

SHAFTESBURY HALL

WEEKLY BULLETIN.

PUBLISHED BY THE

TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, SEPTEMBER 24, 1880.

No. 13.

BLESSING.

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful:

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

The ungodly are not so; but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

CHRIST, vs. THE WORLD.

We have before us a copy of the "Year Book" published by the International Executive Committee, at New York. In it appears the Report of one of their Travelling Secretaries, who spent a few weeks in Canada, and his report shews how easy it is for a person making a flying visit, to mould his impressions of the Country and its CHRISTIAN Work, according to his own view. Thereport on the "Dominion of Canada," reads—

"In most of the Associations, the work seems to be almost wholly religious, and the mental, moral and social appliances are but little availed of, and in consequence, the non-Christian young men are largely unreached."

After speaking of the need we have of a Dominion Secretary, to which we heartily agree, he adds—

"There are a number of active Association men in each of the Provinces who are really interested and anxious to promote the Association cause, and who would willingly sustain and efficiently co-operate with the Dominion Secretary in stimulating the

existing Associations to more definite work for young men, and in increasing the number of Associations."

We most gladly accept the charge made that our work is "almost wholly" religious. We are "CHRISTIAN" Associations, and we glory in the title. But to say that our Dominion Associations (as contrasted with those of other lands) largely fail to reach the non-Christian Young Men, and to attribute the failure to the almost wholly religious nature of our work, is, we claim a mistake. There is one thing we feel sure of, and that is, if a non-Christian Young Man is reached by a *wholly religious* Institution, the benefit to the Young Man is likely to be more lasting than if he is reached by a *semi-Religious* one. We venture to question whether the active Association Men of Canada *would* sustain a Dominion Secretary who believed that less of Christ and His Religion, and more of the World and its pleasures, should mark the work in Canada. We pray, and anxiously wait for the day, we believe not far distant, when *more aggressive work for Christ*, will be done IN CHRIST'S WAY, by our beloved brethren of the Associations both in Canada and the United States. May God speed the day.

THE TENT.

In speaking once more of the Work on the Exhibition Grounds, we desire to record our gratitude to God for answers to prayer. Before the work commenced, and during its continuance, prayer was daily offered, for propitious weather. Friends, *we believe* in prayer, and *we recognize* in the beautiful weather of the two weeks continuance of the exhibition, an ANSWER to prayer. Another answer was granted us in the large number who gathered to the

meetings during the second week, many hundreds were brought beneath the sound of the Gospel, and we know that good has been accomplished. In addition to the two meetings held daily, we distributed at the entrance to the grounds 10,000 copies of our 8 page Exhibition *Bulletin*; 7,000 Gospel slips, bearing invitations to the meetings, and 500 copies of the penny edition of the New Testament. The expense attending this distribution was provided for by friends of the cause, so that our Association funds were not taxed one cent. About 150 letters were written in the Tent, and hundreds of wearied ones found within its canvas walls, a resting place. We desire to thank the following friends for contributions of papers, &c. *Montreal Witness*, 6 copies daily; *Montreal Gazette*, 2 copies daily; *Toronto Globe, Telegram, Mail, World* and *London Advertiser*, each 1 copy daily; Messrs. Hunter & Rose, a number of papers and magazines daily; John McDonald, Esq., John Young, Esq., (Tract Society), Rev. W. Briggs, (Methodist Book Room), and S.R. Briggs, Esq., (Willard Tract Depository), for papers and periodicals, also to the pastors of the city for their cheerfully rendered aid at the afternoon meetings, and especially do we thank our Bro. A. G. Pearson, for his self-denying and gratuitous services as organizer. A daily journey to the Grounds, in addition to his other pressing duties, was no light task, and was warmly appreciated by us.

THE COMING CONVENTION.

The thirteenth annual convention of the Young Men's Christian Associations of Ontario and Quebec, will be held at Ingersoll, on the 30th September, and three following days. This meeting promises to be one of the most interesting gatherings yet held in connection with the Y. M. C. A. work. The following gentlemen well known as actively engaged in Christian work, will be present:

T. K. Cree and G. W. Watkins, Travelling Secretaries, International Committee, New York; Hon. Vice Chancellor Blake, W. H. Howland, Esq. Chairman, ex-Committee of Ontario & Quebec; D. A. Sinclair, Gen. Sec. Dayton, Ohio; C. E. Dyer, Gen. Sec. Detroit, Mich; Rev. H. M. Parsons and

Mr. W. P. Crombie of Toronto.

Arrangements have been made with the various railroad and steamboat lines for reduced fares to Ingersoll from 28th September to 15th October inclusive. The Convention will meet for organization in Erskine Presbyterian Church, on Thursday, September 30th, at 3 o'clock p.m. and the inaugural public meeting in the King-st. Methodist Church the same evening at 8 o'clock. The delegates will be met at the railway stations, and conducted to the homes provided for them; and the Christian people of Ingersoll extend a hearty welcome to all delegates and others who may attend the Convention. Circulars have already been sent out giving full information about arrangements, and all who desire these circulars, railroad certificates, or any information about the Convention, will please address the Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., Ingersoll.

OUR LECTURE COURSE.

Arrangements are now completed, and the committee presents to our patrons an array of talent which cannot fail to be appreciated. The course will consist, as usual, of seven evenings: one musical by Remenyi and his company; one; readings and music, by Miss Nellie F. Brown and others; and five lectures as follows: John B. Gough, two; Rev. J. Haisted Carroll, D.D., Dr. Peck, and Dr. Willetts, one lecture each.

SIN IS HARD.

Young man, read the following testimony to the truthfulness of God's word, when He says, "The Way of transgressors is hard. This letter is dated from a prison in Ontario, and was sent to us by a Christian man who labours among prisoners:

Prison, July, 1880.

Dear Sir,

* * * The other evening a paper was loaned me by a fellow prisoner, and in looking over its columns I came across _____ notes. Feeling an interest in that locality, I began to read, and I was fearfully shocked by the following local: "Mr _____, an old and respected resident, died at his residence, _____, on Saturday. His wife, who has long been an invalid, now lies at the point of death." Oh sir, I cannot express my feelings as I read that. I was almost demented. I thought my heart would break. *I, a prisoner—my dear father dead, my poor mother dying, and I an outcast from home, family and friends, all brought on by my own wickedness. Dear sir the way of transgressors is hard.* I am finding it to be hard. Oh dear sir, if the young man just entering life only knew and realized what I am suffering they would not hesitate at once to choose the better part. Had I only taken Jesus for my guide and Saviour years ago, what a different

experience I would have to relate. Instead of being a convict and an outcast, I would be at the bedside of dying parents, helping to comfort their last hours. BUT SIR, IT IS TOO LATE.

The young man who wrote this letter began his downward course, at that place where most men receive the first push downward, but where no man ever received a lift upward, save toward the gallows, that is a licensed shop for retailing distilled damnation. The road from the tavern to the prison is a short one. The gay young man, became the drunkard, the drunkard became the thief, the thief became the convict, and now from the convict's cell comes the cry "IT IS TOO LATE." Too late to recall the past, but thank God, not too late to secure its forgiveness, and our friend who sent us the letter says he has reason to believe that the prisoner under the law of the land, is now a free man in Christ Jesus.

Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions? Who hath babbling? Who hath wounds without cause? Who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.—Prov. xxiii: 29-32.

Y. M. C. A. "WATCHMAN."

This paper, published semi-monthly in the interest of the Young Men's Christian Associations over the whole country, should be taken by all our members. The subscription price is only one dollar a year. No one at all interested in active, aggressive, Christian work can afford to be without this paper. Send to the publisher, 150 Madison St., and secure a sample copy free, for inspection, and we think you will subscribe for it without delay.

Gospel and Song Service,

SABBATH EVENING, 8.30.

YOU

ARE CORDIALLY INVITED.

Young Men's Meeting,

SATURDAY EVENING, 8 O'CLOCK.

YOU

ARE CORDIALLY INVITED.

Bulletin for Week Commencing Sept. 27th, 1880.

MONDAY	Sept. 27 .. 12.00 M.	Praise Meeting—Alf. Sandham.
	8.00 P.M.	Workers' Monthly Meeting.
TUESDAY	" 28 .. 12.00 M.	Noontday Prayer. The Quickening Spirit, John vi. 63. A. Lloyd Thomas
WEDNESDAY ..	" 29 .. 12.00 M.	Noontday Prayer Preparation for Witness Bearing. Jer. i. 6-9; xx. 9. Rev. T. C. DesBarres.
THURSDAY.....	" 30 .. 12.00 M.	Bible Reading, W. E. Burford.
FRIDAY	Oct. 1. 12.00 M.	Noontday Prayer. Testimony to a great and sudden change. Acts xxvi. 1-20. R. Merryfield.
	8.00 P.M.	Boys' Meeting. Charles Edwards.
SATURDAY	" 2. 12.00 M.	Noontday Prayer. Looking for an answer to prayer. 1 Kings xviii. 41-45; Mark xi. 24. H. A. Bruton.
	4.00 P.M.	Teacher's Bible Class. Hon. S. H. Blake.
	8.00 P.M.	Young Men's Meeting. Geo. T. Fergusson.
SUNDAY.....	" 3. 9.30 A.M.	Workers' Meeting for Prayer and Bible Study.
	3.00 P.M.	Evangelistic Bible Class. S. R. Briggs.
	8.30 P.M.	Gospel and Song Service. D. C. Forbes.

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.

SABBATH, Oct. 3, 9.00 P.M.—At Union Station—JOS. GREENE and REV. M. TROTTER.

" " At Nipissing Station—P. H. BURTON and W. ANDERSON.

COTTAGE MEETINGS are also held every MONDAY 8 P.M.—476 Adelaide St. W. 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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