling us to this self-denial this one would be quite sufficient, for where is the mind whose ambition is not to make as grand a man of himself as he possibly can; but Jesus Christ has said to us, "If any man will come after Me, let him *deny himself*," and is not the command of our Master, who denied Himself a home in Heaven with His Father to come down to this world to endure privation, and suffering, and death, for our sakes, the most important thing for our consideration. Christ is our example, and if we are trying to follow Him, and to be like Him, we *will* deny ourselves, because He lived a life of pure, simple self-denial. David also said, "Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing." Remember also the self-sacrifice of the college-educated young woman with brilliant talents cultivated to the utmost, who gives up friends, and home, and native land, everything that we hold most dear, to spend the best years of her life among foreigners, to teach them of Christ and His loving-kindness, and sympathy for their sufferings and sorrow; and "shall we whose souls are lighted with wisdom from on High, shall we, to men benighted, the lamp of life deny?" for the want of a little self-sacrifice, which would help at least one heart to learn about Jesus and His love, and hasten the time when His kingdom shall come, and "His dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth." And, oh, all our self-denial will seem so small, and we shall wish we had done so much more of it when we have finished His work here on earth, and by Him are called up higher.

TO BE CONTINUED.

*Don't forget the Gleaner's Concert on Tuesday Evening, March 22nd. The children will be assisted by the Sunday-school Orchestra.*



## COMMITTEE REPORTS.

**LOOKOUT.** During the month seven have been received into the society as active members. We trust with God's help they will indeed prove active workers in His service: Lizzie H. Ruskey, Albert Cummer, Cora B. Bement, Emma Lane, Jennie Fletcher, Martha Thompson and Mr. Bement. We have several propositions to present, which, if they meet with the approval of the society, we feel confident will prove spiritually beneficial. There seems to be a certain carelessness shown in securing active members for the society. We wish to enlarge our society and are anxious to bring in all who have a desire to serve Jesus, but in so doing we must present to them the pledge in its fullest meaning. We fear this is lost sight of to a certain extent, and for the purpose of avoiding this we would suggest that a sub-committee of the Lookout, composed of three, wait upon all who wish to become active members, and impress upon them clearly what they are pledging themselves to do upon becoming active members of the Y. P. S. C. E. We would suggest for the committee, Mrs. Lounsbury, Miss Kerruish and Mr. Harris. We also think it well to revive the old way of receiving active members into the society; by holding a reception service every consecration meeting at the close of the roll call and invite those who, during the month, after careful thought and prayer, have decided to join with us, to occupy the front seats, and be received into full membership. Your committee would also advise procuring one hundred Active and Associate application cards to be given to those wishing to join the society, to sign and hold until taken into full membership at the monthly consecration meeting. We also think it well to repeat the pledge once a month.—K. KAPPELE.

**PRAYER MEETING.** During the past month your committee have been endeavoring to get those who have not yet led to do so, and we feel encouraged to know that so many of our members are doing their best to make these meetings both interesting and profitable. We trust that no member will refuse to take part in any meeting when called upon; we should feel thankful for the privilege of doing even this work for the Master. The leaders for March are: 7th, Mr. Hoggan; 14th, Mr. VanWyck; 21st, (Union meeting); 28th, Miss Murray. (Consecration): April 4th, Mr. James Burgess.—M. NIEHAUS.

**SOCIAL.** As reported at the last business meeting your committee was making arrangements for a social to be held in February, but finding that it would conflict with the special meetings held by our pastor, it was postponed indefinitely. As there are so many entertainments this month it has not been deemed advisable to have one.—B. F. MURRAY.

**FLOWER.** We have distributed during February about twenty small bouquets. While we are glad to report that some who have been very ill are restored to health, others have been called to their heavenly home. One of our active members after a few weeks illness has been taken from our midst—

"O not in cruelty, not in wrath.

The reaper came that day;

'Twas an angel visited the green earth,

And took the flowers away."

The florist has agreed to supply us with flowers at fifty cents per week as long as we wish to continue. We are in debt for flowers for one month and we also find it necessary to purchase a wire flower basket. Those to take charge of flowers during the month of March are: 13th, Misses T. & M. Wright; 20th, Misses Bristow and Farmer; 27th, Misses Lavery and Harvey.

—C. LAVRY:

**MUSIC.** We are thankful to the friends who acceded to our request to gather in the centre of the church to help with the singing at the after service Sunday evening. We hope they will continue to do so. Our service of song has sustained a severe loss in the death of our sister, Miss Sarginson, for whom health would permit she was always present to help. She will be greatly missed in all our social services, but she is at rest, and has begun to sing the new song

—ANNIE BRISTOW.

**TEMPERANCE.** At the quarterly meeting of the union temperance committees held in November last, the Chairman and Rev. Mr. Shearer were appointed to draft a temperance pledge for the use of the societies in the city. At the subsequent meeting in February the committee submitted the following which was adopted and referred to the local union. "Trusting in God for strength, I promise Him: 1st, That I will not drink as a beverage, any kind of intoxicating liquor; 2nd, That I will not treat anyone to such liquor to be used as a beverage, and 3rd, That I will do all in my power to oppose the liquor traffic." At the monthly meeting of the Local Union in February the pledge was submitted and endorsed. A copy will be forwarded to each society by the committee as quickly as possible. (Continued from last month.) "The injury, it is true, falls first upon him in his health which the habit undermines in his morals, which it weakens, and in the self abasement which it creates. But as it leads to neglect of business and waste of property and general demoralization, it effects those who are immediately connected with and dependent upon him. By the general concurrence of opinion of every civilized and Christian community, there are few sources of crime and misery to society equal to the dram shop, where intoxicating liquors, in small quantities to be drunk at the time, are sold indiscriminately to all parties applying. The statistics of every State show a greater amount of crime and misery attributable to the use of ardent spirits obtained at the retail liquor saloons than to any other source. The sale of such liquors in this way, therefore, has at all times, by the courts of every State, been considered as the proper subject for legislation." (Continued.)

—G. F. FISHER.

### MISSION.

#### RECEIPTS.

To Balance on hand, .....	\$35 08	
" Donations, (see report), .....	8 55	
" W. C. T. U., \$3, Collections, .....	5 13	\$48 76

#### EXPENDITURE.

By Caretaker, \$2 50; Rent, \$5, .....	\$ 7 50
" Coal oil, 64c.; Repairing organ, 58c	1 22
" Balance on hand, .....	40 04

Your committee are pleased to report that the work is progressing favorably. One young man has signified his intention to lead a Christian life. He says he is sure God has pardoned and accepted him, and that through God's grace he is overcoming habits that had long held him captive. We have had our room open every afternoon since the first of February. The officers and teachers of the Sunday-school have kindly made a further donation of two hundred books: one hundred to be used in our Reading Room and one hundred to the Mission Sunday-school library. The books are very much appreciated by the young people at the mission. Your committee take this opportunity of thanking the President and young people of Gore street society for their kindly interest and assistance

render  
society  
knowle  
\$5.00;  
We wil  
evening  
make a  
As our  
Christi  
a great  
Master  
power  
wisdom  
wait.

The  
March  
20th,  
27th,  
Messr

VI  
which  
God h  
work  
met w  
were  
our v  
only  
but h  
and p  
ings,  
with  
mour  
alwa  
one i  
kind  
Man  
whol  
had  
to b  
she l  
face  
just  
first  
river  
for t

D  
Sun  
one  
have  
ques  
cut  
have  
we  
spee  
at t  
hea

S  
com  
mo  
clas  
the  
it b  
the

rendered us in our work; also members of other societies. In our Master's name we thankfully acknowledge the following donations: Mr. Wm Hunter, \$5.00; Mrs. Bement, \$2.00; Mrs. Gayler's class, \$1.50. We will give a concert in the Mission room on the evening of the tenth of this month. We would also make another appeal to our young people for assistance. As our work increases more help is required. "For Christ and the Church," is our motto. Is there not a great field open before us in which to labor for our Master. Shall we not put forth every effort in our power to win souls for His Kingdom? We pray for wisdom to direct, strength to work, and patience to wait.

Now, O Lord, fulfil Thy pleasure,  
Breathe upon Thy chosen band;  
And with pentecostal measure,  
Send forth reapers o'er our land;  
Faithful reapers,  
Gathering sheaves for Thy right hand.

The following are the leaders for Sunday evenings.  
March 13th, Messrs W. A. Edwards and A. Davis;  
20th, Messrs J. E. Martin and Thomas Morris, Jr.;  
27th, Messrs H. Gayfer and F. C. McIlroy; April 3rd,  
Messrs Thomas Morris, Sr. and G. F. Fisher.

—MRS. FISHER.

**VISITING.** We feel that in the twenty-five visits which your committee have made this month that God has been very near us, directing our way and work; for in nearly every instance we have not only met with a warm welcome, but have felt that they were longing for some one to visit them. Nearly all our visits have been among those whom we have seen only once or twice and in several cases never before, but having their addresses we soon learnt their names, and politely telling them of our mission and the church to which we belonged, we invited them to our meetings, promising to call and take them there. It is with mingled feelings of sadness and rejoicing that we mourn the loss of one our committee, one who was always ready with wise counsel and loving sympathy, one in whom the principal aim in life was to speak a kind and encouraging word to someone in distress. Many a kind deed will be remembered by those with whom she was in any way associated. To those who had personal intercourse with her, comes this thought to brighten the sadness, she is now before the Saviour she loved and served so well. She sees Him face to face as no mortal eye could see, and is receiving the just reward of the faithful. And will be among the first to welcome us when we too shall have crossed the river and have entered into the rest which is prepared for those who love and fear Him.—ANNIE RIPLEY.

**DORCAS.** We received three dollars from the Sunday-school for sewing the hymn books, and spent one dollar and sixty-five cents on flannel, which we have used to good advantage. Last month we requested the friends who had old clothes that could be cut down for children to let us know, but as only two have responded we thought we would ask again, for we are sure a few could give us assistance in this respect. We have heard from Bellville and our charge at the Institute is doing very well, she is also in good health and contented and happy.—A. JARVIS.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL.** For some time past, your committee have at the close of each month marked the monthly attendance of the members of the various classes of our school, but recently we have felt that the same practical results might be obtained by doing it but once a quarter. We have, however, looked over the class books twice this month, and selected from them the names of those scholars who have not been

attending regularly, and their teachers either have been, or will be seen concerning them. We would suggest that in the larger and more advanced classes, and especially where there are any members of our society, that one or more of the scholars be chosen to co-operate, when necessary, with the teacher in visiting the absent and sick of the class. We have obtained, by the aid of the teachers, the addresses of some one hundred and two members of the school, and these we expect to be of much service to us in our work.—ANNIE HENRY.

**JUNIOR ENDEAVOR.** There has been a new election of officers as follows: President, Marshall Lounsbury; Vice President, Georgia Winnifridh; Secretary, Alma Gayfer; Treasurer, Roy VanWyck. Conveners of committees: Prayer-meeting, Garnet Raycroft; Lookafter, Gerty Henry; Lookout, Walter Gayfer. The number on the roll is fifty, and the average attendance is forty-three. The treasurer has \$3.84, but eighty-seven cents of this belongs to missions. The leaders of the prayer-meetings for the month are: March 6th, Bertie Nichols; 13th, Bertha Smith; 20th, Claud Street; 27th, Marshall Lounsbury.—ROY VANWYCK.

**TREASURER'S.**

Balance brought forward.....	\$ 14	
Collections, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, .....	9 06	
From Publishing Committee.....	16 50	\$25 70
<hr/>		
Printing "January" Endeavor.....	\$16 50	
On Flower account.....	3 00	
Balance on hand.....	6 20	\$25 70

—JENNIE HARVEY.

**ITEMS.**

The fifth annual Gleaner's concert is fixed for the 22nd. A good programme has been arranged and the church should be crowded. Tickets, 15 cents.

The sixty-eighth Sunday-school anniversary will take place Sunday, April 3rd, and Monday evening following. The anniversary sermons will be preached by Rev. G. W. Kerby and Rev. Isaac Tovell. Sunday afternoon we hope to have Rev. W. E. Pescott and the ex-superintendents, who worship with us, viz: Mr. Jas. Mathews, Mr. H. S. Williams and Mr. W. A. Edwards on the platform. A good programme under the direction of Miss Murray is being provided for Monday evening.

The quarterly union meeting of the Hamilton Christian Endeavor societies will be held Monday evening, March 21st, in our church. Twenty-two societies will be represented. Each will rise in a body and respond when the roll is called. The Pastors and presidents of the societies are expected to sit on the platform.

**Sunday-School Statistics.**

	Scholars.	Officers & Teachers	Collecton.
Feb. 7	466	49	\$11 32
" 14	431	49	11 78
" 21	521	50	13 01
" 28	500	51	11 50

Average attendance, 529.  
Average collection, \$11.90.

DEAR MRS. SARGINSON,

We, the officers and teachers of the First Methodist Church Sunday-school assembled, desire to express our heartfelt sympathy with you in the unspeakable loss you have sustained in the death of your beloved daughter. We know that we cannot enter into the feelings of your heart in this sad bereavement, but we knew her to love her by reason of association in the Sunday-school and in other Christian work. We shall miss her familiar form and cheerful smile from our gatherings, but we shall ever cherish in our memories her fidelity to the Saviour she so fondly loved. While we shall miss her we are conscious that you will miss her more, and our hearts instinctively turn to you in your trial. We are comforted in this, that you are sustained by the presence of the same Jesus who wept with the sisters of Bethany. He has called your loved one to His home in heaven. Our prayers will ascend to God that His grace may cheer and comfort you, until you shall join her in the land where parting is not known.

"Loyal, faithful to the duties  
God assigned; when Jesus came,  
Found His servant zealous, earnest,  
Working for His cause and name."—J. H.

Signed on behalf of the Sunday-school,

THOMAS MORRIS, JR., Supt.

W. G. MOORE, Sec'y.

### Mutual Improvement Society.

I have much pleasure in submitting the first annual report of the society. On the 26th of February, 1891, the Sunday-school committee succeeded in forming a Mutual Improvement Society in this church, and we ought to be thankful for that. During the year the society has held thirty-seven regular meetings which have been extremely well attended and which have proved very beneficial in many ways to us all. The lady members of the society have given seven very successful socials during the past term—social they continue to do. Two concerts given by the society were well attended, and although they may not have been a 1. concerts, yet they were greatly appreciated by our audiences. At the first concert no charge was made, but at the second a silver collection was taken at the door, which netted us a handsome return for our labors. The society's picnic held at the Beach was much enjoyed by all and it is our intention in our next attempt to surpass our first efforts

if that can be possible. An "At Home" in honor of the anniversary of the society was held in the Sunday-school parlor, at which the members and their friends and Rev. Mr. VanWyck with Mrs. VanWyck spent a very pleasant evening together. The sleighing-party held under the auspices of the society was a "howling success," that is if you take into account the noise of fish horns and bugles and the screaming of the ladies as the horses dashed rapidly down some of the steep hills. There has been a marked improvement in the number of members taking active part in our meetings, which has greatly increased the interest in the society. The treasurer's report for the year shows a marked improvement. I cannot close without an urgent appeal to the members not to forget our paper, the *Mutual Improver*, and to send in more and better contributions. Our paper will prove a grand help to us all if we care to make it so. The average number of members on roll was twenty-four, and the average attendance eighteen. The total number now on roll is twenty-eight. Let us give a LONG PULL, a STRONG PULL and a PULL ALL TOGETHER, and we will make our society one of the finest in the city.—RALPH RIPLEY, Sec'y.

We understand that Lyonde, the high-class photographer, is turning out fine work at reasonable prices

F. J. Steinmetz, 

TROPICAL  
FRUITERER,

—♦♦— Confectionery and Ice Cream. —♦♦—

TELEPHONE 976.

233 & 235 King St. East, . . .

. . . . HAMILTON.  
THE HAMILTON BUSINESS COLLEGE  
AND SHORTHAND INSTITUTE.

34 & 40 JAMES STREET SOUTH.

Is pre-eminently a HAMILTON COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.—Sixty per cent. of last year's attendance was from the city. Students admitted any week day. For terms apply to the principals,  
SPENCER & McCULLOUGH.

GEORGE LONG,

DEALER IN

WOOD, COAL AND SAND.

OFFICES:

COR. FERGUSON AVE. & HUNTER ST., & 162 KING ST. EAST.