

# SHAFTESBURY HALL

## WEEKLY BULLETIN.

PUBLISHED BY THE

TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

VOL. I.

TORONTO, OCTOBER 8, 1880.

No. 15.

### CHRISTIAN—BEWARE!

Why trimmest thou thy way to seek love? THEREFORE hast thou also taught the wicked ones thy ways.

Also in thy skirts is found the blood of the souls of the poor innocents.—Jer. ii. 33-34.

### THE INGERSOLL CONVENTION.

The Convention of the Associations of Ontario and Quebec, recently held in Ingersoll, differed very materially from the usual stereotyped form adapted by such gatherings. Those who attended its sessions could not fail to note the *intensely practical* manner in which the several topics were dealt with. There was but little of that theorizing which detracts so much from the profit and interest of many Christian gatherings. No formal reports were presented by the delegates, nor yet was the time of the Convention spent in listening to elaborate essays too often prepared by persons of very limited practical knowledge of the Association and its work. Again, the visitor would be forcibly impressed with the fact that our Associations are beginning to fully appreciate the dignity of position which truly belongs to a *Christian* organization. It was evident that CHRIST is the grand central object they desire to keep in view,—that the salvation of souls is the work to which they are called—that the word of God is the instrument to be used—and that the Holy Ghost is the only true helper to be sought after and relied upon.

The *Social* Question found but little place in the discussions. At the same time it must not be understood that the Convention deprecated *all* Social work; on the contrary, the delegates fully recognized that our young men

look for, and need some provision made in this direction. But the voice of the Convention was unmistakably emphatic, and the expression most unanimous in favor of letting the *World* do its work as *its* Master directs, but that our duty is to obey the instructions of *our* Divine Master, and to do "All to the glory of God."

The Convention enjoyed the presence of Messrs. T. K. Cree and E. W. Watkins, of the Executive Com., New York, and Mr. D. A. Sinclair, General Sec. of the Association at Dayton, Ohio. The suggestions made by these brethren, and the eloquent addresses given by Rev. H. M. Parsons and Vice-Chancellor Blake were of great benefit. On Sabbath, the pulpits of the several Churches were occupied by Delegates, we trust to the mutual edification of speakers and hearers. A Mass Meeting of Sunday School children was held in the afternoon, presided over by Rev. J. McEwan, President of the Ingersoll Association, and addressed by Messrs. Howland and Caldecott, of Toronto, D. W. Ross, of Montreal, and others. There was also held in the Town Hall, at 4 o'clock, a meeting for young men, which was largely attended. The farewell meeting was held in the evening, and notwithstanding a violent rain storm, the church was crowded. Several ministers and delegates took part.

Two meetings will long be remembered: first, A Bible Reading, by Rev. H. M. Parsons, on "the Holy Ghost the worker's power for service; and, second, a Consecration Meeting, held on Sabbath, and led by W. H. Howland, Esq., of Toronto. These meetings were well attended, although the hour (7 a.m.) was early. A deep spiritual power was manifest.

We believe this Convention will result in a more vigorous prosecution of

Association work, and a more fully realized dependance upon God for everything needed, both as to power for service, and financial and other aids wherewith to carry on the work.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

At our 17th Annual Meeting, held on Tuesday evening, 5th inst. a large number of members assembled, and a most pleasant and profitable evening was spent. In fact it was remarked by some of the older members that they looked upon the meeting as one, comparing most favorably with those of former years. With one or two exceptions, full reports were presented by the Committees. Our space will not permit of details, but the following extracts will prove of interest.

Tract Committee has 15 active workers who have distributed 52,820 English tracts, 200 French, 100 Illustrated papers, 520 Testaments and Gospels, 50,000 Gospel slips. Visits to vessels, 236; to hotels, 176; to boat-houses, 144; fire stations, 76; to other places, 13. 12 Meetings have been held on vessels; 70 persons spoken to personally concerning Christ.

**BOYS WORK.**—Average attendance at Meetings, 29. God has been pleased through his Holy Spirit to lead several of the boys to a knowledge of Himself.

**BOARDING HOUSES.**—56 Meetings have been held with an average attendance of 20.

**RECEPTION.**—Notwithstanding many drawbacks, this work has been carried on with good results.

**LECTURES.**—Last years course resulted in a profit of about \$900.

**DEVOTIONAL.**—Noon Meetings, average attendance, 40; Young Men's Bible Class, on Monday evening, average 20; Evangelistic Bible Class, Sabbath afternoon, average 70; Sabbath Morning Bible Class, average, 10; Young Men's Meetings, average, 65; Gospel & Song Service, Sabbath evening, average, 200.

**RAILROAD.**—The report read by Mr. Burford was most encouraging in all its details, and it is cause for gratitude to learn by the financial statement that the work has been fully provided for and a balance of about \$20 on hand.

The financial position of the Associa-

tion, as shewn by the Treasurer's Statement, is not quite as good as last year, but the expense has been exceptionally great, owing to the fact that a new boiler has been secured at a cost of over \$500.

Taking a view of the whole year's work, we feel constrained to adopt Paul's words and say, "We thank God and take courage."

### ENCOURAGEMENT.

At the close of our Annual Meeting, a young man was found waiting in a room adjoining the office. He said he wished to speak to the Secretary. After taking him by the hand. He said "I suppose you do not remember me, but I am the person to whom you gave an order for a night's lodging, some weeks ago." He then referred to his utter destitution and heart weariness that night, and said that when he had received the aid he needed and heard the words of encouragement spoken, he determined "to try and do what is right for the future." He had secured work the day following and had been busily engaged until the present. He was to start in a few hours for a city in the States where he had prospects of better wages but he "did not wish to leave the city without expressing his gratitude." This may seem to some a very simple occurrence, but to a Secretary who meets hundreds of cases where gratitude seems altogether lacking, and in a work which is pre-eminently one of faith, such an event as this is very encouraging, in fact, it is an *oasis* in the *desert*. If we measured success by the record of grateful words received, we fear that we should abandon the field altogether. But we have this glorious encouragement, that in the final day of reckoning we shall not be held responsible for results or success. The plaudit will be, "Well done good and *faithful* (not *successful*) servant. We may not see success, but we can all be faithful. Let us therefore sow beside all waters. The reaping time will come bye and bye. "For in due season we shall reap if we faint not."

He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.—Eccl. xi. 4.

## STOPPING THE SUPPLIES.

In the time of war, one of the easiest ways to secure the fall of a town is to *stop the supplies*; and this is one of Satan's easiest and commonest ways of getting a Christian "on the shelf." Satan sets himself to stopping the supplies—that is, he tries to keep you from reading your Bible; and when he manages to cut off the supplies of the *sincere milk of the Word*, he has gained a greater victory than most Christians seem to be aware of. Perhaps twenty-four hours pass and we have scarcely had a bite, let us suppose, far less a meal, out of God's Book. Leanness and barrenness is the result; and we wonder what is wrong. We "can't understand it;" when, as a doctor would term it, the case is simply one of *starvation*—sheer weakness and exhaustion through lack of food. Let us see, then, that nothing is allowed to stop the supplies—let us make sure of our portion of meat in due season, so that the verse in John's Epistle may truly apply to us: "I write unto you, young men, because ye are *strong*, and the *Word of God* abideth in you."

**But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.**—Phil. iv. 19.

## PRAYER

A Frenchwoman, if she loses her needle, prays to her patron saint. Now certainly the finding of a needle is not too small a matter for the Lord to help one of His servants in; and the hemming of a dress, the affairs of our business, or the reaping of a field of corn, are all fit subjects for prayer. We may find matter for prayer in every letter that we receive, in every piece of news that we hear, in every meeting, and in every parting. The commonest things may lead our thoughts up to heaven. Work may become worship. All life may be a connecting link between our souls and God.

## ANNUAL MEETING.

THE

## ANNUAL SOCIAL MEETING

Of the Association will be held in the  
**Members' Parlor, Shaftesbury Hall,**  
 On **TUESDAY, 12th OCT.,**

Tea at 6:30, Chair taken at 8 p.m. Officers for the ensuing year will be Elected, and short addresses given by members and others.

ALF. SANDHAM, Sec.

S. H. BLAKE, Pres.

## Bulletin for Week Commencing Oct. 11th, 1880.

MONDAY	.....	Oct. 11	..12.00 M.	Praise Meeting—W. P. Crombie.
			8.00 P.M.	Young Men's Bible Class.
TUESDAY	.....	" 12	..12.00 M.	Noonday Prayer. Willingness in serving God. 1 Chron. xxix. 9, 20.
				R. Baldwin.
			8 P.M.	Annual Social Meeting.
WEDNESDAY	..	" 13	..12.00 M.	Noonday Prayer. Raising the Widow's Son. Luke vii. 1-17.
				H. J. Ware.
THURSDAY	.....	" 14	..12.00 M.	Bible Reading, Alf. Sandham.
FRIDAY	.....	" 15	..12.00 M.	Noonday Prayer. Despised and Rejected of Men. Matt. xxvi. 63-68;
				xxvii. 17-26. R. McJannet, Jr.
			8.00 P.M.	Boys' Meeting. Charles Edwards.
SATURDAY	....	" 16	..12.00 M.	Noonday Prayer. Love for the Lord's Day. Neh. xiii. 17-22. W. E. Burford.
			4.00 P.M.	Teacher's Bible Class. Hon. S. H. Blake.
			8.00 P.M.	Young Men's Meeting. R. Kilgour.
SUNDAY	.....	" 17	.. 9.30 A.M.	Workers' Meeting for Prayer and Bible Study.
			8.00 P.M.	Evangelistic Bible Class. S. R. Briggs.
			8.30 P.M.	Gospel and Song Service. W. Anderson.

OPEN TO ALL, with exception of the Monday, Tuesday 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. 17, 3.00 P.M.—At Union Station—GEO. KEELER and ALF. SANDHAM.  
 " At Nipissing Station—JOHN MacGREGOR and ROBT. McJANNET, JR.  
**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. 11.30 to 1—Toronto, Grey & Bruce Reading Rooms.

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