

# "First Church Endeavorer."

"FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH."

VOL. I.

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## First Church Endeavorer.

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## Editorial Notes.

WE have every reason to be greatly pleased with the kindly reception which has been accorded to the "ENDEAVORER" by our friends and patrons.

Our advertising columns have been readily filled and we number among our advertisers many of our church members and adherents, who have thus signified their desire to assist in making the undertaking a success. We trust these columns will receive special attention.

The number of regular subscribers is constantly increasing; we have on our mailing list names from Washington Ter., Troy, N. Y., Manitoba, London, Brampton and Morrisburg, and we expect to receive one subscription, at least, from each family connected with the "First Church." We trust those of our readers who are willing to identify themselves with the enterprise, will not wait for a more personal appeal but will send names and addresses to the Sec-Treas. of the Board.

Dr. Vincent and his co-laborers in the Chautauqua movement have encouraged the development of an idea concerning the use of the holiday season, which no longer designates a useless season but one that is helpful alike to mind and body. Throngs of eager people have found their way to Chautauqua during the past two months to drink of the fountain at its source. Others differently situated have agreed that it is better "to bear those ills we have than fly to others that we know not of;" of the latter class some very pleasant boating parties have been formed during the long July and August afternoons under the supervision of a true friend, teacher and trusty boatman. The various landing places on the Bay have been visited in turn, the time spent in exploring the ravines, botanizing, geologizing and not the least important, enjoying picnic tea under spreading branches and among wild flowers.

One party has read "The Natural Law in the Spiritual World" and thus while they are studying the face of nature, are learning to associate with it more fully the laws of the spiritual world and the harmony that exists between them. So it is all over the world to-day. Moody endows a summer school at Northfield for Biblical study. At all the seaside resorts there are summer schools, and throngs of students from all occupations and professions, and with pride we note that the "First Church" contains numbers of young people who are working along the same line. It remains for us to garner what we have gleaned in the past two months that we may be the richer thereby all the coming year.

DO you know how to read? what an absurd question you will say, and yet a great many people do not really know how to read.

We read a book with great and noble thoughts in it; but do we let these thoughts find a home in our minds, and from there do they get into our hearts and show themselves out in our lives? If not we cannot receive the benefit to be derived from it. What inhabitants are to a country, thoughts are to the mind." Not long ago the site of our city was a vast wilderness, the woods were inhabited by the bear and the wolf, water-

fowl in abundance floated over the surface of our Bay on which the pleasure boats now glide. They were not disturbed by anyone. But now what a change—Factories, from which come "the hum of busy industry;" warehouses, schools, churches, homes, street cars and the many things seen everywhere around us. What has made the difference? The coming of inhabitants. So our minds are changed by the reading we do, for if the book we read is full of good thoughts we receive these into our mind and they make their home there. Let us see to it that we only let the nobility take possession.

Perhaps it will be interesting for those who are contemplating the building of a home to know something of what Chancellor Sims says on the subject. In the course of his lecture delivered at Grimsby Park, he said that materials for houses are cheap things—bricks, stones, wood and the like, but the materials for a home cannot be purchased at any price. They are so precious no millionaire can buy them. Confidence, affection, regard, respect and self-denial, who can estimate the value of these virtues which are the foundation of every true home. Do not think the young man whose ring you wear is a hero, or young man that the young lady is an angel—you are not acquainted yet. It takes about five years of married life before you really know each other. Be prepared to be disappointed. When you sit in the parlor and call upstairs for the fifth time "are you ready," and the answer comes down sweetly, "in a minute" when you have been waiting about an hour already, and are sure you will be late for the concert. But if the disappointment be bravely borne, each year will be better and brighter than the preceding one. At the end of five years it is the wooden wedding, at the end of ten, the tin, and so on till at the end of fifty years it is the golden wedding.

### Our Science Class.

**T**HIS thriving Society was organized in August, 1886, and is more particularly the result of the energetic work of our worthy Sunday School superintendent, Mr. Thos. Morris. The thought occurred to him that it would be a good thing to have some sort of mutual improvement Society formed, and he did not permit the idea to share the fate of good resolutions in general. With him to think was to act, and in a very short time

he had secured a sufficient number of would-be members to make a start. Toward the end of August, 1886, a meeting was convened and the society organized with the following officers: W. C. Campbell, B. A., L.L.B., President; John Calvert, Vice-President; Thos. Morris, Jr., Secretary.

The first subject taken up was English History, Green's "Shorter History of the English People" being used as a text book; and with the exception of two evenings devoted to Shakespeare and Chemistry, the whole of the year was passed in the study of History. During this first year, 1886-7, 44 meetings were held with an average attendance of 14. In June, 1887, a new election of officers was held. Mr. John Calvert being chosen President, Mr. Thos. Morris, Jr. and Mrs. Lounsbury, 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents, and Miss L. Davis, Sec.-Treas. The course for this year consisted of Canadian and American History and Astronomy, the text-books being R. MacKenzie's "History of America" and Camille Flammarion's "The Wonders of the Heavens." In the summer of 1888, Botany was commenced under the leadership of Mr. A. E. Manning, teacher of the Young Men's Bible Class in our Sunday School. Spotton's High School Botany was selected as a text-book. The class had been gradually growing in strength and the average attendance for the year 1887-8 had increased from 14 to 19. At the annual election in June, 1888, Messrs. Calvert and Morris and Miss Lily Davis were re-elected to their offices, Miss B. Jarvis being chosen 2nd Vice-President. The year 1888-9 was taken up in studying Geology, English Literature and Botany. Dawson's "The Earth and Man" and Collier's "English Literature;" being the new text-books selected. This year proved to be quite as successful as its predecessors, the average attendance being 19.

In June, 1889, Mr. H. P. Bonny was elected President, Miss Lizzie Murray, Vice-President, Miss Charlotte Kerruish, Sec.-Treas. and Miss Knight, Critic; an Executive Committee was chosen, consisting of Messrs. Thos. Morris, Jr., Henry Moo e. John Calvert, Mrs. Lounsbury and Miss Nettie Raycroft. English Literature, Botany and Geology were retained as subjects for study, but after the class had finished "The Earth and Man," Physics was chosen to take place of Geology. The class is in a vigorous condition and shows no symptoms of decay. The average attendance for the year just over being 22.

As to the benefits to be derived from the work of this class, there is but one opinion; and that is, that all who have spent their Tuesday evenings in the class have been richly rewarded for their sacrifice of time.

Wits have been sharpened by the free discussion of the subjects taken up, and habits of independent research and observation have been encouraged. Minds have been broadened and a thirst for knowledge in general has been stimulated. The class draws its members from far and near, the only conditions of membership being a desire to learn and the payment of a small monthly due of five cents to pay the care-taker.

Before closing this brief sketch of our Science class and its work, it is only right that due appreciation should be shown of the kindly help afforded by the following gentlemen who from time to time have been with us: A. Alexander, F. Sc. S. London, England, who favored us with an interesting talk about ferns, bringing with him a splendid collection of tropical ferns collected in Jamaica; W. C. Campbell, B. A., L. L. B., our first president, and a gentlemen to whom the class owes a great debt of gratitude; Mr. A. E. Manning who kindly helped us in our botany; J. B. Turner, M. A. who kindly conducted our literature sessions during the year which is past; J. T. Crawford, B. A. who performed the same kind service in connection with Physics; Mr. E. C. Murton who favored us with an essay on the early English writers; and A. W. Stratton, B. A. who gave a most interesting essay on Sir Thomas More. To these gentlemen and others the class feels very grateful, for they have helped it greatly by their free devotion of time and talents to its cause. Being firm believers that all work and no play is a very sorry state of affairs, the members of the class have managed to combine pleasure with profit by picnicking and making excursions to various points of interest in the neighborhood. Another year's work has commenced and a cordial invitation is extended to all to aid us in making this year's work even more profitable and successful than that already done.—*H. P. B.*

### Letter from Rev. A. Langford.

BRAMPTON, SEPT. 13th, 1890.

MY DEAR MR. MORRIS.

Much obliged for the first number of the "First Church Endeavorer." I can

assure you that I regard it as a very great honor that I have in any way been identified with the grand old "King Street Church."

In the year 1859 being then a "young man" I was appointed as the "Junior Preacher" to labor in the city of Hamilton. At that time we had no separate "charges" in the city, so that the three churches then existing, formed a "circuit" for three Ministers. What memories I love to cherish of those happy days.

I well remember the "old church," not large, not very attractive, almost surrounded with additions, and rooms rendered necessary because of an overflowing Sabbath School. I shall never forget one Sabbath when I preached by special request to the children. The church was full of little folk. It was a sight that made the angels glad. The following week I received a kind resolution of thanks, passed by the teachers meeting, which I still have in my possession. It is signed by James H. Somerville, Secy.

During that conference year what glorious refreshing seasons we had in the "old church"

On Sabbath evening we usually had penitents, who were not afraid nor ashamed to "come forward," and conversions were constantly making our hearts rejoice. We were without the many modern appliances, which the church now possesses, but we had the power of the Holy Ghost. I could mention many names, many of whom are now "over the river." I think I can see the little choir, at the end of the gallery with a very small instrument, but they gave us inspiring music.

While I write I readily fancy, I am once more in the prayer meeting, and hear the hearty Amens, for in the "old church" they enjoyed the "old time religion" and old fashioned Methodists were not so nervous to praise God with heart and voice. I did love to preach in that "old church," though I had to take my turn in "John Street" and in "McNab Street" where I frequently had the eloquent Rev. Dr. Taylor in the congregation, and the timid "young man" often trembled in these churches, but in the "old King St." I always had glorious liberty, and God gave success. May the "First Methodist Church" keep the old Methodist fire burning, on its more elaborate alters, and maintain its primitive efficiency alongside of its modern machinery.

Yours in the "old gospel" ever new and fresh.

A. LANGFORD.

### "Have you not a word for Jesus?"

What shall be our word for Jesus? Master, give it day by day.  
 Ever as the need arises, teach Thy children what to say.  
 Give us holy love and patience; grant us deep humility,  
 That of self we may be emptied, and our hearts be full of Thee;  
 Give us zeal and faith and fervor, make us winning, make us wise.  
 Single-hearted, strong and fearless,—Thou hast called us, we will rise!  
 Let the might of Thy good spirit go with every loving word;  
 And by hearts prepared and opened be our message always heard!

Yes, we have a word for Jesus! we will bravely speak for Thee,  
 And Thy bold and faithful soldiers, Savior, we would henceforth be:  
 In Thy name set up our banners, while Thine own shall wave above,  
 With Thy crimson Name of Mercy, and Thy golden Name of Love.  
 Help us lovingly to labor, looking for Thy present smile,  
 Looking for Thy promised blessing through the brightening "little while."  
 Words for Thee in weakness spoken, Thou wilt here accept and own,  
 And confess them in Thy glory, when we see Thee on Thy throne.

### Reminiscences.

AN INTERVIEW WITH COL. LAND.  
*Continued from last month.*

"Were your people Methodists?"

No, they were all church of England, but there was no church below the mountain before the Methodist meeting house was put up, the nearest English church being over the mountain. My father was of the opinion that it did not matter much which road men travelled as long as they reached the right place, and the Methodists always had a good seat for him in their meeting house.

"Were the early settlers mostly Methodists?" "yes, for the most part they were," "who was the first preacher?" at first there was no regular minister appointed, the services being conducted by circuit speakers.

Among the first preachers were Elder Culp, William Ryerson, George Ryerson and later on Egerton Ryerson. The church belonged to the Episcopal Methodist persuasion and was controlled from the states.

There was afterwards, about the year 1824, a division and the Canada Wesleyan Church was formed, the chief promoter of which was Elder Ryan, who wanted the conference to be held in Canada, besides

other alterations being made in the composition of the conference. Richard Springer was the first class leader here, and the services used to be held in his house prior to the erection of the church. When Richard Springer died his class was carried on by his son David, who died a short time ago at Burlington. I can remember that the services in the early days were two or three weeks apart. There was a school-house built on the land my father gave to the Methodists, and it was built some five or six years before the meeting house was. Religious services used to be held in it before the church was erected." "It is currently reported that the first school-house was built on the spot occupied by Dr. Smith's drug store, is that incorrect?" "yes, the first school house stood near the meeting house on the land given by my father.

Speaking of some of the earlier preachers and workers in the church, Col. Land mentioned among those he could remember, William Case, and the five Ryersons, George, William, John, Edwin, and Egerton. Referring to his early reminiscences of Hamilton, he stated that there was principally oak timber where the city now stands, and that the trees about his own house are only the successors of the oak that formerly grew there. Upon being questioned as to his age, he informed us that he was in his 84th year, and that with the exception of his eyesight, his physical health was excellent. His eyesight has unfortunately failed him for the past three or four years. His mental faculties are vigorous, and his memory carries him back to the battle of Stoney Creek in 1812. He is the worthy descendant of a long-lived race of pioneers. His father attained the patriarchal age of ninety-five. The Colonel can remember George Hamilton, M. P. who in 1813 founded our city. Prior to the erection of the church on King St. in 1824, the nearest Methodist meeting house was at Stoney Creek, which was the oldest meeting house in this section of the province. Among the old Hamiltonians who are still alive the Colonel mentioned Dr. Case on King Street, eighty-six years of age, and Jacob Burkholder eighty-eight. George Hamilton purchased a farm from Capt. Durand and laid it out into town lots. We had an old Sunday School record dating back to 1826 with us, and questioned the Colonel about the names found therein. At the head of the list of boys stood the name of Quitton Price, upon this name being mentioned the Colonel smiled, and said that he remembered Quitton well.

He was the only son of Samuel Price the

tavern keeper, and had the reputation of being the most mischievous boy in the neighborhood. He appears to have been a participant in all the pranks of his day, and if any trick was played it was morally certain that Quitton St. George Price would have his hand in it. Among the scholars in the Sunday School of that day, were Adolphus Case, who recently died, Hannah Aikman, who in after years became the wife of Dr. Egerton Ryerson, Isabella Land, a sister of the Colonels, who as Mrs. G. K. Chisholm is still living in Oakville, Adeline Case, who married the Colonels brother Robert, and who is still a resident in our city; Deborah Horning, a cousin of the Colonels, and mother of Dr. Springer of East Hamilton.

Referring back to his boy-hood days, the Colonel told us that he got his schooling in a little log school house on Case's farm in Barton township. Everything was in a very primitive condition. The seats for the pupils consisted of pine slabs with the round side underneath with pins driven in for legs.

The teachers were constantly changing, every few weeks, bringing a new teacher.

The children used to pay fourteen York shillings (\$1.75) per quarter, and the parents had to take it in turn to find firing for the school house in winter time. If any should fail to perform this important duty, their unfortunate offspring was punished by having to sit as far away from the fire as possible.

In those days stoves were unknown, and the school was heated by means of a huge fireplace, which roasted those who sat near it, while those who were farthest removed from it were shivering with cold. The teacher was boarded in turn by the settlers. Upon being questioned as to whether the early settlers ever had any trouble with the Indians, the Colonel replied in the negative, and evidently has a very high idea of the honesty of the average Indian. He can remember one little incident, however, in which some Indian squaws attempted to appropriate his mother's cherries. It was during the war of 1812. The men had all left for the scene of action, and the cherries were ripe. The squaws evidently thought this would be a good opportunity to get some fruit without much trouble, and climbing the fence commenced to gather the cherries. Mrs. Land told them to stop; but they coolly informed her that the men were away, and that therefore she could not stop them getting the cherries. There happened to be a few wounded dragoons in the barn, and Mrs. Land sent them word by her son John. They came out flourishing their

sabres and using very loud language. The squaws immediately decamped; but not before one of the dragoons had succeeded in stripping the blanket off one of them compelling her to go and hide herself in the woods. In two or three days the old squaw came sneaking back again and begged for her blanket, which, after a friendly lecture respecting the bad conduct of herself and companions, was returned to her by Mrs. Land. The Colonel's grandfather being loyal to King George, found his old home in Pennsylvania growing too warm for him, and had to flee for his life in company with a neighbor. His companion, less fortunate than himself, was taken by the enemy and shot; a bullet struck the pack Robert Land carried on his back, and lodged in it, knocking him down without wounding him. He crept away on all fours, and managed accidentally to injure one of his hands with a stone causing it to bleed freely. The enemy in following him noticed the blood, and concluding that he had been mortally wounded, gave up the chase. His family had to leave their home, which was destroyed by the Indians, who succeeded in capturing one of the children named Abel, whom they were subsequently persuaded to give up. The family found their way to New Brunswick and for several years father and family were entirely ignorant of each other's fate. Robert Land, after reaching this neighborhood, supported himself, in part, by making spinning wheels for the settlers, he being a turner by trade. At the time of the events which led to Robert Land's flight, the Colonel's father was ten years of age. By a mere accident Robert Land was found by one of his sons, and the family re-united again here.

After a long and interesting talk with the kindly old gentleman we took our leave of him, being delighted with having enjoyed the privilege of a friendly chat with one of the sturdy, manly stock, who by hard unremitting toil laid the foundations of our noble Dominion.

B.

### Ladies' Aid Society.

THE officers of this Society for the year beginning last March are: Pres., Mrs. Overholt, Vice-Pres., Mrs. Scott, Sec.-Treas., Mrs. Moore. This Society is time-honored in the history of our church, and it has a very important work to do. As is well-known its special sphere is mainly in contributing to the interior furnishings of the

church and parsonage. The ladies who are struggling nobly to carrying on this work would be glad to have others join them. The young people in their societies are winning laurels, and there is work for the older ones in this society. It does not conflict in any way with any other church work, as the ladies are always ready to help the Mission Band and the C. E. work. We feel sure these societies will lend a helping hand as far as possible to the Ladies' Aid Society. It is earnestly hoped that a much larger deputation of ladies will respond to the next call of this society and come out prepared to help. Various plans are now discussed, whereby some needed funds may be raised, and those who are willing to assist will be cordially welcomed at the next meeting of which due notice will be given.

### Items.

We intend to begin the publication in November number of a prize story by Miss Bessie Nichols, second daughter of Mr. W. H. Nichols. As we have intimated, this story won a prize given by the *Montreal Witness*, and it will be soon published in that paper.

Rev. A. L. Gee, of Jerseyville, spent Sunday, Sept. 7th, with us and preached morning and evening very acceptably indeed. Those who enjoyed the sermons will join us in the hope that his lot may be again cast among us. His old friends and many new ones will give him a hearty welcome.

We are pleased to note the return of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hunter after a somewhat lengthened visit to England. Mrs. Hunter, who went away in very poor health, returns greatly benefited and restored, and it is a matter of great pleasure to learn this. In the name of a large number of friends we wish them through our columns a "Welcome home."

The Orchestra connected with our Sunday School is becoming more and more attractive and a distinguishing feature of each session of the school. We are specially proud of our orchestra when it is called upon to play a second time, as is sometimes the case, to please visitors, and we always observe that each visiting minister would like to see it transferred bodily to his own school, thus paying tribute to its efficiency.

The pleasant visit of Rev. Chas. T. Cocking to our church will not soon be forgotten.

His sermons on Sunday, the 21st September, were clear and forcible. His afternoon address to the Sunday School was extremely interesting, and beautifully illustrated by pictures of Japanese life. We were quite proud of our Orchestra upon that occasion. Monday evening, the 22nd, the church was nearly filled with eager spectators, nor were they disappointed. The lime-light dissolving views were very fine, and the pictures nicely colored. The silver collection amounted to about \$35.00.

### Life on the Prairies.

(By Thomas Morris, jr.)

*Continued from last issue.*

 FEARFUL hurricane was raging, indeed it was almost a blizzard, for snow was thick in the air. The roof had been carried off by the wind during the night while I slept, and, as you might expect, everything within the four walls of the shanty was overlaid with a coat of the "beautiful." My stove, table, clothes, books, every household article that I possessed was banked in snow. You can imagine perhaps better than I can describe, the amazement and dismay which took possession of me. My pony, Barney, who shared with me my humble 10 x 12 ft. dwelling, was shivering with cold, and apparently overcome with fear, expecting every moment the walls to be blown down like the roof. I raised myself on my elbow to look out of the window, when to my further dismay I saw that the oxen had broken loose, and were fast disappearing before the storm. This was too much. I jumped out of bed, hastily scrambled into my clothes, my teeth chattering with cold all the while, and my fingers so numb that I could hardly dress myself, then coaxing Barney out into the storm, I jumped on his back and started on a wild ride after the cattle. They had not got much the start of us so we had no difficulty in overtaking them after a few miles ride. Having caught up to the oxen, the next great trouble was to make them face the storm and go back home. I tied their heads together with a stout rope and gave Barney the signal, when he ran at them with open mouth and gnashing teeth, which had the desired effect, for they wheeled around suddenly and took to their heels.

I may say in passing that nothing pleased Barney so much as to tease Buck and Bright, to frighten them, and get them on the run, and I must confess that nothing amused me

so much as to watch his antics while driving home the oxen when they strayed from the farm. It may seem rather cruel on my part, but the oxen were so stubborn, and I could do so little with them, that I thoroughly enjoyed Barney's way of mastering them. For instance, it was my custom after ploughing for a few hours, to turn the cattle out to graze, and sometimes they went a considerable distance from home. As soon as I wanted them again I would call Barney, jump on his back, and, without saddle or bridle, career at breakneck speed over the prairie after them. As soon as we got up to the oxen the fun would commence. Barney would run up with open mouth, making great pretences, then as suddenly jump back again to avoid a kick. Sometimes he pinched them, sometimes he could not get a chance, for they kicked like mules; but Barney was too cute and wide awake to be caught, and he would dance from one side to the other in a most comical way, always getting the best of it. In the end, they were glad to give in and make a bee line for home, as they did on this memorable occasion.

Well we got back after a long struggle, many times did we all stand for a few moments with our backs against the storm; many times it seemed impossible to proceed. "But there is a turning to the longest lane," and so after a time we reached the roofless shanty. The sun shone out, the snow hastily disappeared, and everything was again lovely.

To the "tenderfoot" the thunder-storms, which sweep across the prairie bring many surprises. Conceived on such a magnificent scale, they are even terrific and awful to witness. When the clouds of heaven seemed to divide and drop down molten fire, I could not help thinking of the last day "When the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat."

The glorious sunsets, extending around, perhaps, half the circle of the horizon, I shall never forget. Many and many a time have I watched the sun setting in all its grandeur, and while I have been thrilled with the magnificent spectacle, I have also felt sad at losing a friend. So long as the sun is above the horizon, the mosquito, the inveterate and blood-thirsty enemy of the white man, hides his head in the grass and will not come out in the dazzling light, but the moment the sun disappears, the spell is broken, and the mosquito speeds on his cannibal errand.

How can I describe the *Aurora Borealis*? On a clear, cold winter's night it is fascinating beyond expression. The different peaks

stand out clear and well defined. The streams of light issuing forth assume a variety of colors from a pale red or yellow to a deep red or blood color.

A little about the seasons. You generally know what kind of weather to expect, and can prepare to meet the changes. In the dry season there is little rain, in the wet season there is little else. In the cold months it is cold indeed; from November to March everything is tight and icebound. The opening of Spring can be counted upon with considerable exactness; for instance, in 1880 the water in Lowe's Creek, about ten miles distant, came down on the 17th of April; in 1881, on the 19th; and in 1882, on the 20th. This dates practically the opening of Spring. Ploughing and seeding begin about the last week in April, and throughout May there is generally little rain to impede progress. Most of the ground for wheat is prepared in the fall. The variety commonly grown is the Scotch Fyfe, and, as you know, it is the very best wheat raised in the world. Fall wheat such as we grow in this Province, does not thrive in Manitoba. The wheat seeding is mostly over by the 15th of May, the seeding of oats by about the 1st of June, the seeding of barley the 15th of June. You would be astonished to see the amount of seeding done by one farmer; it is quite common for one man to seed 100 acres of grain, and to work it himself, save during harvest.

In travelling through well-settled districts you will see fields of hundreds of acres of grain nodding and ripening in the sunlight, and it is a pretty sight. There are no fences, dividing the different farms, wood is too scarce to use in fencing. You may travel for miles and see no separating mark between farms, but here and there, at every half-mile, a mound of earth thrown up, with a stake in the centre indicating the number of the section.

After seeding comes the wet season, and then growth is very vigorous. This is the time also for breaking. The first year I went on my farm, I broke 75 acres with one yoke of oxen. Of course I started early in May, as I had no crop to put in, and kept at it until away into July. One acre per day is counted pretty good work for oxen. I must tell you something about my breaking. I well remember the first furrow I turned. I had never been used to farm-work, much less to driving oxen, and it was quite a new experience. In Manitoba the oxen do not wear yokes, as they do in this Province, but are harnessed like horses.

(To be continued in our next.)

Y. P. S. &amp; E.

## Correspondence Department.

*Edited by Mr. J. W. Hamilton.*

**AMONG THE SOCIETIES.**—We had the pleasure last Monday evening of visiting Knox and Congregational Societies. The meetings were well attended. There was a larger percentage of young men present than we have usually at our services. At the Knox meeting, as near as we could count, there were fifty-two present—thirty-seven young women and fifteen young men. We saw no children. The service was led by Miss Murray, and the paper read was excellent. When the meeting was thrown open there was no waiting. Most of those taking part read passages of scripture. Mr. John Smith, the president, received us cordially, and on invitation, Mr. Calvert and the writer took part in the lesson. Knox Society is doing grand mission work in the North end of the city. Two members canvass each street and invite those called upon to come to their Mission church. This is practical work, and our society can profitably take a lesson from them in this department. The members of Knox Society are looking forward with deep interest to the coming Convention. A social is to be given on the 7th of October by this society. A splendid programme has been arranged for and they extend a cordial welcome. From the Knox we went over to the Congregational and we were at once struck with the larger number of very young people in attendance. There were present about eighteen young men out of a total of fifty or fifty-five. The members spoke quite readily and fluently on the lesson, and although rather late in the evening, we were again invited to take part in the service. This society, all through the summer, has had good attendance at its meetings and much practical good has been accomplished. A representative, Miss Edgar, was sent up to Paris recently, and helped to establish two C. E. Societies. This makes five societies that they have been instrumental in starting into life.—T. M.

**WENTWORTH BAPTIST MISSION.**

—This Society organized last June, and has now about fifteen active and fifteen associate members. There are six committees, viz., Look-out, Prayer, Social, Visiting, Sunday School and Tract. Our Secretary, Mr. Harris, was present Tuesday evening, Sept. 30th, to welcome the Society into the

Local Union, and asked them to appoint the necessary representatives, which they will do at their next meeting. Refreshments were served after the meeting to the visitors present.

**WENTWORTH CHURCH SOCIETY.**

—The meetings of this Society have been remarkably well attended during the Summer months, and the interest in them well sustained. As a result the members are well prepared to engage in a Fall and Winter campaign of very active work. The committees do excellent work, and besides its own distinctive duties, each has something to do that brings it directly into the work of the church. The Lookout Committee, for instance, has one of its members stand at the church door at all services, to welcome strangers and invite them to the meetings, and the Sunday School Committee keep a list of available auxiliary teachers, and take from the Superintendent the burden of filling the places of absentees. Like all the other Societies they look forward to the coming Convention with great hope.

**THE PROVINCIAL CONVENTION.**

—Before another issue of our paper the Provincial Convention will be a thing of the past, and this, consequently, will be our last opportunity to say a word in its behalf. We have already pointed out the importance of such a meeting, and how great its benefits will be to those who take part in it if only by attending; and now that the preparations are almost complete, there is still clearer evidence that it will be a great convention, and that our anticipations are likely to be more than realized. Our own Society has been generously used by the Provincial Executive, no less than four of our members will take part in the Convention. Our Pastor will lead in the opening prayer; our President will give an address on the question of having a universal night of meeting for all societies; and our Recording Secretary, Mr. Harris, will lead the sunrise prayer-meeting on the opening morning of the Convention. One of our lady members will also take part. Our Church and Society will thus be well represented in the active work of the Convention. The programme is an excellent one, having in it some speakers of note; the singing will be good (W. H. Robinson has charge), and we are sure that the devotional meetings will be inspiring, and will receive the benediction of every Methodist who attends them.

## Y. P. S. & E. Committee Reports.

**THE LOOKOUT COMMITTEE.**—During the month of September there has not been such a large attendance as was desired. There has been only 62 per cent. of the active members present, and of these 67 per cent. have taken part. We are sorry that so great a number do not keep their pledge; it would be advisable for the members to read their pledge over thoughtfully and make a greater effort to keep it. The attendance of our members at the union meeting is very much less than at any of the others; if it is impossible to attend these meetings, would it not be a good plan to send an excuse to the secretary as at the regular meetings? We are happy to state that during the month we have added four active members to our number.

ANGELA JARVIS, *Convener.*

### PRAYER-MEETING COMMITTEE.—

This Committee presents the following programme of services for October:

Oct. 9th, "The Lord's Supper," Luke 22, 7-20; Union service, Leader, Mr. Laird,

Oct. 16th, "The Spirit of True Service," Luke 22, 24-37; Leader, Miss Bastedo.

Oct. 23rd, "Jesus in Gethsemane," Luke 22, 39-53; Leader, Miss Hunter.

Oct. 30th, "Jesus Accused," Luke 22, 54-71; Consecration; Leader, Mr. Morris.

Nov. 6th, "Jesus on Trial," Luke 23, 1-12; Leader, Mrs. Nolan.

The Committee would be glad to see the members take part more promptly, so that there will be no drag in the meetings. Let each one do something, either sing, pray or speak, and his effort will not only strengthen himself but will also help someone else.

NETTIE RAYCROFT, *Convener.*

**THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE.**—During the month of September, we were glad to notice the efforts of some of the members to promote a more friendly, cordial feeling in the Society. Many tarry after the meeting and have a friendly chat. If more would do so, instead of leaving at the close of the meeting, it would give us all a better chance to get acquainted.

On 11th Sept., a concert was given in the church by the Canadian Jubilee Singers, with the agreement that they should pay half the expenses, and receive half of the proceeds. The total proceeds were \$40.65; expenses, \$12.50; balance, \$28.15, of which the Society received \$14.07. On account of

the stormy night, fewer were present than we hoped for; but the music was thoroughly enjoyed by all who heard it.

We are preparing for a series of socials for the winter months, the first of which will be given on Thursday, Oct. 9th. All are requested to bring their programs on Thursday evening. The following program has been prepared:

#### PART I.

OPENING HYMN, . . . . . Onward Christian Soldiers.  
PRAYER, . . . . .  
VOCAL SOLO, . . . . . Miss J. Mann.  
RECITATION, . . . . . Mr. Snider.  
MALE QUARTETTE, MESSRS. Martin, McLroy, Davis  
and Strongman.  
VOCAL SOLO, . . . . . Miss Ross.

#### PROMENADE.

INSTRUMENTAL DUET, . . Messrs. Gayfer and Perry.  
INSTRUMENTAL SOLO, . . . . . Miss Christie.  
INSTRUMENTAL DUET, . . Misses Tovel and Small.

#### TOPICS.

THE CHURCH PAPER . . . . .  
PICNICS, . . . . .  
THE WORK OF FLOWER COM. . . . .

#### PART II.

VOCAL SOLO, . . . . . Mr. Abbs.  
VIOLIN DUET, . . . . . Messrs. Moyr and Taylor.  
VOCAL SOLO, . . . . . Miss Ross.

#### PROMENADE.

INSTRUMENTAL DUET, Misses McLroy and Lounsbury.  
INSTRUMENTAL SOLO, . . . . . Mrs. Osborne.  
INSTRUMENTAL DUET, . . Miss Harvey and Mr. Davis.

#### TOPICS.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR CONVENTION, . . . . .  
BOOKS, . . . . .  
YOUR AIM IN LIFE, . . . . .  
SOLO AND CHORUS, . . . . . "God Be with You."  
Miss J. Mann.

A space has been left after each topic. All are requested to bring their lead pencils, and before the program begins, to write in the space the name of the one with whom they will discuss that topic. Respectfully submitted.—L. MURRAY.

### THE FLOWER COMMITTEE.—"The

Flowers of Autumn all around our vale have put their glory on." Your Committee have taken advantage of the beautiful harvest of these "Wildlings of Nature" to beautify the house of our God. But to the friends who so kindly sent flowers from their gardens, we wish to express our thanks, for these do double service, being used first for decoration and are afterwards sent to the sick, who cherish them through many a weary day. During the month another of the recipients of these flowers has been cut down in his youth; one to whom our flowers have been a source of great delight, we refer to Mr. Hunter, Albert Road, City.

"There is a Reaper whose name is Death,  
And with his sickle keen  
He reaps the bearded grain at a breath,  
And the flowers that grow between."  
"O, not in cruelty, not in wrath  
The Reaper came that day,  
'Twas an Angel visited the green earth,  
And took the Flowers away."

M. L. LOUNSBURY, *Convener.*

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**Our School.**

Our school holding two open sessions during the month, we cannot give the average attendance and collection as usual. On Sunday, the 21st inst., the school assembled to hear an address by the Rev. T. C. Cocking, of Japan, which was listened to with great interest by the scholars of the school and their friends. Sunday, the 28th inst., being the last Sunday in the quarter, was our review Sunday. The lessons were taken up and reviewed in an able manner by Miss Murray, Mrs. D. Smith, Mr. Thos. Morris, jr., and Mr. Fisher, each one taking up three lessons. There being a sermon in the church the same afternoon, we were sorry that Mr. Fisher was unable to finish his explanations. At both of these open services our orchestra, strengthened by two or three willing helpers, gave several selections which were very much appreciated by those present. We were all glad to see our old friend, Mr. R. L. Whyte, back again last Sunday after his month's vacation.

**Science Class.**

During the month of September we have spent three evenings with English authors and two discussing physics. The lectures on physics have been made unusually interesting by the aid of experiments conducted by Mr. J. B. Crawford, B. A., of the Collegiate Institute. The subjects considered were Specific Gravity and Heat. On Literature nights we have had essays on Ben Jonson by Mr. H. P. Bonny; Bishop Fuller and Jeremy Taylor, by Mr. J. Calvert; on Milton by Miss Nettie Raycroft; the remainder of the evenings has been spent in critically studying Pope's "Essay on Man." Average attendance for the month, 26.

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" Pol. calf school Boots, spring heel,	1 95 for	1 45
" Glove Calf School Boots, - -	1 35 for	1 00
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