

SHAFTESBURY HALL

WEEKLY BULLETIN.

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TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

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"Whosoever, therefore, shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven."

Matt. x. 32, 33.

YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS.

A RECENT issue of the Harrisburg (Pa.) Bulletin says:

"It is not too much to say that the members of the Young Men's Bible Class have, on the whole, developed more in grace and knowledge the past year than have any others of our members. It is significant that of 35 young men belonging to the class all are active workers on ten different committees, including the chairmen of Young Men's Meeting, Young Men's Bible Class, Boys' Prayer Meeting, and Daily Morning Meeting committees. Within two months there have gone out from this class the General Secretary of an Association far up in New England and the Assistant Secretary of one of the largest Associations in our own State. Each of them will become a leader of similar classes, and thus the circles of good influence are widening."

We rejoice at reading the above testimony, and we trust that the day is not

far distant when the Bible Classes of our Associations will be multiplied an hundred fold. The article says "developed more in grace and knowledge than any others of our members." Of course they did, and they have developed in the line calculated to fit them to fight the devil. Strong Young Men with the Word of God abiding in them. All the muscle ever developed in all the gymnasiums of all the Associations *would not fit a man to fight Satan*. But the development resulting from Bible Class training will fit for fight, for counsel, for guidance, for stability, for glory. Lyceums, Socials, Gymnasiums, Lectures (good under certain conditions) all combined could never produce such results. Let us stand by our colors as Christians and hold to "the Word." We are thankful, that there is a marked improvement in the attendance at our Young Men's Bible Class. It is true that we can not speak of crowded meetings, but we can speak of seasons of much spiritual blessing, and oft times has our heart burned within us as *He* talked with us, and opened to us the Scripture. We want the Young Men to join with us every Monday evening at 8 o'clock for one hour.

WE have just returned from the Truro Convention, having visited Associations on our homeward trip. In our next issue (D.V.) we will give a few notes on points of interest.

WHAT IS IT?

THE most peculiar ideas prevail among those who have never taken the trouble to investigate the matter in regard to the character and aims of the Young Men's Christian Association. Is it a

church? No. It has no creed, unless it be a simple "Good will toward men." Is it a rival of the church? How can it be, when the church membership is a pre-requisite to active membership in the Association? As a matter of fact, the best workers in the Association and the best workers (among the young men at least) in the various churches will almost invariably prove on investigation to be the same individuals. Is it a charity? No. It will never turn a deaf ear to a tale of suffering, but it does not intend to trespass upon the province of the poor commissioner, the Home of the Friendless, or private benevolence. Is it a temperance society? Not distinctively, though it always heartily supports any work which promises to be effective in reforming men. What, then, is the Young Men's Christian Association? It is an organization whose object is to seek out young men, to extend to them sympathy in discouragement; to lend a helping hand, if needed; to surround them with good influence; to draw them out of bad, and into good company, out of the saloon and into the house of God; and finally to win them to Christ. It will not do to omit or slur over this last point. The word "Christian" is an essential part of our title, and we are not yet sufficiently "advanced" to be ashamed of it. Do you like the platform? If so, will you not give it your support?—*Dubuque Y. M. C. A. Bulletin.*

"Be it known
unto you, therefore,
men and brethren,
that through this
man is preached un-
to you the forgive-
ness of sins: and by
Him all that believe
are justified from all
things, from which
ye could not be jus-
tified by the law of
Moses."

—Acts xiii. 38, 30.

REV. Geo. H. Hall, State Secretary of New York, says, "Boys' work should be CHRISTIAN BOYS banded together for work for other boys."

So Associations *should* always be CHRISTIAN Young Men banded together to work for other Young Men. We say *should be*, because there are some instances where unconverted men hold office. This is a mistake—nay more, it is a gross injustice both to the man himself and also to the work. If blind lead the blind both shall fall into the ditch. No man can lead another to a point, the whereabouts of which he himself has no knowledge.—[ED.]

We take the following from a recent number of the Oakland (California) Y. M. C. A. Bulletin.

SIX weeks ago, our Visiting Committee found a young man, in the Newland House, in a destitute condition, dying with consumption, and without a hope beyond this world. The committee had him removed to the Hospital, where he was taken care of by the institution, the committee furnishing watchers, and such extras as the hospital did not supply. After some conversation in reference to his soul's salvation, he became anxious, and finally gave himself into the hands of his Saviour, and bore his severe sufferings with wonderful patience, and would repeatedly say, "Jesus is with me." We were called to his bedside at half past 2 o'clock, on the afternoon of June 27th, to witness his departure for the world above. His last words were, "Say amen," signifying that the end was near and he was ready. The funeral services were held in our hall, Wednesday afternoon, June 28th, at 2 o'clock. A large number were present, many bringing floral offerings.

As is well-known in Oakland, the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association used to be a billiard and bar-room; and strange to relate, this young man was the bar-keeper, on the very floor where his remains were laid during the brief services preceding the burial.

Such a case of the reclamation and peaceful end of a young man, all alone in the world, is an encouragement to every friend of Association work.

"The foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are His. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."—2 Tim. ii. 19.

AWAY FROM HOME.

YOUNG man I tremble for your safety! You may enter the halls of fashionable pleasure, and there acquire tastes which may lead to further sin, by having been cheated into the belief that vice has lost half its evil by losing all its grossness; or, you may sit, night after night, at the fascinating and corrupting exhibitions of the theatre; then you will glide into the gathering places of the dissipated and the licentious. And, far away your mother's heart shall swell to breaking, and her nightly pillow be wet with tears, and her dreams will be terrible, with visions of your danger and your guilt, when she shall hear of the life you lead. (*Exchange.*)

Dear young friend, shall this be so? It need not be. We know that your temptations are great. We know you have many lonesome hours: perhaps your means will not permit you the luxury of a cheerful room. Are you so situated? We offer you the latter. We would shield you from the temptations. We would be a friend to you. Will you let us be so? Come among us, and we will welcome you.

CHRIST neglected, is just another way of saying Christ rejected.

THE GOSPEL.

LOOK.

"Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else."

HEAR.

"Hear, and your soul shall live."

BELIEVE.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

COME.

"Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." "Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out."

"BUT I OBTAINED MERCY."

1 Tim. i. : 13-16.

THE sweet parenthesis of gratitude. It has been observed by some, how Paul stops here to adore the abounding grace and mercy of God to him. The words should be read as if this sentence came in parenthetically, "who was before a blasphemer and a persecuter, and injurious, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief, but I obtained mercy." The apostle's sense of Divine mercy was so strong, that he could not help breaking off in what he was saying, to give utterance to the fulness of his heart. It was now thirty years after his conversion, yet how fresh the remembrance was; and observe, he says it twice, "I HAVE OBTAINED MERCY." Dear young man, have you obtained mercy? If not, we ask you to come now. God will pardon you as He did him who said, "I am chief of sinners."

YOUNG MEN'S

BIBLE CLASS

EVERY MONDAY EVENING,

AT 8 O'CLOCK,

ALL INVITED.

**GOSPEL AND SONG
SERVICE,**

Every Sunday Evening,

AT 8.30.

GOOD SINGING.

SHORT GOSPEL ADDRESSES.

COME!

REMEMBER

—THE—

Young Men's Meeting,

HELD

EVERY SATURDAY EVENING,

AT 8 O'CLOCK, FOR ONE HOUR.

COME!

Bulletin for Week Commencing Aug. 28, 1882.

MONDAY.....	Aug. 28....	12.00	M.	THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE MEETING. Assistant Secretary.
				8.00 P.M. WORKERS' BIBLE CLASS. Conducted by the Secretary.
TUESDAY.....	" 29....	12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. No fear when Christ is present. Matt. viii. 23-27; Acts xxvii. 20-25. Rev. J. Salmon.
WEDNESDAY	" 30... 12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. Set not your heart upon them. Luke xii. 15-21; Ps. lxxii. 10; 2 Cor. viii. 9. J. Nobbs.	
THURSDAY...	" 31....12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. A confidence equal to every emergency. Phil. iv. 11-13, 19. W. Marks.	
FRIDAY	Sept. 1....12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. A Gospel offer, with a warning. Acts xiii. 38-41. R. Merryfield.	
				8.00 P.M. BOYS' MEETING.
SATURDAY ..	" 2....12.00	M.	NOONDAY PRAYER. How to love. Deut. vi. 5. The Secretary.	
				8.00 P.M. YOUNG MEN'S MEETING. J. O. Anderson.
SUNDAY.....	" 3....	3.00 P.M.	EVANGELISTIC BIBLE CLASS.	
		8.30 P.M.	GOSPEL & SONG SERVICE.	

Requests for prayer may be addressed to the Secretary.

RAILROAD MEETING.

SUNDAY, Sept. 3, 3.00 P.M.—Gospel Meeting at Union Station.