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 —AND—
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THE
Ontario Christian Magazine
AND MONTHLY JOURNAL.

“Preach the Gospel to every creature.”—Jesus.

“One Body.”—Paul.

ELDER T. GARBUTT, . . . EDITOR.

VOL. I.

SHARON, SEPTEMBER, 1891.

No. 9.

The Spiritual and the Ceremonial in Christian Life.



THE Spiritual and the Ceremonial in Christian Life are no doubt intimately connected with each other and in certain aspects appear to be identical, as the letter and the spirit do, yet in both we find points of distinction. The symbol cannot be identical with the thing symbolized. The spiritual is the highest. Ceremonies are things cognizable by the senses and represent the moral or spiritual. The ceremony is the outward form and expresses a fact of higher and more important nature.

Christianity is based upon knowledge. Independent of truth it cannot exist. All revealed or moral truth is important and intimately connected with the existence and growth of christianity, yet it exists without the apprehension or comprehension of all moral truth. Nay, it undoubtedly exists where error abounds. In christianity many things are important that are not absolutely essential, few things we deem are positively essential. If a correct understanding of every truth connected with it is necessary to its existence, who will answer the question: where is christianity to be found? Christianity is more

than a study—yet it is a study. He who is without knowledge is without religion, “For he that cometh to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of them that seek after Him.” He who comes to God seeks truth and submits to its claims.

Man's first religious step is submission. He grounds the weapons of his warfare and submits his heart to God. A man cannot be accountable for that of which he is ignorant; he must know, and his first spiritual act is heart submission. This places him on the right side of the line of separation between the world and christianity. Whenever this step is taken man is conscious of the fact, conscious that it is the turning point of his life—that he is at the beginning of a new career. He has submitted to the truth, to God's truth, not that every truth is understood and obeyed, but all known truth is submitted to, with an honest desire to know more and a deliberate determination to obey all truth discovered in future. Thus religion is a state of mind, or heart, and will, and secures that which nothing else can, namely: practical heart-satisfying experience of saving truth. Every one in this state of mind will live the life of Christ—will do the work of Christ.

It is very evident that undue importance may be given to the letter, we must not rely upon a mere knowledge of the truth; undue importance may also be attached to ceremony—the bible itself may be superstitiously relied upon. Ceremony may be worthless, the Spirit cannot be; external observance may be mockery and an injury. Right action devoid of the spirit is without merit. On the other hand we can conceive of the right spirit when the outward act cannot be performed, and it is meritorious, even when its necessity is unknown. But the spiritual state of mind will not permit the neglect of known duty, ceremonial or otherwise. The spiritual state has no desire to avoid duty, its meat and its drink is to do the will of God, but it will not inspire with a knowledge of duty—that is a matter of study. The Spirit of God is not given to construe sentences. When Jesus says: “The words that I have spoken unto you are spirit and are life.” He does not mean that all who hear them will be imbued with spirit and life. No, it is this, if we understand and obey the truth contained in His words, they will move, start into action, spiritual life in man. A ceremony may be very important as a symbolic exhibition of a fact, or an object lesson teaching truth, or belief. In such cases the more important thing, or the essential thing, is the state of mind repre-

sented by the ceremony, as the moral condition of the heart is more important than any declaration of it can be.

The inward feeling toward God and man, toward truth, is the spiritual, and gives to the outward any significance it may have. The outward borrows, the inward possesses. Means do not become the end because they are the instruments or methods of achieving the end, for that very reason they are not the end. Ceremony is not spiritual for the very reason that it signifies, is a token of spiritual fact or truth. The token becomes not the fact. The bread becomes not the flesh, the wine becomes not the blood. literal or spiritual flesh or blood. Baptism is not the burial or the resurrection, neither the literal nor spiritual. These ceremonies are symbolic and symbols they must remain. They are shows, types and represent something—something moral, spiritual, intellectual; the thing represented is the essential, the saving condition or state of mind.

The Illumination at Sharon.



IN September the 4th, the old time gathering assembled for the sixtieth anniversary harvest feast at Sharon. The evening, the attendance, and the concert were all that could be desired. Signor P. Delasco, who was present at the Temple Service, and sang at the concert has a wonderful voice and well cultivated. He sang, in grand style, several solos, but the depth and power of his voice shone out most perceptibly in "God Save the Queen," when so many good voices accompanied him. The rich tones of his magnificent voice seemed to absorb all other voices and sounds and fill the large meeting house. (one hundred by fifty feet) as though it were an ordinary parlor. Messrs. Gamsby and Armstrong, of Orono, sang well and received the hearty applause of those present. Miss Ratcliff, of Newmarket, has a very sweet voice. Miss Querrie also won the encomium of those who heard her at the piano-fort. The choir of the Newmarket Christian Church sang at the Temple Service. The 12th Batt. Band played in the upper gallery of the temple, in the procession, and we think we do not say too much when we say that the musical program was faultless and much of it never excelled even in musical Sharon.

ADDRESS.

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS—Our anniversary harvest gathering (for such it was at the beginning) has brought us together again. I trust we meet with contented minds and happy hearts, thankful to Him who has provided again, so liberally, for our temporal wants—Who has brought us safely through another year and surrounded us with such rich promises. And although we come with merry hearts, called together with music and song in the midst of this plenty, we will not forget our Father in Heaven, the giver of all these blessings, Who has, and will supply us with grace and every needful spiritual blessing if we seek Him with all our hearts.

We come thus with prayer as well as song, and would spend a few moments in devout thankfulness for His goodness, and ask for the forgiveness of our sins and shortcomings, and that He would guide us in our hours of joy, also in our moments of sadness and temptation ; for we know that we are not free from trials, and must prove by watchfulness and prayer that we desire to live manly lives.

It is sixty years ago this autumn since the first religious service was held in this Temple ; thus this anniversary thanksgiving connects us with the past, and many who have departed this life, giving to this joyous occasion a degree of solemnity, that many feel deeply.

The greater number present have had their birth since these stately pillars and lofty windows were erected. The designer and the builders of these spacious buildings intended them to represent eternal things to all beholders, to all worshipers. They would have these lighted windows represent the light of the City of God. Let them represent truth and life and the uplifting of our aspirations.

May this house as well as our bodies refract the rays of blessedness from above as perfectly as a temple built with human hands can ; and these bodies refract and reflect as grandly as human bodies created by the Great Architect of the universe intended them to convey of his truth and love from above.

This festive gathering, however, is older than the building, older than the illumination. Seventy-three years ago this festival was instituted, and we pray that as long as the buildings stand and the festival is kept, that they may proclaim to all the devout feelings of their originators. Their origin cannot have been that of frivolity, and may the present occupants and those in days to come increase in holiness of life, and ever proclaim the saving truth of Jesus. Let us ever remember that human nature is possessed of a devotional spirit, springing perhaps from the consciousness of the existence of the Divine Being.

The religious movement connected with the erection of these buildings commenced seventy-seven years ago, in this place, under the leadership of the lamented David Wilson. It was a movement of peace, union and good will to all God's children.

The Christian, conducting services in these buildings rose ninety-seven years ago in the United States. Our origin was somewhat peculiar. Several bodies without any concert of action united, without any knowledge of each others' existence, commenced a similar movement nearly simultaneously, for the same reasons and with the same end in view. Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Virginia and North Carolina, of the Presbyterians of Kentucky, and the Baptists of New England, dissatisfied and weary of the bickerings and ill feeling existing between persons of rival creeds, and earnestly seeking a larger share of christian liberty, and to promote and encourage peace, were by this oneness of purpose drawn together.

The Christian Church has been in existence in Canada 70 years. Near this place on the shore of Lake Simcoe the organization of the first church and the ordination of the first minister took place on the 21st day of October, 1821. The Christians and the Children of Peace as I said last year, have grown up side by side, alike, dear lovers of religious liberty.

The principles distinguishing the Christian Church from all others are of the most distinct character and easily understood :

- 1st—The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament a sufficient rule of faith and practice.
- 2nd—The name Christian. We recognize the Lord Jesus Christ as the only head of the church.
- 3rd—Christian character or vital piety the only test of fellowship or church membership.

We have a Conference in Canada, we have Conferences also in Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Iowa, Georgia, Alabama, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, New Hampshire, Michigan, New Jersey, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Virginia and Vermont, in all, about one hundred, together with a number of conventions and societies.

Although we are comparatively young, we have several missionary organizations, home and foreign. We have three foreign missionary preachers in the field, with six native preachers employed, also several interpreters and bible women. We have a number of churches and stations, in all, about thirty foreign preaching places. We are not negligent of the subject of education : already we have a number of colleges and schools. Antioch College, located at Yellow Springs,

Ohio, was the first college established by the Christians. Elon College, located at Elon, North Carolina, is controlled by the Christians of the south. Franklinton Christian College, located at Franklinton, North Carolina, is designed for the education of the colored people—Board elected by the American Christian Convention. The Kansas State Christian College, located at Lincoln, Kansas—trustees elected by the State Christian Conference. Le Grand Christian College, located at Le Grand, Iowa, also controlled by State Conference. Union Christian College located at Merom, Indiana, Starkey College and Seminary located at Eddytown, Yates County, New York State. Weaubleau Christian Institute at Weaubleau, Missouri. The Christian Correspondence College—Rev. M. Summerbell, D.D., Ph.D., President, Lewiston, Maine. The Christian Biblical Institute located at Stanfordville, N.Y., also a Correspondence School connected with the Ontario Conference.

Neither have we been unmindful of the influence of the press. Our publications are numerous in the United States—a number of papers and magazines are being published, and a large number of books and pamphlets have been issued. In Canada we publish a monthly magazine and journal, and we feel encouraged to press forward with our work. The catholic sentiment of our day, that has grown so rapidly since our commencement, is proof that our labor has not been in vain. “The Young Men’s Christian Association,” “The Christian Endeavor” and other organizations have a similar end in view, the union of believers in Christ, recognizing the brotherhood where differences of opinion occur. The earnest effort that is abroad to foster unity in spirit where unity of dogma is impossible is significant. That wide charity and love amongst the Children of God, for which we have contended and are contending, is a source of great stimulation to our efforts, filling us with hope that the day is at hand when our ideal brotherhood will be an accomplished fact. We rejoice in the fact that we are at one with every “child of Peace” and everyone in this community who loves the Lord Jesus Christ and trust Him as their Saviour—all who study the bible and receive it as all sufficient as a guide to holiness of life.

And now may the good spirit of the Lord guide us all in the way of peace and brotherly love until Sharon shall be known far and wide as one the centres of christian intelligence and love.

A SOCIETY of Young People’s Christian Endeavor was organized in the church at Newmarket, on Thursday evening, Sept, 24th, after prayer meeting, with Bro. Percy Fetcher as President. Which will be the next church to follow?

Executive Board Meeting.



THE Executive Board met at Oshawa, September 2nd, 1881. Members present—Elders C. H. Hainer, T. Garbutt, J. Willoughby, J. L. Russ and W. Percy, and Bro. W. R. Stone.

The meeting was called to order by the President, and after devotional exercises, Elder Willoughby read the following suggestions designed to aid the Sabbath School Committee for convention next Conference.

RECOMMENDED.

- 1st—Secure if possible more complete returns for the use of the Conference.
- 2nd—Report any changes which the committee may think necessary in the present statistical table.
- 3rd—Enquire into and report openings for new schools.
- 4th—If any churches exist without schools, to encourage openings.
- 5th—Where schools have been discontinued to ascertain the cause.
- 6th—To prepare program of Sabbath School subjects for discussion at the next Conference.
- 7th—The best plan of making children effective Home Mission workers.
- 8th—That the committee report to Conference all work done.

These suggestions occupied the attention of the Board for some time and great interest was manifested and the hope expressed that a revival of Sabbath School work amongst us was at hand. The hope was also expressed that the impromptu programme prepared at the last Conference, but not carried out for want of time, was in the hands of the Committee and would be considered by them as it was thought that it contained several valuable features. On motion the recommendations were adopted.

It was moved by Eld. Willoughby and seconded by Bro. W. R. Stone that Elders C. H. Hainer and T. Garbutt be a Committee to correspond with Lessie E. Haley, C. L. Jackson or any other Evangelist with the object of procuring the services of an Evangelist for at least a term of three months at the earliest date possible. Carried.

At this meeting a letter was expected from Rev. D. A. Barney, Linville, Virginia U. S. Bro. Stone received the letter, but it was one

day too late for action at the Board meeting. We find that the services of Eld. Barney can be secured after the fifteenth of October. A number of the brethren have been communicated with and Eld. Hainer has ordered his engagement and it is expected that he will commence labor at Oshawa about the middle of October. Pray dear brethren that the Lord may bless this new venture. On motion adjourned to meet at 1.30 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON MEETING.

The Board met again at 1.30. Members present—Elders Hainer, Garbutt, Russ, Willoughby, Percy and Bro. W. R. Stone. The meeting was called to order and devotional exercises observed as usual, and the following business was transacted. Moved by Eld. Garbutt and seconded by Eld. Percy, that all our ministers be requested to hold themselves ready during the coming winter to answer the call of the Executive Board for a term of two weeks evangelistic work wherever appointed.

That we also request our churches to liberate their pastors during said call and aid in supplying the pulpit one or two Sundays as the case may be if their pastor is chosen for such work.

That we further request each congregation desiring a revival and think that it can be promoted by such an arrangement, to notify the Conference clerk, Eld. W. S. Cowle, Eddystone, of the time, place and the person they wish to help them. And the Executive Board will send a worker in accordance with their wishes if possible.

Explanation—No doubt it will be necessary for each congregation to name more than one person as their Evangelist, as the Board cannot be expected to call any person more than once during the winter away from his regular work. The Board hopes that all our preachers will be used in this evangelistic work and in this way encourage evangelization and develop talent in that direction.

Christian Correspondence School.



WE publish in this issue a revised list of subjects, textbooks and instructions in connection with our Correspondence School. It is the result of careful thought on the part of the Educational Board, who met at Sharon last July and made arrangements for the present school year. A very few words will be sufficient to direct all intending students. Select your subject or subjects, and send a dollar for each one chosen to the Treasurer, Mr. W. G. Sargent, Cobourg. He will notify the teachers in whose department you intend

to begin work, and the latter will at once correspond with you, giving any preliminary directions, which may be necessary for that particular branch. Every two weeks at least, the student should send answers to the questions which his teachers will have sent him. The latter will specify on their question paper the pages where materials for answers may be found, but it is highly important that each student should develop the faculty of independent criticism and not merely reproduce the words of the text-book. Plenty of space should also be left at the left-hand side of each answer paper and between each numbered answer, so that the teacher may have space for the notes which may be necessary to make on the student's work. These answer papers will of course be returned to the students for their perusal and for purposes of reference and review. The Board desire to supply books to all ministerial candidates, so that all the expense the latter will incur will be the postage on their answer papers, and the fee of one dollar for each subject, which will be employed to pay postage from the teacher to the student. Examinations will be held during May of next year, so that the work done may be made a part of the Educational report and submitted to Conference in June. We will heartily welcome all christian workers, and we trust that any who for various reasons may have been prevented from securing the English education necessary for their present work, may find our course interesting and profitable. We subjoin the list of subjects, etc :

SUBJECTS.	TEXT-BOOKS.	TEACHERS.
History of English Literature. . . .	Stopford Broke..	J. N. Dales.
Composition and Prose Literature.	Williams Comp'n	W. G. Sargent.
Poetical Literature.	High S. Reader..	J. N. Dales.
Penmanship.	R. J. Terry.
Ancient History.	Sheldon	Angus Williams.
English History.	High S. History.	F. A. Dales.
Inductive Grammar.	High S. Grammar	Percy Fletcher.
Biblical Geography.	Collins.	Rev. W. S. Cowle.

MANY of our Church members are not yet subscribers of the MAGAZINE. Will not each pastor push the subscription list so that we may close the year with a balance on the right side? We hope to add one hundred to our list before January next. This will be a very light task if each church will furnish its share. Will Eld. Russ be kind enough to canvass our eastern churches as well as Eld. Cowle? In fact, all our preachers are agents for the MAGAZINE.

Foreign Missions.



PARAGRAPH from the report of Mrs. Gustin, Corresponding Secretary of the American Christian Foreign Mission Board, presented at Marion, Indiana, last year, is highly suggestive to the women of the Canadian Churches and should both interest and encourage our workers here.

“Some of us had long felt deeply upon this subject, saw the great need and *longed* to enter the zealous ranks of workers who believe the field is the world and have heard the Master's ‘Go ye,’ but we feared our people were not prepared to participate and kept silence. But when we saw the great things being accomplished by the Children's Mission our faith was encouraged and some foreign work was suggested. At once, east and west a few women in a few churches met and organized themselves by sixes and tens into Foreign Missionary Societies. A small number of these women knew anything about the subject: probably many of them had never read a dozen articles upon it or been in a Missionary Society before, but in a short time it was really surprising to see the amount of intelligence that existed in these little societies upon the subject for which they were organized.”

Comment on the above is unnecessary. We will only state, however, that our sisters in the American Churches raised four times as much in 1890 as in 1887, the first year of their organization. It may not be prudent at present to undertake the organization of Missionary Societies in all our churches, but we hope the Board elected at our last Conference will adopt some systematic plan of assisting our work in Japan. If we remain inactive in this work, we will drop back, back, and finally out of the race—a sad commentary on our avowed declarations of christian liberty and evangelization. We would suggest to our sisters the advisability of consulting together upon ways and means, and of taking some plan without delay of educating the Canadian Churches by earnestly presenting to them the needs of our foreign workers.

Field Notes.

THE last number of the ONTARIO CHRISTIAN MAGAZINE was specially interesting.” This was the editorial comment from our American Publishing House last week. We hope always to merit the approval of Father *Herald*, and deem it an honor to take our place under such a veteran commander-in-chief.

MRS. W. R. STONE, Cedardale, Ont., is the treasurer of the Conference Women's Foreign Mission Board. All gifts to the Foreign Work will be gratefully acknowledged in the MAGAZINE.

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THE Church at Orono is now supplied alternately by Eld. Winans and Bro. Gilfillan. Bro. Trull speaks encouragingly of the prospect there.

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THE Endeavor Movement is pre-eminently a union one, and should be warmly welcomed by us, for it emphasizes personal loyalty to Christ, irrespective of denominational ties. Our pastors would find that there is no better way of attaching young people to church work than by incorporating them into a society, having for its line of action the Endeavor pledge.

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THERE were eight candidates for baptism at the Tokio (Japan) Church recently—one of them a native physician.

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THE Missionary boxes for extra pennies, which were introduced by Eld. Bishop during our Conference session, afford a simple and scriptural method of giving, which should commend itself to all our people. Besides, with our principles upon the upper side, they themselves constitute good missionaries by the wayside.

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Solicit from all a careful consideration of the announcement of our Correspondence School, which will open on or about October 1st. If the students enter as heartily into the work as the teachers have done, when asked to take charge of the different departments, the school will be a source of mutual benefit and good fellowship.

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ELDER HAINER reports meetings on his new circuit near Stouffville increasing in interest and attendance. Will all our ministers keep us posted regarding their churches? We should have accounts of special gatherings and spiritual revivals from each place.

Christian Correspondence School.



THIS School is controlled by the Conference of the Christian Churches in Ontario and is under the direct management of the Educational Board of the above Conference.

Though primarily intended to afford opportunities for the private study of English subjects to pastors and licentiates within its own membership, all Christian workers will be received and assisted.

Home Studies provided in

Literature,	Inductive Grammar,
Ancient History,	Biblical Geography,
Modern History,	Penmanship,
Principles of English Construction, etc.	

The School term begins October 1st of each year. Address all communications relating to the management of the school to

THE SECRETARY CHRISTIAN CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL,
230 Division Street, Kingston.

Children's Mission.

DEAR SIR—I am six years old and can not write very good: got my sister Ida to write for me. My auntie sent me twenty-five cents. I will send it to you for the Home Missions.

Clifton, Ont.

ELLA C. STONE.

Dear Ella—Your kind letter was received and the little twenty-cent Dominion note. We thank you and hope that you will soon be able to write your self. It is very pleasant to hear from our little friends and learn their interest in mission work.

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TEN cents was also received from Miss Geraldine Gee, Pickering, Ont. We thank Miss Geraldine. If she sent a letter, it is mislaid, so we cannot print it. If the money came by the hand of a friend—all right—it was received, and we hope that we shall hear from Miss Gee again.

Officers of Conference.

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THIS is perhaps the largest venture of the Executive Board and they hope that not only our ministers but our brothers and sisters everywhere will do all they can soliciting subscriptions; that they will also send news from every quarter that we may all know what is being done and what our wants and opinions are in regard to our general interests everywhere. Home Missions, Field Notes, Foreign Missions, Educational and Publication Interests, Personal Mention, Children's Mission, Sabbath School, Christian Endeavor, Temperance or any other Christ-like work and good. Send subscriptions without delay and a communication for our pages

ALL Ministers of the Conference are authorized agents for the MAGAZINE. Terms Fifty Cents a year, paid in advance.

OUR next number will be issued about the middle of Oct. All communications for publication should be addressed to T. Garbutt, Sharon; all business letters, money, &c., should be sent to W. W. Trull, Orono, general agent for the MAGAZINE.

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