

ONTARIO THE EVANGELIST.

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"Go speak to the people ALL the words of this Life."

Vol. 4.

OWEN SOUND, ONTARIO, MAY, 1889.

No. 1.

Poetry.

ASPIRATIONS.

[For the ONTARIO EVANGELIST.]

O, to be purer, purer, Lord, from the tainting touch of sin,
To exchange the "filthy rags" of self for a righteousness within.

O, for the garments white, Lord, of Thine own righteousness,
Soft clothes for my naked soul would be that heavenly perfect dress.

O, for a will to resist, Lord, the tendency to wrong,
To break the thrilling bands of sin that have bound me fast so long.

O, for a spirit calm, Lord, to bear unmoved my ills,
While trust in Thy mighty promises my foolish spirit thrills.

I long to strike a blow, Lord, for the holy cause of truth,
O, nerve my arm that it falter not when put unto the proof.

While I long for the heavenly crown, Lord, and to count all else as loss,
Give me a spirit of truthful love for my all-ennobling cross.

Toronto, Feb. 1889.

R. W.

Original.

MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST.

We are quite frequently asked why the Disciples do not try to do something in Manitoba and the North-West, and not seldom we are addressed as though it were our fault that something worthy of so noble a plea as the Disciples make is not being done in those extensive and soon to be thickly settled regions. We do not claim to have done all that we could, but we have done a little to keep the matter before our readers, and have cheerfully published several stirring appeals from brethren in Manitoba. But we do not write to justify ourselves, whatever may be said of our past course in regard to those fields, we purpose, by Divine help, to do more in the future. We shall try to keep our readers from complaining that too little attention is paid to the North-West.

Now what is the present state of affairs so far as we are concerned? In all that vast territory we have but one preacher and one Church, our readers know them well, Bro. A. H. Finch, and the church at Portage la Prairie, and we are glad to know that both preacher and church are in good condition, full of missionary zeal, and determined to do what in them lies to further the cause in Manitoba. But they are far from being able to do all that ought to be done at once in order to minister to the spiritual wants of the Disciples scattered throughout their own province to say nothing of the North-West Territories. Those brethren of the dispersion should not be neglected. And then there is another consideration, and a weighty one, it is, viz.: There will never be such an opportunity in the North-West to present the plea we make for Christian Union as the present, now when the country is being settled by people of diverse nationalities and diverse faiths, there is a greater readiness to receive new truth than there will be even in a few years, when most have made their choice of a church, and are by consequence for many reasons indisposed to give heed to teaching which if received would necessitate the severance of the religious ties already formed. How often we have heard the complaint made here in Ontario that the Disciples would not do pioneer religious work, but would just come in to sow dissension where the country was well settled and churches already established. We do not, of course, hold that our brethren did no pioneer work; we are not ignorant of the labor and the sacrifices of fifty years ago; but whenever there is even small occasion for the above complaint we know it hinders greatly our work, and shall not we, the Disciples of this generation, imitate the zeal and imitate the labors of our grandfathers, by devoting ourselves in the fear of God and for the honor of our Master to the establishment of Primitive Christianity in those great Territories of our Dominion? Let us take counsel together, brethren, and let us "Work while it is called to day."

But some one may be thinking have you nothing to suggest, nothing to propose? Well, we have an idea. If we had a number of strong, energetic, zealous, capable, godly young men who would go up to Manitoba and the North-West, and hunt up the scattered Disciples, select the

best available and most central points, and go to work preaching the Gospel and instructing the Disciples, we think the Lord would bless their labor and give them good success. Who would support them while they were doing that work? We think the church in Portage la Prairie and the scattered Disciples would help to the utmost of their ability, and that the Disciples in Ontario could be stirred up to do the same, and moreover we believe that the Lord who said "The laborer is worthy of his hire," would not forget his faithful servants. We know of a number of wealthy brethren who might bless the cause, and bless themselves by undertaking the support of a preacher in the North-West. What an investment that would be!

We trust this important and urgent question will be fully discussed at the Annual Meeting. In the meantime, brethren, let us be thinking, and praying the Lord of the harvest to thrust out laborers into his harvest.

GOOD NEWS FROM TORONTO.

In our last issue there was a letter from Bro. Gaff containing the pleasing information that the church now worshipping on Denison Avenue Toronto, has bought a building lot on Cecil Street that would seem almost if not altogether the best available lot in the City, for the purpose has been secured, and it is fervently to be hoped that very soon a suitable house will be erected hereon and occupied by the church. The rented house on Denison Avenue, is, neither large enough, nor has it the conveniences necessary for the proper carrying on of the work. The church is therefore now laboring under a considerable disadvantage. We understand that were sufficient funds provided the work of building might be proceeded with at once, and we presume that the urgency of Bro. Gaff's appeal to the Disciples throughout the province, is with the view of securing speedily the means to proceed with the erection of a house. We trust therefore the appeal will be promptly, cheerfully and liberally responded to. Let it be remembered that the work being done in Toronto is not a mere local work—it is the work of every Disciple in Ontario—that it has passed the experimental stage, and that the members of the church themselves are contributing to the utmost of their ability. It is no scheme to get country people to do for city people what they are abundantly able to do for themselves. We are able to assure our brethren that the Denison Avenue people are doing all they possibly can; but having done that, they find themselves still unable to do all that, in the interests of the cause, should be done without delay, and so they ask their brethren to have fellowship with them in the work. Nothing could be more reasonable, and nothing could be more Christian than for the Disciples generally throughout the country to take part in the noble work.

Let us say brethren, that it seems to us this is a time for large gifts on the part of those whom the Lord has entrusted with great wealth. We begin to hear of brethren in Ontario proposing to give \$1000.00 or \$500.00 for the Lord's work and it is a most encouraging sign.

We have the warrant of the Apostle Paul for charging them that are rich in this world to do good, to be rich in good works, ready to distribute, to be willing to communicate. We therefore beg our rich brethren to consider the noble purposes to which they may devote their wealth, we warn them against falling victims to the delusion that they need it all for themselves and families, and in particular at this time, we commend to them the work in Toronto.

One other remark we take space to make, the price paid for the lot—\$7200.00—may seem to some needlessly large; but good judges in the city say that the lot is a bargain at that figure. A low-priced lot would be in some out of the way place and would be worthless for the purposes of a church. The fact is, a building lot for a church in a suitable locality in Toronto cannot be obtained at a small price; a large figure must be given or no lot can be had. The brethren who are managing this enterprise in the City are shrewd business men deeply interested in the cause and giving largely themselves, and we may confidently declare that there will be no extravagance and no waste and that the Disciples of Ontario may

send in their contributions to Toronto without fear that they will be mis-applied or unwisely expended.

PRAYER.

Communication with our dear ones brings us thought to thought, stirs up our remembrances of kindnesses done and received; keeps alive the feelings of love and duty; renders us less selfish, less likely to get into a groove; and makes us to grow into a rounder, fuller character.

Intercourse means a knowledge of the inner life, sympathy for and interest in the daily joys and sorrows. Who has not felt the warm glow of heart on hearing from some dear one parted by miles but drawn close by memories and association? As one more fully understands another the greater will be his appreciation of his friend, the more pleasant their intercourse. Distance only serves to increase their mutual love, only makes the tie closer.

These are some of the results of intercourse with men and women who are fighting the battle of life, who are subject to the same temptations—sometimes weakly yielding sometimes gloriously conquering—who are striving to make of their life something grander and better; or it maybe having no ambition beyond to day.

If these conditions are necessary to hearty intercourse, one with another, and if results such as these flow from fellowship with "kindred minds" what results may we not look for when we come to our Father, our Elder Brother, fully realizing the tie that binds.

At times our earthly friends may fail us, and often disappoint us. We are so apt to measure heavenly things by earthly standards that it is no wonder our prayers to our Father are at times constrained and indefinite. These failures and disappointments instead of drawing us to that Friend who never disappoints, who is always willing to take us up when others fail us, very often cause us to say: "there is no one reliable no one sure!" Then too, the knowledge of our failures keeps us from having free intercourse with our Father. What Christian has not felt reluctant to appeal in God's presence unwilling to unveil to his pure eye the blackness and deceit of his heart. We stand in misery aloft, will not bow the heart; shrink from putting our misdoings into words, lest the full enormity of our offence appear to our own conscience. If we could only realize that there is our danger, that this our extremity, is the Devil's opportunity that he is always at hand sowing his seed, and by listening to his words, we are giving our enemy a foothold, are showing distrust in our Father, wounding Him in the house of His friends.

More intercourse with Jesus means more power for good. He never sends away empty the faithful repentant and pleading heart. O that words could express the tenderness, love, nearness of our Father. They seem so poor! But this is one of the things of life that to be understood must be experienced.

Let the tongue be never so eloquent if the Divine Life does not touch the sinner's life then the most burning words are but a foreign tongue "Taste and see that the Lord is good." "Were surely foolish to go through life missing such a blessing. In every soul there is a yearning for this intercourse. It is God given and it has been well said: "God never makes half joints—fin for the water, wing for the air." Venture on the Lord's promise and see if there is not a realization to this heart hunger—a something given that satisfies the soul thirst. Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled. This is the divine promise. Test it!

We are so prone to think of God as far from us. Away with this idea! Take Him at His word—"In our midst!" How far away! So close the lowest whisper, the faintest sigh touches the heart of divine love "Infinite pity meeting our infinite need."

Only "Watch ye and pray lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is willing but the flesh is weak." Remember this that when we are weak then are we strong. If the strength of Christ rest upon us then can we go on our way rejoicing bearing the Glad Tidings to those who sit in darkness, making bright the down cast hearts of suffering souls,—in fine, taking Jesus as our model, bringing sunshine and gladness wherever we go. Let us not become estranged from Jesus;

guard carefully the first entrance of carelessness, and remember that the divine safeguard is found in these words: "Pray without ceasing."

Austen.

SOMETHING FOR THE SISTERS TO THINK ABOUT.

Our Annual Meeting is near at hand—so near that we should be laying plans for next year's work. Perhaps the Auxiliaries have already been considering the question and will be ready to discuss it when we meet in June. It is desirable that we should be of one mind and see eye to eye. In the March number of the EVANGELIST our President writes: "We hope to be able to enlarge our work during the coming year." It is very gratifying to know that we shall be able to fulfil our pledge of \$400.00 made last year. We can look forward with confidence to our being able to make a larger pledge this year. Has the time not come when we should undertake a work of our own? To help Muskoka, Collingwood and Toronto was probably the wisest way to use our funds last year, but we can not properly call it *our* work. The Co-operation was assisting those points before and no doubt would have fully sustained them had we not volunteered to help, and in like manner will not allow the work to suffer at those places should we decide to change our method for the next year.

While we deemed it a privilege and found it in reality a labor of love to help Muskoka, Collingwood and Toronto, might we not be stirred up to greater zeal and earnestness by undertaking a new work of our own? From one source and another we hear of the Great North-West. Bro. Finch has kept it before our minds in the EVANGELIST. We all know that Manitoba is a rich country fast growing in population and destined to become a great country at no distant date. Our own brethren are leaving Ontario in large numbers every year and are settled throughout the length and breadth of that land. Nearly two years ago a brother residing in Manitoba writing to the EVANGELIST said, "Now while the country is new and fast filling up, is the best time for special work, and if we neglect the present favorable time for work years of labor when the country is older will not accomplish what much less time will while the country is new." Since that time Bro. Finch has been the only laborer among our people in all that vast region; as he put it himself:—My parish extends from Sault St. Marie to the Pacific Ocean and from the forty-ninth parallel to the North Pole,—rather too large a field for one man, is it not?

Perhaps the claims of Winnipeg could be urged with greater force than those of any other point in Manitoba. It is said that there is now in that city the nucleus of a church. Shall we not hear from others on this matter?

The writer trusts this letter will not be misunderstood. It is not that we are weary of the work we took up last year, but the object in view is to press upon our sisters the necessity of concentrating our work, and of fixing upon some place that will meet with the most general favor among our Auxiliaries. The old adage, "Union is strength," is as true in our work as in anything else.

Dear Sisters, let us, as many as can, attend the June Meeting. Let us go with hearts fully consecrated to God, and His work, thanking him for giving us the privilege of being humble instruments in His hands for doing good.

A Sister.

THE LATCH ON OUR SIDE.

"I stand at the door and knock."—Rev. 3: 20.

A minister narrates the following: While walking along one of the London streets, a Paris pastor came forward and accosted me thus: "Excuse me, but were you not in Paris some time ago?" I said, "Yes, I was," and then he inquired, "Did you not, in one of your addresses there, say that the latch was on our side of the door?" "Yes, I believe I did say so," I replied. "Well," he answered, "I always thought it was on the Lord's side, and I kept knocking, and knocking, until I heard of your words, and what a joy came over me! I lifted the latch. Since then all has been changed; my church, my congregation, my work, and everything about me!"

Oh, remember that the latch is on your side of the door!—Selected.

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MAY, 1889.

TO OUR READERS.

We are reminded by this issue of THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST that time is passing rapidly. It seems but yesterday that the first number appeared, but here is Number 1, Vol. 4. We are glad to be able to say that the paper is growing not only in years but in influence and usefulness.

We take advantage of this occasion to acknowledge our indebtedness to our Father in Heaven and our thankfulness for the many evidences of the Divine favor. It would be ungratefulness on our part should we fail to acknowledge, also, the assistance and encouragement given by the many warm friends of the paper.

It is gratifying to us to know that our brethren who are most zealous and active in the cause of Christ, look upon the paper as a necessity; and it will be gratifying to our readers to know that THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST has come to stay.

It will appear from this issue that we have changed the place of publication. Arrangements have been made with Bro. C. A. Fleming, Owen Sound, to do the printing and mailing.

In closing our contract with Mr. J. J. Kelso, Guelph, who did the printing for us from the first to the close of Vol. 3, it is proper for us to say, and we say it with pleasure, that he did the work to our entire satisfaction, and we found in him an honorable christian gentleman.

THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST will be in the future as it has been in the past, a firm advocate of the truth of the gospel and an uncompromising opponent of error. We wish it to be also a medium for church news and for an interchange of religious views.

We ask for a continuation of your sympathy and support and also for your prayers that we may be guided in all our labors by that wisdom which cometh from above.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

It will be observed that a great part of our space this month is taken up in the matter pertaining to the Annual Meeting and we therefore deem it unnecessary to enlarge upon the subject here. We trust there will be a large and enthusiastic gathering of brethren and sisters from all parts of the Province. The church in St. Thomas is prepared to extend to all a cordial welcome and to provide all with board and lodging during their stay at the meeting. Reduced rates will be given by the Railways. While the special attractions provided by the prospect of seeing and hearing two such noble and consecrated brethren as Bro. R. Moffett and Bro. A. McLean is such as will no doubt make a large number anxious to attend. We would urge our brethren to go to this yearly feast, for their own good and for the good of the cause.

There are many important questions which urgently demand the attention of the Disciples in Ontario, and which cannot be satisfactorily considered unless brethren meet together and have full and free conference respecting them. Our duty to Manitoba and the North-West should be carefully weighed by all. We have so far failed to realize our responsibility to those Provinces of our Dominion. The state of the same in our own Province merits the attention of every Disciple. The great need of more preachers and the possibility of supplying that need should rest upon all our hearts. These and other questions we hope will be discussed, and it is very desirable

that all the churches in Ontario should be represented. The sisters will no doubt send a good delegation and give a good account of themselves. St. Thomas is very convenient of access from all parts of the country. The churches in the Niagara district will find it more easily reached than points in Wellington Co., and those West of St. Thomas will find the Annual Meeting almost at their doors. The Wellington Co. brethren after many years have again an opportunity of going out of their own County to a June Meeting and should be well represented. Those living in the North and the East can quite conveniently reach St. Thomas and will be delighted to meet and to get acquainted with the brethren in the West. Let us have a general convocation to consider the interests of the cause of Christ, to take steps for the furtherance of the Gospel, and to have fellowship one with another.

THE DEFEAT OF THE SCOTT ACT.

We do not need to inform our readers that notwithstanding the fact that we devoted a large part of our March number to matter calculated to induce people to support the Scott Act, the Act was defeated in every constituency in which it was voted upon on the fourth of April. We are sorry that such was the result, but not at all discouraged. The work of temperance reformers is now cut out for them distinctly—National prohibition is now the cry. There may be a fight for High License to put Prohibition a few years farther away, but the time is not far distant when the great question of Prohibition will be submitted to the people of Canada. It seems people will go on fooling with the liquor traffic—trying to regulate it—although the experiment has been a failure for hundreds of years. We must just be faithful and patient and continue the work of educating the people. We all know why the Scott Act did not work—it was not worked. The politicians used it for their own purposes and the temperance people suffered them to do so.

NOTES.

By the request of the church in St. Thomas the date of the June meeting has been changed from the first to the second Lord's Day in June. The meeting will begin on Thursday, June 6th.

We are very glad to learn that Bro. J. R. Gaff, who has been confined to his bed for a few weeks by a very severe illness, is now so far recovered as to be able to undertake some work again.

We would again remind those in arrears that it would be a great favor if they would kindly remember us, not only in their prayers, but by remitting the amount due.

The readers of the EVANGELIST will see that Bro. C. J. Lister has not forgotten the matter presented by him at the annual meeting last year regarding the new church building in Owen Sound. Let all the big folks get their dimes ready, and all the little ones their half-dimes, and help the Owen Sound brethren, for they are worthy.

Any of our readers desiring information as to the best way of reaching St. Thomas are referred to Page 3 of our April number.

The first Lord's Day in June is the day on which the Sunday Schools are asked to take up a collection for Foreign Missions. We trust there will be a general response. Let the children have a chance to help.

Bro. Donald Munro, who is attending University College, Toronto, intends spending at least a part of his vacation travelling among the churches in the Province selling "The Memoirs of Alexander Campbell." Wherever he goes he is authorized to take subscriptions and collect money for THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST.

The season of the year most suitable for holding special meetings among country churches is now at hand. As the expression is among the brethren in the States at present, "Let there be a movement all along the line." May there be a large ingathering in every church. Let us labor for it, brethren, and the Lord will bless us.

Will the Superintendents or other officers of our Sunday Schools who have not done so send a report of the past year's work to the chairman of the Sunday School Committee, C. A. Fleming, Owen Sound, at once. If you have mislaid the blank report sent you at the beginning of the year drop a card to him and one will be sent you by return of mail.

Dr. W. E. Macklin, missionary to China, was married to Miss Dorothy DeLaney, January 16th. Mrs. Macklin is a sister of Mrs. Garst, and a granddaughter of the sainted Jonas Hartzel. The Standard heartily congratulates the happy pair.

We cordially join in the above congratulations

We remind our readers that items of Church News are always acceptable. Send them in, friends.

The following are a few of the many kind and encouraging words received by us from the readers of THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST:

1. "The tone of your paper is commendatory. It has the right ring and it breathes the spirit of the Master."
2. "I would not know how to get along without THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST. I hope it may soon become a weekly."
3. "We thank you for giving us a paper devoid of a captious spirit, free from personalities and silly wranglings—a paper filled with helpful articles and cheering news."
4. "Mrs. — writes me that she is delighted with the paper. Twice in her letter she thanked me for sending it to her. Another sister, Mrs. — wrote me a few days ago: 'THE EVANGELIST comes to me every month and I greatly enjoy it.' These voices from afar (one from Indianapolis and the other from Ashland, Wis.), are in accord with 'my own.'"

We are thankful to have the assurance that the little EVANGELIST is so much appreciated, and that it merits the approval of our most pious, active and intelligent brethren.

We have received volume eleven of Alden's *Manifold Cyclopaedia*, extending from "Debt" to "Dominie." It gives us great pleasure to call attention to the merits of this excellent work, and heartily commend it to our readers. Mr. Alden has a branch office at 30 Adelaide Street, East, Toronto, near the Post Office; at which a full stock of Alden's publications is kept. Any of our readers being in the City will do well to visit Mr. Alden's branch store and see what wonderful bargains are offered in first class literature. A large catalogue is sent free. Send for a copy.

Contributions to Foreign Missions:

Church at Blehheim	\$20.00
" Owen Sound	12.42
" Ridgetown	6.20
" Erin Centre	17.00
" Everton	32.00
" Hamilton	23.00
" Kilsyth	9.00
S. S. at Hamilton	6.00
Mrs. Peter D. Campbell, Balderson	5.00
Church at St. Thomas	10.00
Mrs. T. B. Knowles, St. Thomas	10.00
	150.62

We are very much pleased to observe the way in which the churches in Ontario continue to show their interest in the great work of preaching the Gospel to every creature. We think we state the fact when we say that a larger proportion of the churches in this Province contribute than of the churches of any State in the Union. Let us make up that thousand dollars this year.

Speaking of the collections for Foreign Missions reminds us that if the Disciples in the United States would give as liberally as the Disciples in Ontario, they would raise about \$150,000.00 a year for that work. The call this year is for \$100,000.00. If we should raise \$1,000.00, and the brethren in the States give in proportion there would be \$201,000.00 instead of \$100,000.00. How is that Bro. McLean?

But there is one test of a true church that men are especially prone to overlook—the test of holiness. Whatever the consistency and scripturality of doctrine; whatever the clearness and fulness and certainty of systematic theology, this at least, is certain, if the church be not holy God is not in it, it is not the church of God.—*f. S. Lamar, in Standard.*

J. W. Kilgour and C. A. Fleming were appointed a committee to glean statistics relative to the Disciples in Ontario, and to report at the annual meeting. Circulars to be filled out have been sent to the churches. If any church has failed to receive a circular, send for one to J. W. KILGOUR, Guelph.

The following from around-the-world editor of the *Christian Standard* is more than funny. We reproduce it, not because it is funny, but because it is generally applicable.

Faithful in little, faithful in much, is a sound Scripture maxim, but there are those who simply forget to be careful, honest and faithful in little things. It is reported that a revivalist in the Iowa town recently asked all those in his audience who paid their debts to rise. Nearly all arose. He then requested those who did not pay their debts to rise. One lonesome man arose. He was the local editor, who explained that he was unable to pay because everybody in the house owed him on subscriptions. Rather an awkward outcome that, but think you that congregations were delinquents above all who dwell in the land?

The editor of the *Christian Leader* has made our mild and innocent paragraph in the April number anent his missions the occasion for a vigorous blowing of his own horn and violent denunciation of "Society men" and "Society papers." Among other things he says, "The fact is—and the fact is a burning shame—not one of the Society papers, in alluding to his Ontario paper, has ever given its readers to understand that, while the *Leader* does not favor outside corporate organizations for the promulgation of the Gospel, at the same time it favors and advocates missionary effort to the widest possible extent, according to New Testament precept and example." "This Ontario paper" pleads not guilty to the above charge. Two years ago this month we published what the editor of the *Leader* called "The Scriptural methods" of spreading the Gospel, and called upon him to produce chapter and verse for the same. To our knowledge the request has not yet been complied with. We repeat it now. Let the editor of the *Leader* keep cool and produce the scriptures if he can.

We notice that among the Baptists in the States at the present time there is considerable discussion on several important matters, which make it increasingly difficult for one to know just exactly what a Baptist is. Bro. Darsie in the *Guide* says, that the only peculiarity of the Baptists is restricted communion; but in Canada that is not a peculiarity of theirs—for many of them would allow all baptized believers living orderly lives to commune with them. In Canada we would say, that their great peculiarity is that they have no peculiarity.

After writing the above the *Guide* of May 3rd came to hand with the following. We sympathize with Bro. Darsie in his efforts to discover what a Baptist is and cordially offer him what-ever consolation he can get from our idea expressed above.

"We thank our valued exchange, the *Religious Herald*, for its kind word concerning the merits of the *GUIDE*, but we think that, granting us even ordinary ability to learn, it gives small credit to itself by charging us with being 'a know nothing as to Baptist doctrines.' A few weeks ago the *Herald* tried to enlighten us on the question, 'Who is a Baptist?' But when it defined a Baptist to be one who believes the Bible inspired, who regards Jesus as divine, and his atonement as sufficient, who trusts in him alone for salvation, and who expresses his faith by being buried with him in baptism, we were so obtuse as to say, 'that no more describes a Baptist than it does a Disciple.' The *Herald* then refusing to pity our ignorance, the *Central Baptist* came benevolently forward and ventured to suggest that a Baptist is one who believes in a converted church membership. But here, again, we could only say 'That, too, is number one Disciple doctrine.' As our two Baptist instructors had failed to relieve our ignorance, we ventured, in an effort at self-instruction, to say that restricted communion was the only distinguishing feature of the Baptist church that we could think of. But imagine our surprise when our two exchanges at once began to contradict each other—the *Herald* affirming with thankfulness, and the *Central* denying with indignation, that close communion is a Baptist peculiarity! How can we help being 'a know nothing as to Baptist doctrines,' when two such prominent Baptist luminaries thus differ from each other, and either can not or will not give us the light we seek."

Our readers may have noticed that the Rev. D. J. McDonnell of Toronto proposes that the Confession of faith be revised, or that the terms of subscription to it be altered which amounts to the same thing. When he introduced the matter to the Toronto Presbytery an instructive discussion took place. *Toronto Saturday Night* of April 6th has some rich criticism on the speeches delivered. Take the following as a sample and be thankful that their is a secular editor in Toronto who understands the Gospel of Christ and is not afraid to preach the truth in his paper "more power to his elbow."

"Prof. McLaren felt the same as Dr. Gregg did. 'Mr. Moody' said he, 'was a useful member of the Church of Christ and his labors had been marked with great results for good, but it did not follow that Presbyterians should admit him into full membership. No doubt but that the Lord blessed the preaching of the Baptists, Congregationalists and Episcopalians, but that is no reason why those holding a different doctrine should be admitted into the Presbyterian Church.' Possibly not. Bro. McLaren knows so much more about it than the Lord does that he must draw the lines where the Lord is anxious no lines should be drawn. Whenever a man talks this way argument ceases. Dr. McLaren feels that if Mr. Macdonnell's views should prevail the Confession that would suit them would be reduced to an infinitesimal something and in the end what would it contain? Possibly it would contain this 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God.' This is the infinitesimal something upon which Christ declared he would build his church. Perhaps it isn't enough for Presbyterians, but it was enough for Christ (Matt. xvi, 16-18). Dr. McLaren also made the pertinent inquiry: 'What right has the General Assembly to make a Confession of Faith to suit the whole united body?' Will the learned gentlemen permit me to inquire what right the General Assembly, or any assembly, or any united body, has to make a Confession of Faith at all. Christ made all the Confession that was necessary, and when Dr. McLaren, or anybody else, tries to improve on it he is apt to make a mess of it."

A Sister in Muskoka writes to us and speaks very kindly about our paper and adds, "Will no one come out this summer and help Bro. Crewson. We need help very much. Others are trying to step in that leave out Baptism and the Lord's Supper. I want the whole Gospel myself. I thank God for sending Bro. Crewson for he led my husband and myself to the cross. We bless the day. Would that some one like Bro. Baker or Bro. J. B. Lister would come up this summer and help."

CHURCH NEWS.

TONAWANDA, N. Y.—In our last report we said "the brethren in N. Y. had organized a church there and engaged a preacher." We also stated "that many of the brethren were opposed to this movement. Though the work there has been very successfully carried on, and they are ready to proceed with their church, having already finished the foundation, yet it is now almost unanimously conceded that it would have been better had they remained with the church here, and both churches are discussing together reunion before they proceed further with the new church building.

D. S.

BOWMANVILLE.—One baptism since last report. M. GUNN.

OWEN SOUND.—The corner stone of the new Christian Church at the corner of Division and Hill Streets was laid on Friday afternoon by Elder W. A. Stephens. The ceremony was very simple, a prayer for the prosperity of Christianity in the town and for the new building, the depositing of a box containing the customary papers, &c., and laying the stone thereon and a benediction completed the service. A goodly number of the members were present. The church is 40x63 feet over all, and will be a handsome structure when completed. We subjoin the list of articles deposited in the corner stone:—1 cent, 5 cents, 10 cents, 25 cents, 50 cents. Papers—Owen Sound Times, Owen Sound Advertiser, Ontario Evangelist, Gospel Advocate, Christian Standard, Apostolic Guide, Bible Index, Octographic Review, Christian Leader, Y. M. C. A. Association Notes. A list of the members of the church, the Elders, the Deacons, the Sunday School officers, the officers of the O. C. W. M. band, the names of preacher and contractor, the present officers of the town and County.—Owen Sound Times.

SELKIRK.—The Annual Meeting of the church in this place will be held by W. D. Campbell, commencing the last Lord's day in May and continued for a few weeks. A cordial invitation is hereby given to the brotherhood to be with us. May 1st. J. FRY.

COLLINGWOOD.—We closed a meeting of weeks. Immediate results, nine added to the church, representing Catholics, Drunkards, Methodists, Old Christian Church, and Presbyterians. This has led to much religious talk, and Bible Study which we trust will yet lead to a larger harvest. We bless God and take courage. May 6. C. S.

TO THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.

DEAR BRETHREN.—The annual meeting of the Disciples of Christ in Ontario will be held in St. Thomas, commencing Thursday, 8 p.m., June 6th. You are earnestly requested to send delegates to represent you at the meeting. A most interesting programme is being prepared, and will appear in May number of THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST. Look out for it. All of the preachers in the Province, it is expected, will be present. Robert Moffett, Cor. Sec. of the General Missionary Convention of the United States, will be present as chief speaker. A. McLean, Cor. Sec. of the Foreign Missionary Society, will also be there. "A feast of fat things" is in store for all who attend. The church in St. Thomas is making ample preparation for the accommodation of those who attend the meeting, and the brethren extend a hearty invitation to all.

Arrangements are being made for reduced rates on all the railway lines leading to St. Thomas, particulars of which will appear in May number of THE ONTARIO EVANGELIST. Those who intend coming to the meeting are requested to send their names to W. W. COULTER, St. Thomas, not later than May 24th.

To meet all obligations and have a small balance to continue the work, \$500 must be collected in May. Will you please bear this in mind, and assist us in securing this amount?

T. L. FOWLER, Cor. Sec'y. Everton, May 1st, 1889.

PROGRAMME.

FOR ANNUAL MEETING, ST. THOMAS, JUNE 6—JUNE 10.
THURSDAY, 2 P.M.—Address of welcome by T. B. Knowles. Response by the President, H. Black. Appointment of regular committees. Report on order of business.
4—Adjournment.
Evening 8—Address by E. Sheppard.
FRIDAY, 9 A.M.—Social and devotional exercises.
9.30—(1)—Report of the Board referred to committee. (2)—Report of Treasurer. (3)—Report of Committee on S. S., and discussion upon.

11—An address by J. R. Gaff, subject:—S. S. Work.
12—Adjournment.
1.30 P.M.—Report of Committee on Constitution, and discussion upon.
3—Report of other Committees.
Evening, 7.30—Address by R. Moffett, subject:—Home Missions.

SATURDAY 9 A.M.—Devotional exercises.
9.30—Time given to C. W. B. M.
12—Adjournment.
1.30 P.M.—Song and Prayer, followed by an Address.
2.30.—Unfinished business.
3.30.—Miscellaneous business.
4.—Adjournment.
Evening, 8.—Address by A. McLean.
LORD'S DAY, 9.30 A.M.—Sunday School.
11.—Preaching by R. Moffett.
2 P.M.—Breaking of Bread.
3.—Preaching by A. McLean.
Evening, 7.30.—Devotional Exercises.
8.—Preaching by R. Moffett.
MONDAY, 9 A.M.—Praise and Song Service.
9.30.—Unfinished business.
10.—Preaching by R. Moffett.
T. L. FOWLER, Cor. Sec.

A HEARTY INVITATION FROM ST. THOMAS.

As the time for the June Meeting of the Disciples in Ontario is not far distant, I wish to say through the EVANGELIST, that the Church of Christ at this place extends a most cordial welcome to all the brethren in Christ, and will be glad to entertain all who may come to the convention.

And will all who expect to attend this meeting be so kind as to write the same to W. W. COULTER, St. Thomas. This will assist the committee on entertainment in assigning to proper places, &c.

Brethren R. Moffett of Cleveland, and A. McLean of Cincinnati, Ohio, have promised to be at the convention.

Let there be a grand re-union and rally of the Disciples of Christ from all parts of the Province, and let all come expecting to have, and to help make, a joyous and profitable meeting, and no one will be disappointed. We hope there will be a large attendance of the members of the Christian Women's Board, and all the sisters who can come ought to be here for the Ladies' Meeting, Friday afternoon.

Brethren, pray for the blessing of God upon this convention, and upon the efforts of His children to extend Messiah's kingdom and the glory of His name.

T. B. KNOWLES, St. Thomas, April 23rd.

REDUCED RATES TO ANNUAL MEETING.

Arrangements have been made with the Grand Trunk, Canada Pacific and Michigan Central Railways to carry all who attend the meeting at rate of one and one-third fare for return trip, if 25 or more attend the meeting over all (not each) of the lines.

Those desiring to take advantage of these rates will observe the following instructions:

1. Write to Wm. W. Coulter, St. Thomas, for a blank railway certificate.
2. Buy a full fare single ticket from your station to St. Thomas, obtaining a receipt for the ticket on your certificate.
3. Present this certificate, after the meeting, to the Secretary and he will certify to your attendance, and to the number who attended the meeting; you will present this certificate to the ticket agent at St. Thomas ten minutes before time for train to start and you will receive a ticket for one-third of the single fare.
4. The return ticket must be purchased within three days after adjournment of the meeting.

T. L. FOWLER, Cor. Sec. Everton, May 1st.

MUSKOKA MISSION MATTERS.

DEAR EVANGELIST.—It is sometime since I sent items of news for your readers, partly because I have been very busy, and partly because I have felt that things that I feel a deep interest in may not be very interesting to the majority of your readers.

I returned to Muskoka about the first week in March. Went on with my work, trying to take up the threads which had been broken off. Was taken suddenly ill, very ill for a time, but with good care and excellent medical attention, I soon recovered.

The friends at Baysville had arranged to hold a "Tea Meeting" as soon after my return as convenient. It took place on the 3rd March, in

Temperance Hall. The programme was excellent. Proceeds nearly \$17.00. On the Monday evening following, we had a concert in the Town Hall in Brunel, for the Sunday School. The Collection \$2.50, to procure papers, &c., for the Sunday School. A second-hand Sunday School library was also donated by Mr. Bissell, Temperance Lecturer. A number of brethren in Ontario have gathered up second-hand children's papers and have sent them, which has been of great use in our Sunday Schools.

Our work at this place is progressing. We have started a Sunday School which was much needed. I expect to be with them on alternate Lord's days. We are using contributed papers yet.

In Sister Fleming's Report in the March EVANGELIST, one item needs to be corrected: "Payments—W. M. Crewson, Mission Work in Muskoka, \$25.00," should be "Building Fund, Huntsville Church-house, \$25.00." I have not appropriated any of the money received from the O. C. W. B. M. to my own use.

Huntsville, April 26th. W. M. C.

RECEIPTS.

The following are the contributions to the Co-operation for Home Missions since last report:

Church at Walkerton	\$18.70
West Lorne	8.75
Hamilton	2.00
Acton	12.42
Sister's Band, Everton	10.00
Chas. McKinlay, Brampton . . .	5.00
D. Campbell, Blenheim	5.00

Several hundred dollars must be received in May to enable us to meet all liabilities and have a balance to continue the work until returns come in for the coming year.

There are many who could spare \$5.00 or \$10.00 for this noble work without feeling it. A number of brethren have done so, but more is needed. Please send in your offerings as early in the month as possible.

Our reasons for making this request will be obvious to all.

T. L. FOWLER, Cor. Sec.

FOREIGN MISSIONS-CHILDREN'S DAY.

DEAR FRIEND.—The second day of June is Children's Day. This is the time for a collection in all the Sunday-schools for Heathen Missions. Some schools are raising funds during the entire year for this purpose. If your school has not been doing this, you would do well to call their attention to this matter at once, and to urge them to lay by in store as much as they are able for this day. Please bear in mind that we want to raise twice as much this year as we did last. There are few schools that can not easily double their offerings for Heathen Missions.

I will send envelopes to such schools as contribute regularly to this cause, and to such other schools as I think will contribute this year for the first time. Kindly distribute these as soon as possible, and ask each child to inclose ten cents at least, and each teacher and officer one dollar each. A great many can do much more than this; a few may not be able to do so much. We need a generous offering from every school. If you do not get a supply of envelopes, and will let me know how many you need, I will send them. You can give a concert some evening and ask all present to contribute something. You can get a suitable concert exercise from any publisher.

Last year seven Sunday-schools gave as much as \$100 each. These are as follows: Cedar Rapids, Ia., \$102.00; Des Moines, \$100.00; Grand Rapids, Mich., \$100.00; Tonawanda, N. Y., \$150.00; Drayton, O., \$124.00; Nashville (Church Street), Tenn., \$100.00; Allegheny, Pa., \$570.00. There are a hundred schools that ought not to think of giving less than \$100.00 each.

Let me suggest that you ask your school to subscribe for a Life Directorship, or a Life Membership. Perhaps you can pay \$100 a year for five years for a Life Directorship. If not, you may be able to pay \$20 a year for five years for a Life Membership.

There is no feature of our work more hopeful than the work among the children. They are ready and even eager to give when the facts are placed before them. Their sympathies are widened and their hearts are made better by what they do along this line. If they are allowed to grow up with no thought of anything beyond their own little and local interests they will never do as much as they ought to do for the evangelization and redemption of the world. This cause needs your sympathy and co-operation. May I not count on you to aid us to the extent of your ability?

Very truly, A. McLEAN, Cor. Sec.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved by the C. W. B. M. of Wainfleet as a memento to the relatives and friends of Sister Misener, who, lately called to that "Home of many Mansions," has left behind her "A good report through faith."

That we express to you through this means our sorrow, because of our great loss of a helpful worker in the cause of our Master.

That we all endeavor to leave as good a record as she, as abundant labor to follow us as now follow her.

That we henceforth render ourselves living sacrifices to him; and joy in the labors of that great company that publishes the word which the Lord gave.

CARRIE ANGLE
MATHA THOMPSON } Committee.
ELIA THOMPSON

SPECIAL NOTICE.

We are requested by the church in St. Thomas to ask all delegates to the Annual Meeting in St. Thomas in June, and all visitors, as well, to notify the Clerk of the church, W. W. COULTER, at least ten days before the meeting, so that provision may be made for their entertainment.

WANTED.

The names and Post Office addresses of all the Disciples scattered throughout Manitoba and the North-West. Those of our readers who know of such will confer a favor by sending us names and addresses on a Post Card.

OBITUARIES.

THOMPSON.
In Orangeville, on Sunday, March 26th, 1889, William Thompson, aged 37 years. Mr. Thompson was a son of Bro. Archibald Thompson of Erin. He was a successful and honorable business man, respected by his fellow citizens, esteemed by his friends and beloved by his relatives. A large number of friends testified their regard for the deceased and their sympathy with his widow by attending the funeral. Three children are left to mourn the loss of a loving father and to comfort the heart of their lonely mother.

MITCHELL.
Died. On the 2nd of April, 1889, at her home in the Township of Lobo, our Sister, Sarah Ann Mitchell, after a painful illness of one month. She leaves her husband and one son to mourn her loss in her own home, and her father and mother and a host of friends who will miss her greatly. She was baptized in Detroit by Bro. Alex. Lynn, during a meeting held in that city by Benjamin Franklin, in 1871. She has been a consistent member of the church of Christ in Lobo, Ontario, ever since. A very large gathering of friends met around the grave where we laid her away in full confidence of a glorious resurrection. Poplar Hill, Ont. JAMES LEDIARD.

FERGUSON.
My mother, Mrs. Sarah Ferguson, widow of the late Donald Ferguson, departed this life on the 11th of February, 1889, in the 77th year of her age. She was the mother of eight children, six of whom survive. For two months previous to her death she was suffering from nervous prostration, but she seemed always to know those who waited upon her and those who came to see her. I do not feel at all solicitous about her future happiness, for ever since I can remember my mother was a faithful follower of Jesus. Some thirty-five years ago she walked about thirty miles with one of her children in her arms that she might be immersed by a Baptist preacher—a Mr. Miller—who then lived in Mount Forest. When our late Bro. J. McKechnie organized the church of Christ here her husband and two of her sons were among the charter members, and she after a time united with them. She continued to meet with the church whenever she had an opportunity. To the last, nothing gave her greater pleasure than to see her children walking in the truth. She often told me she was both illing and ready to leave this world whenever it would be the Lord's will to call her. I looked upon her as a noble woman. She was a kind mother and a good Christian. I hope to meet her in heaven, so I do not mourn as those who have no hope; I know that God doeth all things well: blessed be His name. Inceville, April 7th. DANIEL FERGUSON.

McLEAN.
At the residence of her uncle, Bro. George McCraig, seventh line, Erin, May 6th, 1889, Lizzie McLean, daughter of Sister Mary McLean, in her sixth year. Lizzie was a sweet little girl, much loved by her mother and uncle and brothers and all her relatives and friends. They sorrow for her, but not as those who have no hope; they believe, "It is well with the child." G. M.

MARRIED.

SMITH.—NIVEN.—At the residence of the bride's mother Owen Sound, John Smith, Evangelist, to Miss Christina Niven, by C. J. Lister.
CROOKS.—LIGHTHART.—In Brunel, April 11th, 1889, by W. M. Crewson, Mr. David A. Crooks and Miss Margaret Lighthart, both of the Township of Brunel, Ontario.

DIED.

TACKABERRY.—April 6th, the infant son of William J. and Celia V. Tackaberry, of McLean, near Baysville. For about two months, or since shortly after the child was born the mother has been insane; but there are some hopes now of her ultimate recovery. W. M. C.

SITUATION WANTED.

A young lady, a graduate of one of the best Business Colleges in Ontario, is desirous of securing a situation as book-keeper in some city or town where there is a congregation of Disciples. Best of references. Address:—H. C. R., Hesson, Ont.

TO THE CHURCHES AND BIBLE SCHOOLS.

A circular, prepared by the building committee, will soon be sent out to the churches, asking aid to pay for our new meeting house, or Christian synagogue at Owen Sound. The Gothic frames are set, and the stone walls and their buttresses are reaching upward every day. It promises not to be at the "foot of the class" in appearance. Located on one of the corners of Hill and Division Streets. On the other three corners we have St. George's Church, the U. P. Church, and the Baptist Church. Two of these are fine stone edifices. Size of ours. 35 x 55. The lot is paid for; also the furnace and piping, for heating. And we have subscribed all we are able, to the building fund. I heard a representative property holder, say last night, that the population of Owen Sound is not far from 9,000. But the Disciples are few. In 1887, the number meeting upon the 1st day seldom reached 20. Now the number is seldom under 40. But we are not among the rich, in this world. Most of us have enough to do to "make ends meet." And we think it not wrong to ask for help. Then we are only asking others to do, for us, what we would willingly do for them, in like circumstances. We will thankfully receive from any Bible School or Scholar, a 5 cent donation. This is written under the conviction that the *Index* and *Evangelist*, will reach Schools, Churches, and isolated Disciples, that would not see the aforesaid circular. All sums received, will be duly acknowledged, in one, or both of our papers.

In raising this building, dear reader, give us a lift, and may Heaven's blessing rest upon you, Owen Sound, April, 1889. C. J. L.

A WORD TO THE SISTERS CONCERNING OUR ANNUAL MEETING.

When I saw our Treasurer's report for this month, I felt like saying "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." All motives and actions that are good come from Him. The desire to aid in spreading the "glad tidings," and the ability to perform, are His blessings to us, and as we use them for Him, so will He increase them more and more. God's favors to us are like a harvest that "grows the more by reaping."

And now, dear sisters, I need not urge you to come to the meeting in June. The proof is before us that your hearts are in the work, and all who can come, will come. But to those who cannot come, or send a delegate, I would say, give us the hand of fellowship by letter, saying to what extent you can assist in the work for the coming year.

It is proposed, if the way opens, to begin a new mission that shall be all our own, at some point in the North-west, and concentrate our efforts on that till a self-supporting church shall be established. We are collecting all possible information concerning that region, and will be prepared to lay it before you at the meeting; and we ask all our sisters to give the subject of future work their consideration, and be prepared to give us their judgment on it when we meet.

With the auxiliaries that have been added during the year, and the tangible proof our sisters have given of their zeal and deep interest in the work, we feel strong and hopeful for the coming year. 'Tis ours to plant and water, and God will give the increase.

"Do thou thy work, it shall succeed
In thine, or in another's day,
And if denied the victor's meed,
Thou shalt not miss the toiler's pay."
S. M. BROWN.

ONTARIO CHRISTIAN WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The following sums have been received and paid for Mission Work by the O. C. W. B. M. since last report:

RECEIPTS.	
Aux. at Collingwood	\$3 25
" Guelph	6 00
" Erin Village	9 00
" Walkerton	9 50
" Lobo	13 00
" Wainfleet	7 00
" Erin Centre	6 00
" Owen Sound	7 00
Church at Kilsyth	8 00
PAYMENTS.	
W. M. Crewson, Mission work in Muskoka	\$25 00
Church in Collingwood, Miss. work Church in Toronto, Dennis Ave., Building Fund	25 00
C. A. Fleming, acc. for Envelopes	50 00
	2 22
JENNIE FLEMING, Treas., Kilsyth, Ont.	

Selections.

THE PLEA OF THE DISCIPLES.

The plea of the Disciples is for a restoration of pure, New Testament Christianity. Their watch-word is "What saith the Scriptures?" "Where the Bible speaks we speak; and where the Bible is silent we are silent." Nothing less than the doctrine, promulgated by Jesus Christ and preached by his apostles, will answer as their creed. We do not mean that all are thus broad and inclusive in their aims; but that the leaders, from the beginning until now, have earnestly and ably advocated the plea we have mentioned must be admitted by all who have had sufficient observation and discernment to judge. The distinction between a restoration and reformation has been justly made. The Disciples went not out from other religious bodies because there were a few things in the doctrine and practice of those bodies which they could not endorse, and upon which they wanted to improve. They are not a branch of "a branch of the Church of Christ," to use language common with those who advocate denominationalism. They threw away all creeds and confessions of faith as bonds of union because a union formed by means of these was not the union which existed among congregations of believers planted and confirmed under the preaching and ministry of the apostles, and because the Lord himself, the Head of the church, had never given or sanctioned a creed outside of his own word.

The disunion, rivalry and sectarianism among the religious bodies called churches, so hostile to the evangelization of the world, was not "the unity of the Spirit," not the unity for which Jesus prayed as he was about to leave the world.

They saw no safe and firm building-place between Babylon and Jerusalem, and hence their watchword became, "Back to Jerusalem;" "Our feet shall stand within thy gates, Oh, Jerusalem."

Having decided to build on the foundation of apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself the chief corner-stone, they were earnest, diligent and successful in calling men and women back to the "old paths," and building on the one only foundation.

To-day they have no creed but the Word of God "that liveth and abideth forever." There is no other authority in discipline, no other guide to salvation. It is a full and sufficient revelation of God and his will to his creatures. No ecclesiasticism can excommunicate *ex-cathedra*. The Lord Jesus is Master, and where he directly, or through his apostles, has spoken to condemn, the church, his *affianced*, must condemn also. Where he has not spoken, where his will may not be known, liberty is left to one's own enlightened and sensitive conscience.

Some have misconceived or misapplied the original motto: "Where the Scriptures speak we speak; and where they are silent we are silent," and have strangely interpreted it to mean, "Where the Scriptures are silent in regard to expedients we must *prohibit* them." Thus they have essayed to speak where God hath not spoken.

It is not surprising that the same human nature which wrested the Scriptures in the days of the apostles should wrest them now. It is not strange that men should "tempt God" to-day as they tempted him in the days of the early church when they sought "to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples," which they were not able to bear.

While there are a few who say that "Missionary Societies," "Educational boards," "Ministerial Associations," "Sunday School Helps," "Colleges," etc., etc., as expedients may not be allowed because we have no "Thus saith the Lord" for them, yet this is not by any means the representative teaching of the Disciples. It is an incidental and side-issue, which by being advocated, becomes a fertile seed of faction a hindrance and a reproach reflecting upon the intelligence and loyalty of the whole body of Disciples.

Another observation worthy of attention, in order to warn brethren of a danger now imminent, is that we, as a brotherhood, may be too eager to win adherents to our plea. How often have great numbers been only a great hindrance! If the Disciples have a great and peculiar plea which they should advocate there is danger that the thousands of converts reported every week through the religious papers and the whole churches which are occasionally received into their ranks, there is danger we say, lest these shall not fully grasp and assimilate that plea, and hence may remain only smatterers in the school of Christ. There is also danger lest preachers, who know scarcely more than children out of the common school, shall misrepresent the truth.

Colleges should be sustained where young men may be well and thoroughly educated for the

ministry; colleges in which they may be taught to think for themselves according to the wisdom of God.

We believe that the hope of our future, as a people endeavoring to restore the pure doctrine of Christ, lies in the prosperity and success of such colleges more than in anything beside.

It may be well to suggest, in closing this article, that our plea is not the thing we must preach. Our plea is that men shall preach the gospel. Our plea is not the centre of the circle. Jesus Christ our Saviour and King and Teacher and Head of the Church, is the centre, and his gospel lies all within that charmed circle and around that divine and glorious centre our plea is that men should come within the circle, even to Christ, and abide in his truth.

Back, then, beloved souls, to Jesus Christ as teacher! Back to the utterances of his word as life-giving and authoritative decrees!

Moreover, we are not to rest on the surface of things, on the easiest and on the laziest interpretation of God's thought, but we must dig down into its real and full meaning. We must know not simply what to ignorant, carnal and superficial men God *seemeth* to say, but by diligent study and prayerful research we must seek to ascertain unmistakably what God hath really and truly said.

Our plea is that all men shall stand where the apostles and first faithful disciples stood with reference to our Lord—to his word and to his church. It is that Jesus Christ only shall be our Master and our Lord. Let us make it known for Christ's sake like men who are born to a high purpose, avoiding trifles, traditions and all bitter discussions about expedients. These only stir up carnal strife, hinder the progress of the gospel and shipwreck unstable souls on the way to heaven.

Missionary Weekly.

YOUR WIFE.

If thy wife be small, bend down to her; do nothing without her advice. Everything in life can be replaced; the wife of early days is irreplaceable. An honorable man honors his wife; a contemptible one despiseth her. The loss of a first wife is like the loss of a man's sanctuary in his lifetime. Man and wife well-matched have heaven's glory as their companion; man and woman ill-matched are encircled by a devouring fire. Rather any ache than headache; rather any evil than an evil wife.—*The Talmud.*



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NEW BOOKS.

- 1.—Report of the Missionary Conference, London 1888. 2 vols., \$1.50.
 - 2.—Vale Lectures on the Sunday School. By H. C. Thibault, \$1.50.
 - 3.—The Gospel according to St. Paul. By J. Oswald Dykes, D. D., \$2.00.
 - 4.—Landmarks of New Testament Morality. By George Mathieson, D. D., \$2.00.
 - 5.—Gospel Sermons. By James McCosh, D. D., \$1.50.
 - 6.—The Training of the Twelve. By A. B. Bruce, D. D. 4th edition revised, \$2.50.
 - 7.—Jesus Christ, the Divine man. By J. F. Vallings, N. A., \$1.00.
 - 8.—Abraham; or The Obedience of Faith. By F. B. Meyer, B. A., 50 cents.
 - 9.—Sure of Success. By J. Thain Davidson, D. D., \$1.50.
 - 10.—The Centenary of the Spanish Armada, 1588-1888. By Rev. J. Little, M. A., 75c.
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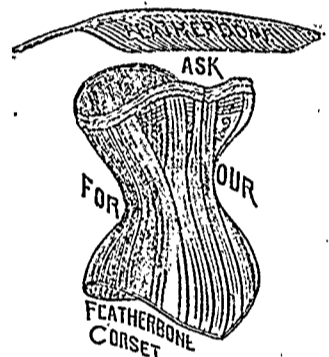
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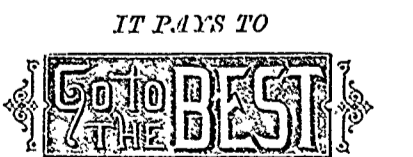
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