

# SHAFTESBURY HALL

## WEEKLY BULLETIN.

PUBLISHED BY THE  
TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 6, 1880.

No. 19.

### SAFETY AND SUPPLY.

The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

O fear the Lord, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him.

The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing.—Ps. xxxiv. 8-10.

### WORK.

A very pleasant social gathering of our workers was held on Monday last. After tea, the brethren adjourned to the parlor, when the religious work, or we might properly say *the legitimate* work, of our Association was discussed. The work specially taken up was that of boarding house visitation.

The cry has ever been, "How shall we reach young men?" This of itself implies that the young men do not of their own accord come to us. If, therefore, they are to be reached, there is but one course to be adopted, "*We must go to them.*" But the question arises, "Where shall we find the greater number of the young men?" The answer is, "In boarding houses."

With this conviction pressed home upon us, we have determined in the strength of the Lord to go after them.

A regular system of visitation has been organized; the city having been divided into districts, to each of which has been assigned two or more workers who have prayerfully considered the importance of the work, and have pledged themselves to visit at least once in each month every boarding house in their respective districts. They will

commence at once, devoting their first visit toward securing (as far as possible) permission to hang in a conspicuous place in each house, a neatly printed card, extending an invitation to all young men to visit our rooms.

22 young men have been assigned to this work, and 2 have been led of God to devote their time to regular visits to fire and police stations.

There are two facts which seem to be partially if not entirely ignored. First, that as a rule, men wait for an invitation before they visit either a family or association. Second, they never go back if they are not cordially received upon their first visit.

We purpose that our work shall be carried on with these facts foremost in our minds, therefore we have organized this system of visitation to meet one point, and are now aiming at a thorough organization of our Reception Committee, and trust ere long to report this, as well as all other Committees in perfect working order.

We do not wish any one of our readers to mistake our motives in thus referring to our plans and work. We are quite willing to work on quietly and unostentatiously in the field assigned us by the Lord, but at the same time we recognise the duty we owe to our many friends and contributors to give from time to time an account of the modes adopted for efficiently carrying on the work they have so liberally supported. We thank them for their support, and are determined, God helping us, not to leave untried any feasible plan which might enable us to win the dear young men of Toronto for our Lord Jesus Christ, and as we thus labour we desire at each failure to acknowledge that ours is the blame, and at each success to echo the words of the Psalmist, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory."

## ITEMS OF INTEREST.

We have to thank the proprietor of the Montreal Star for donating the daily edition of that paper to our rooms, also to R. H. R. Munro, Esq., for several volumes added to our Library, this is a most acceptable donation. The shelves of our Library will yet bear the repetition of such favours at the hands of our friends. Who'll be the next?

At the last meeting of the Board 57 new members were passed. It is a pleasure to note that the greater number of these were voluntary applications for admission. The renewals of membership are fully one third in excess of those during same period last year.

The new Instructor of Gymnastics proves to be the right man in the right place. The members are much pleased with him, and we anticipate satisfactory progress. The apparatus is now being put in thorough order, and on the whole the Gymnasium is inviting in appearance, and complete in equipment.

During this coming week we expect all the classes as announced in a previous issue will be in full operation.

## FISH BONES.

We ~~have~~ had the pleasure, this evening, of listening to Dr. A. A. Willets, of Philadelphia, in his lecture on Sunshine. Those who heard the lecture agree that our Lecture Committee were wisely directed in their choice, and if our brother Sinclair, of Dayton, Ohio, is always as correct and reliable in advice given to young men visiting him, as he was in his recommendation of Dr. Willets, we can only express the hope that he may long be induced to retain the position of a Y. M. C. A. Secretary. We have scarcely listened to more sound common sense, backed up by Bible truth, and interwoven with amusing yet pointed anecdotes. We cannot refrain from quoting one illustration. The doctor spoke of a certain class of people who look for faults in everything. He said, "I once lectured in a town; during my visit, I stopped at the house of a man whose hobby was finding fault with the Bible. His wife had prepared for dinner a fried shad. As we sat at the table, the old man opened by saying, "You are a preacher I believe?"

"Yes," I replied. "Do you always preach from the Bible?" "Yes." "Dont you find some things there you don't understand?" "Yes." "What do you do then?" "Why I just act as I do now with this bone: I lay it to one side, and go on feeding on the shad. I am not such a fool as to choke myself trying to swallow this bone, nor yet do I run round the room trying to choke others with it." "And yet," added the lecturer, "there are men who search for some bone—some hard passage, and they will choke themselves with it, or run round the country crying out, "See what I have found in the Bible." "The mistakes of Moses! the mistakes of Moses!"

## MAKING UP THE TRAIN.

There is a good deal of labor spent about a railway train, of which ordinary travelers know nothing. They come to the station at the appointed time, find the train in readiness, step on board, and are whirled away to their destination. But long before they put in an appearance, men are engaged in "making up the train." The fires are kindled beneath the boilers, steam is got up, carriages are swept and cleaned, and then the train must be made up. An engine is upon one track, a baggage car upon another, a sleeping car upon another, a passenger car yonder; and one by one the engine must take these, backing down to where they are, shackling on to them, and drawing them out to where they *should be*, until at length the train is ready for a start. If the engine driver should bring his engine up in front of the depot and say: "I am here ready to drag the train over the road," he would have no train to draw; but by switching and backing from car to car, he gathers together the scattered carriages and makes up his train.

In the service of God and the life of the Church there is something quite analagous to this. There are persons who are ready for service when everybody else is ready; but they do nothing towards getting ready. But if the work of God is to be carried forward, and the salvation of souls to be sought, somebody must "make up the train;" somebody must begin and do personal work. It is not enough to say: "I am

ready for a start, and this is the place for starting;" but the engine must back down, not to where persons *ought to be*, but to where persons *are*. No matter where they may be, on the wrong track, on the side track, on the switch track, or off from the track entirely, the engineer who wishes to take his train over the road, must first see to it that it is properly *made up*.

So in the cause of God there are thousands of people fitted for great usefulness if they were only "shackled on." One stands out under this shed, and another on that side track; one is here and another there; and there they stand, and will stand, unless somebody takes pains to "make up the train." When the cars are ready to start there will be plenty of persons ready to ride; but who wants to engage in the preliminary work? Who wants to get the wood, and draw the water, and kindle the fires, and make up the train? Men who will do this are needed in the church to-day. Others there are who are ready, when all the hard work is done, to get on the engine, and ring the bell, and sound the whistle, and go whirling and screaming along, but they carry nobody with them, and benefit no one around them.

Christian worker, be patient, be diligent; hunt up those that are forgotten and out of the way; condescend to men of low estate; pick up those who are overlooked; make up your train, and

when you have done this work patiently, carefully, persistently, then you are ready for your journey.—*The Christian*.

A MITE SONG.

Only a drop in the bucket,  
But every drop will tell;  
The bucket would soon be empty,  
Without the drops in the well.

Only a poor little penny:  
It was all I had to give;  
But as pennies make the dollars,  
It may help some cause to live.

A few little bits of ribbon  
And some toys; that were not new,  
But they made the sick child happy,  
Which has made me happy, too.

Only some outgrown garments;  
They were all I had to spare;  
But they'll help to clothe the needy,  
And the poor are everywhere.

A word, now and then, of comfort,  
That does me nothing to say;  
But the poor old man died happy,  
And it helped him on the way.

God loveth the cheerful giver,  
Though the gift be poor and small;  
What doth he think of his children  
When they never give at all.

There came a certain poor widow,  
and she threw in two mites, which  
make a farthing. And Jesus called  
his disciples and saith unto them,  
Verily I say unto you, that this poor  
widow hath cast more in than all  
they which have cast into the treasury;  
For all they did cast in of their  
abundance; but she of her want did  
cast in all that she had, even all her  
living. MARK xii. 41-44.

**Bulletin for Week Commencing Nov. 5th, 1880.**

|           |              |  |  |
|-----------|--------------|--|--|
| MONDAY    | ..... Nov. 8 | ..12.00 M. Praise Meeting—Alf. Sandham,<br>8.00 P.M. Workers Meeting   |  |
| TUESDAY   | ..... " 9    | ..12.00 M. Noonday Prayer.<br>Fergusson.   | A Sabbath in Christ's Ministry, Mark i. 21. 28 Geo. T.             |
| WEDNESDAY | .. " 10      | ..12.00 M. Noonday Prayer.<br>Kilgour.   | The Battle not ours but God's. 2 Chro. xx. 15-26. R.               |
| THURSDAY  | ..... " 11   | ..12.00 M. Bible Reading. S. R. Briggs.  |  |
| FRIDAY    | ..... " 12   | ..12.00 M. Noonday Prayer.<br>8.00 P.M. Boys' Meeting.   | The Prodigal Son. Luke xv. 11-32. Wm. Anderson<br>Charles Edwards. |
| SATURDAY  | .... " 13    | ..12.00 M. Noonday Prayer.<br>Rev. H. Melville,<br>4.50 P.M. Teacher's Bible Class. Hon. S. H. Blake.<br>8.00 P.M. Young Men's Meeting. W. Garside.  | The Saviour and an anxious mother, Matt. xv. 21. 28                |
| SUNDAY    | ..... " 14   | .. 9.30 A.M. Workers' Meeting for Prayer and Bible Study.<br>3.00 P.M. Evangelistic Bible Class. S. R. Briggs.<br>4.15 P.M. Address to Young Men, Rev. H. M. Parsons<br>8.30 P.M. Gospel and Song Service. H. O'Brien. |  |

OPEN TO ALL, with exception of the Monday and Saturday Evening Meetings, which are exclusively for young men. A cordial invitation is extended. Requests for prayers may be addressed to the Secretary.

**Railroad Men's Meetings.**

SUNDAY Nov. 14, 2 00 P.M.—At Union Station—Messrs W.M. GOODERHAM and W.M. BLIGHT.  
" " " " At Ripissing Station—Messrs. BICKLE and CRAIG, of Knox College.  
**COTTAGE MEETINGS** are also held every MONDAY 8 P.M.—4 McDougall's Lane, near Brock Street.  
Thursday 8 P.M.—78 Ontario Street, (rear.)  
Noon Meeting every Wednesday, 12.30 to 1—Toronto, Grey & Bruce Reading Rooms.

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