

SHAFTESBURY HALL

WEEKLY BULLETIN.

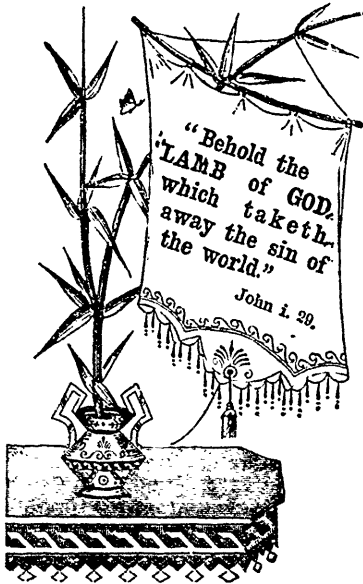
PUBLISHED BY THE

TORONTO YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

Vol. IV.

TORONTO, JANUARY 15, 1883.

No. 3.



BULLETIN FUND.

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|-----------------------------|---------|
| S. H. B..... | \$10 00 |
| H. O. B..... | 2 00 |
| W. D..... | 25 |
| James S..... | 1 30 |
| B..... | 1 25 |
| Lady friends (Denison Ave.) | 2 00 |

LECTURES.

THE Lecture Committee has for some time past been busily employed in arranging the Members' Course of Lectures; also, the public course. In the former course there will be six lectures and one musical evening. The first of the course will be delivered on Tuesday next by F. S. Spence, Esq., and the reputa-

tion of the speaker is such as to warrant us in expecting a large audience. Tickets are now ready, and members may secure the same for self and friends by applying at the Rooms.

The public course will be one of unusual attraction, and we believe will prove useful as well as entertaining. The first will be a series of three lectures by Prof. W. C. Richards, the eminent scientist. These will be delivered on the evenings of Friday and Monday, the 26th and 29th January, and a matinee on Saturday, 27th. Prof. Richards will bring with him the most complete apparatus owned by any public lecturer, and his experiments are not to be surpassed for brilliancy and effect. Tickets for the course 50 cents, or 75 cents for ticket entitling to reserved seats at two lectures, and admission to the matinee. Members can secure a reserved seat Ticket at 50 cents. The second course will consist of six evening, and two matinee lectures by Prof. H. H. Ragan. These illustrated lectures have had remarkable success in the United States. Crowded houses have in almost every place greeted the lecturer. Mr. Ragan has the most powerful instruments, and a large collection of beautiful views wherewith to illustrate his lectures. The canvas used will be the largest size yet used in Toronto. The subjects of the lectures are:—

- 1.—Paris—the magnificent.
- 2.—London—From the top of an omnibus.
- 3.—Venice, Milan, and the Italian Lakes.
- 4.—Florence and Pisa.
- 5.—Ramblings in Rome.
- 6.—Spain—From the Pyrenees to Seville.
- 7.—Southern Spain and Morocco.
- 8.—Glimpses of Scotland.

The price fixed for the course is very low, as we wish all to be benefitted. Course tickets, six lectures (same seat reserved throughout), two matinees, \$2; course ticket, unreserved, \$1 50; Members ticket, reserved, \$1. These lectures will be given early in March.

OUR BOYS.

WE have not forgotten the Boys, in our Lecture plan. A course is being arranged for their special benefit. The first will be delivered on Friday, 19th inst. in the Boy's Room, by W. A. Douglas, Esq. Subject—"How the Atlantic cable was laid." Mr. Douglas was engaged in connection with the work of laying the Cable and is therefore able to speak practically on the subject. His lecture will be illustrated with electric machines, &c.

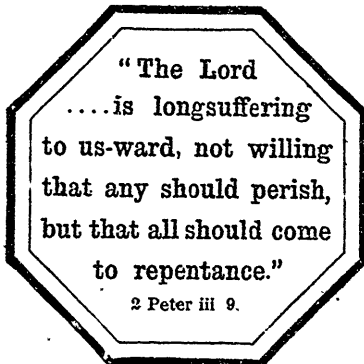
MORE BLESSING.

GOD is working with us in the several meetings. Souls are being saved. We praise Him for it. We are also thankful for increased attendance at the several meetings.

YOUNG MEN

Desiring advice regarding their eternal welfare, will find a member of the Devotional Committee in attendance in the Bible Parlor, upper story Shaftesbury Hall, every Monday evening, from 7:30 till 9.

The Secretary or his Assistant will be pleased to meet such persons at any time from 8 a. m. till 10 p. m.



MEMBERS' COURSE.

LECTURE

BY

F. S. SPENCE, Esq.,

IN

SHAFTESBURY HALL,

Tuesday, Jan'y 16, 1883,

AT 8 O'CLOCK.

Subject: MARRIAGE.

Tickets for members or friends may be secured at the Rooms.

QUICK FIRES SOON DIE OUT.

"**T**HIS is something like!" observed the Hearth to the Chimney, as the thorns flamed, and crackled in the spacious fire-place of the farm-house. "Beautiful, beautiful!" exclaimed the Hearth, in admiration.

"I'm of opinion this won't last long. It seems to me to be too rapid to continue. Depend on it, friend Hearth, 'twill soon go down and be burnt out," sagely remarked the old Chimney.

"Do you think so?—Well, 'twill be a great pity; I love to see brightness in a fire: and then this kind of a fire is so exciting and charming. I don't see why it should so quickly end, as you suppose."

"Well, I shall rejoice if it continues," said the Chimney.

"And why it should not, I am unable to judge," observed the Hearth.

But the Hearth had scarcely spoken when a change took place: the flame flickered: the fire only occasionally leaped: and then, it rapidly went lower, and then went quite down: and then quite out altogether.

"Well, to be sure," said the disappointed Hearth.

"No other than I expected," remarked the Chimney, "and for this reason there was nothing substantial in the material, only thorns you see, which commonly make a great blaze for a time, but quickly burn themselves out."

"'Tis a great pity," sighed the Hearth: "who would have thought it?"

This fable illustrates much of the so-called Christian work of the present

day, and especially the work of some of our Y.M.C. Associations.

The crackling is great, the eyes of many are directed towards them, they are being praised (and to our mind, the thing least to be desired is the praise of men who know not God). "See our attractions," is the substance of their publications, but alas we fear that with many it is but the fable to be made fact.

But beyond this, is the evil done to other Associations. Some organizations which for years have been known as thoroughly Christian, whose whole efforts have been devoted to saving souls and in which they have been pre-eminently successful, appear to be entertaining the notion that the "old-fashioned ways" are *slow*. "The times are altered you know." "Young men *must* be entertained." "Our attractions are not brilliant enough," and so they are now looking round to find a Gymnasium thorn, or a Rambling Club thorn, or some other kind of a thorn to throw on to the fire. Well, we suppose this will blaze up a little, but we know of instances where some of these thorns have been used, and they have not only gone out, but have left so many worthless ashes over the original fire that it will take some time to let sufficient draught reach the good, old substantial back log which was almost forgotten while the *crackling nothings* were attracting attention.

But after all, it may be that these special *efforts* to win young men (?) may be helpful. Who can say anything against it when we have the *convincing* proof given us that in one Association, a *great work* has been done by its Gymnasium. A man has reduced his weight by some 34 pounds in six weeks! through his attendance at its classes, and as the record is given, "is now a better looking, healthier and happier man," and as the Gymnasiums are intended to be helpful in our work of saving souls, it probably was forgotten to say that this man will now be better able to "receive the engrafted word" and "enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." We may not properly understand these matters, but in our ignorance we venture to suggest that the same amount of exertion put forth in sawing a few cords of wood for a widow, might have helped to reduce the corpulency; at all events it would

be less expensive, and more like *Christian work*.

In this article we wish to take exception to a clause in the Annual Report of one of our Canadian Secretaries, wherein he refers to the necessity for Amusements, and adds that in confining our work to the Religious department we have departed from the intention of the founders of the work.

This clause gives evidence of ignorance as to the early history of these Associations. Referring to vol. 1 of Exeter Hall Lectures, we find a History of the London, Eng., Y.M.C.A. the (so-called) Parent Association. At pages 39-41 will be seen how the work was born of prayer and that on 6th June, 1844, at 72 St. Paul's Churchyard, was formed the "Society for improving the SPIRITUAL condition of Young Men engaged in the Drapery and other Trades." The name of Young Men's Christian Association was adopted. I also read at page 42 "The *services which the Y.M.C.A. is established to promote are chiefly prayer meetings, and wherever practicable, Bible classes.*" Again, "The Committee soon learned that *truth which has been to them a sheet anchor in their subsequent career.*" "In quietness and in confidence shall be thy strength. NO ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO POPULARIZE THE ASSOCIATION. It was felt by the members that they were called to engage in a *spiritual work*—a warfare with powers of evil and darkness, AGAINST WHOM NO CARNAL WEAPONS COULD BE USED WITH SUCCESS, an enterprise which was at once the expression of their loyalty to Christ, and their sympathy in His love for souls, and in which they needed alike His sovereign direction and His sustaining power and grace, *but needed these only.* Propositions of aid made to them at this time, and by which their field of labor might have been largely increased, were postponed, *in order that attention might be concentrated upon one object*—the conversion of souls to God."

In reading these extracts we admit there has been a departure from the original design of these Associations. We deeply regret it. We can but manifest our regret by seeking out the *old way*, and continuing therein. "No more thorns used here," would be a good motto to adopt for our Buildings and Rooms.

REMEMBER
 —THE—
Young Men's Meeting,

HELD
EVERY SATURDAY EVENING,
 AT 8 O'CLOCK, FOR ONE HOUR.

COME!

GOSPEL AND SONG
SERVICE,

Every Sunday Evening,
 AT 8.30.

GOOD SINGING.
SHORT GOSPEL ADDRESSES.

COME!

Bulletin for Week Commencing Jan. 15, 1883.

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| MONDAY..... | Jan. 15.... | 12.00 | M. | THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE MEETING. Secretary. |
| | | | | 8.00 P.M. WORKERS' BIBLE CLASS. Conducted by the Secretary. |
| TUESDAY..... | " 16 | 12.00 | M. | NOONDAY PRAYER. The Rejected be- comes the Prince and a Saviour. Acts vii. 23-37; v. 30, 31. F. Aston. |
| WEDNESDAY. | " 17.... | 12.00 | M. | NOONDAY PRAYER. Incentives to per- sistent Christian effort. John iv. 35, 36; 2 Cor. ix. 8; 1 Cor. xv. 58. G. E. Stokes. |
| THURSDAY... | " 18.... | 12.00 | M. | NOONDAY PRAYER. The River of the Water of Life. Ezek. xlvii. 1-12; Rev. xxi. 1, 2. Rev. J. Salmon. |
| FRIDAY | " 19.... | 12.00 | M. | NOONDAY PRAYER. Christ and an Anxious Father. Mark ix. 14-29. S. R. Briggs. |
| | | | | 8.00 P.M. BOYS' MEETING. J. J. Findlay. |
| SATURDAY .. | " 20.... | 12.00 | M. | NOONDAY PRAYER. Receiving the Word. Acts ii. 37-47. W. E. Burford. |
| | | | | 8.00 P.M. YOUNG MEN'S MEETING. Mr. Sims. |
| SUNDAY..... | " 21... | 3.00 | P.M. | EVANGELISTIC BIBLE CLASS. S. R. Briggs |
| | | | | 8.30 P.M. GOSPEL & SONG SERVICE. |

Requests for prayer may be addressed to the Secretary.

RAILROAD MEETINGS.

SUNDAY, Jan. 21, 3.00 P.M.—Gospel Meetings at Union Station, and Credit Valley Station, Parkdale.