

Supplement to the Canadian Independent.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, FEB. 10, 1880.

News of the Churches.

DANVILLE, QUE. The annual meeting of the church and congregation was held on Thursday, the 20th January. Encouraging report from the pastor. The treasurer reported no deficiency in the general fund, but referred to the debt on the building of nearly \$315, which had been reduced during the year to about \$270. Deacon J. Goodham and his sons offered to give \$120, on condition the whole should be paid off. The offer was readily accepted, and in a few minutes, by voluntary offerings, the full amount was arranged for. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

DURHAM, QUE. For what the Lord has been pleased to do for the people in Durham our hearts bless His holy name. A short series of meetings held during Christmas holidays and since, in which students Robertson, Skinner, Gerrie, and Unsworth gave us good help, has resulted in over 40 inquirers, nearly all of whom have found the blessed Christ. The work is not over. We trust it will spread and increase. The pastor, Mr. McIntosh, is much encouraged, and does his work with a joy heretofore almost unknown. The Sunday School, the young people's meeting, and regular Sunday services are one constant revival.

HAMILTON. The annual meeting of the church and congregation was held last evening. There was a large attendance of the members and their friends. After partaking of tea in the school room there was an adjournment to the lecture room, where the pastor, Rev. Joseph Griffith, took the chair. After the usual devotional exercises the pastor expressed the pleasure he felt in again meeting the members of the church and congregation at their annual gathering. He gave a favorable report of the general condition of the church from a pastor's stand-point, and expressed his conviction that a still more prosperous future was ahead of them. The rest of the evening was spent by listening to the numerous and very interesting reports made of the various departments of the church's work. Mr. Alexander, the treasurer, read the financial statement, which showed that about \$3,300 had been raised for local church purposes, besides nearly \$200 for missionary objects. For such a small church this appears to be a good showing. The secretary of the debt fund, Mr. S. Huxley, reported about \$500 as having been raised for the purpose of reducing the debt on the church by small weekly amounts since the 1st of August last. He further stated that \$1,000 had been paid off since the 1st of January, 1880. Mr. Huxley also reported the young people's monthly meeting—a society which meets once a month to review the subjects of the previous month's sermons, and read papers thereon. The Ladies' Sewing Society had handed over to the treasurer no less a sum than \$520 during the year. It was stated that this society, which meets monthly, has had an uninterrupted existence of fifteen years and been very useful. Reports from the Sabbath School and the Missionary Society were made by Mr. Savage, Mr. Thomas Bale, the superintendent of the school, being absent unavoidably. Both institutions are prosperous. The Ladies' Visiting Committee had an excellent report from its sec-

retary, Mrs. Bliss, from which we gather that 300 visits had been made since June last. Mr. Charles Duff reported the young men's morning class, and the southwest mission was favorably spoken of by Mr. Shawcross. After the usual votes of thanks to the various officers and the choir and organist, the meeting closed. Our friends are to be congratulated on the condition of their cause and their prosperity in face of all the difficulties they have had to contend with during the past year from removals and other causes. —*Hamilton Times, January 28th.*

LONDON.—On Sunday, 16th inst., the Rev. H. D. Hunter (late of Newmarket) preached his first sermons to a new congregation here. Considerable interest in the event was evinced throughout the city, and the services were well attended. It had been arranged that Mr. Hunter would begin his pastoral duties on the 9th, but owing to a painful accident he was confined to his house, much to the regret of the expectant congregation. Just before the sermon, in the morning service, Mr. H. Matthewson read the following telegram:—

Sabbath morning greeting to my London brethren, and their new pastor. Congratulations over their new relation. May the Union be happy and long continued. Read Titus, third chapter and fifteenth verse.

Affectionately yours,

R. W. WALLACE.

Mr. Hunter then made an admirable reply, in which he stated that he thoroughly appreciated Mr. Wallace's kindness in sending the message. He hoped that as the work of God had gone on in Mr. Wallace's hands, so might it go on in his. On Friday, 21st, a reception social was held. Invitations had been issued to the city ministers, and a large number of them responded. There was a very large gathering notwithstanding the heavy snowstorm, the lecture hall being almost packed. The chair was occupied by Mr. H. Matthewson, who in his opening address spoke of the happy circumstances under which they were gathered. The Rev. J. H. Robinson was then called upon. That aged veteran stated in his address that he felt very much at home among the Congregationalists, and that he had very much pleasure during the time he was "holding the fort" in that church until the new commandant came. The Rev. Mr. Forth was the next speaker, after which tea was discussed: but it being in itself so good it could not stand long before the hearty Londoners, who made it "mighty scarce." After the restoration of order, addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Murray, Phulp, Grant, Wright and Dimmick, Dr. Lancaster and Messrs. A. B. Powell, A. C. Johnson and John Cameron. Rev. Mr. Hunter was the last speaker, and on rising he was received with loud applause. He thanked the preceding speakers for their kind remarks, and stated that if in the future he and the other city ministers were not on good terms it would not be his fault. His replies to the pleasantries of some of the preceding speakers caused considerable merriment. He asked for the co-operation of the congregation, and felt sure that a good work would be done. After the usual votes of thanks this very happy meeting came to a close. Mr. Hunter has now fairly launched out on his new field of labor with every feeling

of good will from the congregation, and prospect of great success.

R. W. H.

13 January, 1881.

MANILLA.—A very successful tea-meeting was held on Tuesday evening, 26th inst. A church meeting was held in the afternoon, when Revs. Ebbs and Sikox conferred with the Church relative to their financial position. They hope soon to liquidate their present indebtedness. Excellent music was given by a select choir from Sunderland. The entire service was a success.

PERSONAL.—Rev. W. J. Cuthbertson has received and accepted a call to a Congregational Church in Jefferson Co., New York State. Mrs. Cuthbertson is expected to arrive from England in about two weeks.

PINEGROVE.—Rev. R. Hay has been holding special services for the past few weeks with encouraging prospects.

PERSONAL.—Mr. Hector McIntyre, (student) who has been laboring so successfully in special services at Turnberry, reports having received between thirty and forty into the membership of the Church. He has been spending a few weeks at Manilla previous to his return to college.

NEWMARKET.—Rev. A. F. McGregor supplied on the 30th.

FROME AND SHEDDEN.—Here is a good field for an active working man. Any person requiring information will do well to write to Wm. F. Silcox, Frome P. O.

NOEL.—We worshipped in our new church in Noel yesterday. The congregation was large. A goodly number sat down to the Lord's Supper at the close of the service. We are in a fair way now to have this church finished, having it plastered, painted upon the outside, with lumber for the pews, which we hope to have put up before the Union. (As the Union is to be here in July, I hope to see the faces of some of my western brethren here at that time). My field has become greatly enlarged since Rev. Mr. Hawes went to the States, his field being now in connection with mine, which gives me 30 miles to drive along the shore of the lake.

Jan. 24, 1881.

J. W. COX.

ST. JOHN, N. B.—A festival and Christmas tree, in connection with the Union street Congregational Sunday School, were held yesterday afternoon and evening. The Christmas tree was beautifully illuminated, and presents were distributed therefrom to the members of the school by the superintendent, A. Rowan, Esq., by Mrs. John White, Mrs. G. W. Swett and others. The pastor of the church, Rev. Addison Blanchard, was not forgotten, receiving an envelope with a handsome donation, accompanied by the compliments of the ladies and members of the congregation. Before the presents were given out the scholars were provided with refreshments. Included in the entertainment were hymns rendered by a choir of the Sunday School, a duet by Master Saunders and Miss Rankine, and a duet by Misses Maria Odell and Maud Swett. After the younger scholars had retired, a number of teachers and members of the congregation sat down to a bounteous repast. —*St. John Telegraph, 30th December.*

The Union Street Congregational Church commenced in its morning service yesterday the responsive reading of the Scriptures by the congregation alternately with the pastor, in the public worship. In the evening, at the close of the service, six new members were received into the church on profession of faith, three of the candidates receiving the ordinance of baptism. —*St. John Telegraph, Jan. 3, 1881.*

MARINTOWN.—The friends of this place surprised their pastor by a visit to the parsonage on Friday evening last, spent an exceedingly agreeable evening, and left behind them many substantial tokens of their regard.

TURNBERRY.—Student McIntyre left here on the 23rd of December for his home in the township of Brock, from whence he will return to College. Thirty-three have been added to the churches of Howick and Turnberry through his instrumentality while in this field; many more professing faith in Christ and going with other denominations. We trust that the Lord will crown his labors with abundant success as he goes forth to unfurl the banner of King Jesus. He did not hesitate to speak to the oldest as well as the young about their spiritual welfare. He watched for souls as one who must give an account. The evening before Mr. McIntyre's departure a social was held in the Turnberry Church. After tea had been served Mr. John Gombell took the chair, and several speakers addressed the meeting. An address was then read by Mr. Gombell on behalf of the church and congregation, after which Mr. Robert Harris presented Mr. McIntyre with a purse containing \$35, to which he made an appropriate reply. The meeting was then brought to a close, and all left in good spirits with the feeling of having spent a social time together.

DAVID MINNS.

Jan 31, 1881.

WATFORD.—On Friday, the 14th ult., kind friends from Zion Church and some from Watford made us a donation visit, bringing large quantities of provisions, and setting a sumptuous feast. A very pleasant time was spent, and although the day was intensely cold quite a number gathered at the parsonage. We had presented to us, in goods and money, the sum of \$25, and on the Leap-year tree about \$12 in useful articles and money.

The people of the congregation here, not quite understanding the arrangements at the time of the last donation, surprised us, and came in large number, and took possession of the parsonage, bringing considerable provisions, and the amount stated in money, on 27th ult., making in all \$69. This timely and generous gift has made us feel very grateful to the Good Giver, and the friends whose hearts He has touched.

May our Heavenly Father reward them.

Yours in Christ,

H. J. COLWELL,

Pastor.

P.S.—I have been requested to send you this address

The following address was presented at a surprise party held at the Congregational Parsonage, Watford, Jan. 27th, 1881.

To the Rev. H. J. Colwell.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,

It affords us pleasure to meet you on this occasion, and to present our con-

gratulations for your success in your calling, and the many social and pious qualities which have rendered you a blessing to this community. We desire to express our high appreciation of you as a citizen and as a minister of the gospel, especially in view of the circumstances which have led to your resignation, and the hope that in the providence of God you may see your way to remain among us.

In presenting you with this purse as a memento of our esteem, it must be encouraging to you to learn that your friends are so numerous, the good will that has prompted our offering testifies our esteem. We trust that God may spare you in bodily and mental health for many years to come, and we ask God's good gifts for yourself, wife, and family, and pray that He who rewards the faithful may bless and keep you until you shall be harvested into the Master's garner, bringing your sheaves with you.

Signed in behalf of the friends who have cheerfully given.

EDWARD SANDERS.
ROBERT CARTER.

Representing the congregation in Watford.

Jan. 27, 1881.

The purse contained \$32.

CORWALLIS.—On Thursday evening, January 20th, the parsonage of the Congregational Church was visited by forty or fifty of the congregation and about \$65 left for the pastor and family—a pure donation. Two monthly socials have also been held this winter, the collections at which have amounted to over \$20, devoted to different objects.

STOUFFVILLE.—The beloved and respected pastor, the Rev. E. D. Silcox, gave in his resignation to this church at the close of the Sunday morning service, he having received a call from the church at Embro. But the church, wishing him to retain his pastoral charge, called a special meeting for the 26th, when petitions in terms of endearment from Church, Sunday School, and Bible Class were presented, asking him to reconsider his resignation with a view to its withdrawal, feeling that it would be hard for such strong ties of love and respect to be broken after four years of labour with us, of peace and prosperity, after which he said that he would reserve his decision and be guided by the great Head of the Church. On Sunday, the 30th, after morning service, he said that he still felt it was his duty to resign, and asked the church to release him from the pastoral care. But so earnest was the desire of a great number of the young people to retain him that they got up a fund of fifty dollars to supplement the guarantee of the church if he would remain as pastor; and though the event touched him very much, and he replied very feelingly, yet he wished the church to accept of his resignation, and the church felt it would not be right to press the matter further, and accepted his resignation in the following resolution.

FROM A MEMBER.

Resolved,—That it is with unmingled feelings of sorrow that we, as a church, are called upon to relinquish all hope of retaining the services of our beloved pastor any longer, and that the ties of love which have bound us together in Christian work for over four years of prosperity and peace are now to be severed.

But, believing that you feel called by the great Head of the Church to go and labor in another part of His vineyard, we accept of your resignation, though with both sorrow and regret, yet with the prayer, that God may be with you to bless you and your work for him, and give you many years of prosperity and joy with our brethren in your new field of Christian labor for our Lord and Master.

And we pray that you may have there, as you have had here, many seals to your ministry. Commending you and your wife and children to the care

of our Heavenly Father and the word of His grace, we, the church and people of Stouffville, pray that mercy and peace may be multiplied to you from our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Correspondence.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. We cannot ensure the insertion of any matter in the week's issue reaching us later than the Monday preceding. The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of correspondents.

GIVING AND GRUMBLING.

To the Editor of the Canadian Independent

DEAR SIR,—Money has been called "the root of all evil," and also "the sinews of war," as it is the medium through which we effect our exchange and purchases, and supply our wants, it is evident that, unless we can discard our wants, we must have it, but I think it is only an evil when ill spent, and a blessing when well used. evil or not it is astonishing how very loath some people are to part with it. Perhaps there is no more thankless job than collecting for church or charitable purposes; let those who don't think so try it, and they will soon find out how many reasons people can give for not giving. They will all recognize their duty, but then there is something wrong, and, therefore, they cannot give. The fault is either in the pastor, or the deacons, or the treasurer, or the committee, or the singing, or the service, or something else, and, of course, in a church everything ought to be right—if it were a secular matter they would not be so particular—but in a church it is dreadful to have any person in office or out of it acting in anything but a perfect manner; they forget that we are only human, of many different temperaments, ideas, and training, and it is quite impossible for all to be pleased. If the good Lord judged us in the same way our chances of heaven would be small; but, thanks be to Him who pitieth us "like as a father pitieth his children," for "He knoweth our frame and remembereth that we are dust." Let me propose to the grumbler a remedy: Give—help to put straight the crooked—take hold and work—and give—and you will be surprised how soon the grumbling will cease. A good old lady used to say "one mend-fault is worth twenty find-faults;" her son inherits the idea and has been for years an active canvasser for funds for religious objects. Once when canvassing for a merchantile library association he called on an old member and asked for a subscription to help pay the debt, the member at once began to find fault. "Come on the Board then," said my friend, "and help us to put the matter right—we are in trouble and things want mending, come and help us." The old member declined. "Well then," said my friend, "Shut up, you will neither work nor give, shut up," and he left him. A year or so afterwards my friend was out collecting for a Y. M. C. A. and called on this same party; without any grumbling this time he gave him \$5, and continued so to do every year. As soon as my friend would appear with the book the money was forthcoming.

Now what are the practical issues that we ought to keep before us. Giving is a duty, we ought to think it a privilege. We have the promise, "give and it shall be given unto you." Those who have tried it have doubtless found it so. Of course giving, like all our other actions, should be judicious, but it should be systematically thought out and attended to like any other business. We don't withhold intercourse or business arrangements from all with whom we cannot agree, why should we withhold our support and sympathy from our church brethren, because we cannot see eye to eye with them. Let those who are willing to do the work have our confidence, let us give them credit for trying to do the best they can, as we wish others to judge us charitably, so let us judge them.

It is astonishing how much we can overlook if we search for the good in our fellows instead of the evil. Let us look on the bright hopeful side and try to help and encourage one another in every good work by our sympathy, our support, our counsel, and our prayers; and if we have an earnest desire to do good, to be useful in our day and generation, and to lay up for ourselves treasures in Heaven, our grumbings will be lessened, our gifts increased, and our own souls greatly blessed and enlarged. That such may be is the earnest wish of

A LAYMAN.

Toronto, Feb 3rd, 1881.

ENGLISH CONGREGATIONALISM.

To the Editor of the Canadian Independent.

SIR,—As a few letters from me have from time to time appeared, in which I presumed to direct attention to the complement of "independency" in what is historically, and I may say scripturally, Congregationalism, I desire to say a few words in regard to my brother, Mr. Ailworth's letter. I may say personally none of my letters have been written controversially, nor is this, were they so written many tempting points which appear in the letters to which mine have alluded had not been passed by. For the most part I have kept to the logic of facts: even when opinions were quoted, it was chiefly to the fact that those opinions were held. For my own part, Congregationalism, Presbyterianism, Episcopalianism, English, Scotch, British, American, or anything else, stands for very little, as such, unless it brings with it the spirit of the Bible and of common sense. Now, though, in the multitude of words there wanteth not sin, as a rule in the multitude of counsellors there is safety. Congregationalism never denied that "Independency," when stripped of its historical import, in great measure does, and therefore is a violation of the Bible's common sense. I have occasionally quoted from leading men their utterances, but in no case have words uttered "in moments of excitement been carefully culled." Nor are their sayings on the side of councils, synods, conferences, unions, or what you will, exceptional: e.g. I referred to Robert Browne, and quoted from a written treatise, the same from Mr. J. G. Rogers. My quotation from the Lancashire Union is found in a circular letter, and Mr. Cuthbertson's address, to which I think you, Sir, have referred, was surely not uttered in a moment of excitement, seeing that it found its way into the official Year-book. I wish to correct my good brother, with whom I trust yet to make a closer acquaintance, in the matter of "culling exceptional" utterances. As to the party in the Union who may desire "to bring every one to the bar that cannot pronounce their Shibboleth," I, of course, cannot speak, having as yet no experience in "Union politics," but this much I frankly avow as my decided conviction regarding the fact—for fact it is—that Congregationalism in Canada, where one would suppose the genius of its polity was most in accord with the spirit of the people, has "a comparatively small number of churches, which also have a comparatively small membership;" that that state of things is, not exclusively, but, very largely due to exaggerated independency, which will not kindly submit even to the restraints of common sense, and which to my short experience appears ready to impute motives of tyranny or jealousy to any who venture to avow a contrary opinion. There are circumstances in which the *vox populi* becomes infinitely more despotic than the *vox tyranni*, and independency degenerates to anarchy. We need to watch the landmarks which of old have been set, lest, fleeing Scylla, we are drawn into Charybdis. If my views therefore on matters of moment are erroneous, I shall gladly stand correction; if they are

well founded they deserve to be pondered; in either case their plain utterance will elicit truth.

J. B.

A MODEL FRIEND AND SUPPORTER OF THE INDEPENDENT.

To the Editor of the Canadian Independent.

DEAR EDITOR,—I want to scribble a few lines to you, but I hardly know how to commence. I wish to let you know that I was one of the first subscribers to the INDEPENDENT, and if my memory serves me right, I never was behind with my subscription. I was sorry to hear you state in a late paper that there are a good many behind with their dollar. Do they think editors can live on nothing? My dear sir, I could not think of parting with the paper for anything. I was highly pleased when it was proposed to change it from a monthly to a weekly, and since then it has been enlarged; and yet some are behind in payment. I sent seven dollars last year, and will send you ten this year. I am sending the paper mostly to young people, in hopes, by their reading it, they will be induced to take the paper and so become good Christians. As for myself I cannot expect to read the INDEPENDENT long as I am now past 85 years, and am confined to the house; still I am in God's hand, and His will, I hope, is my will.

Mr. Editor, with Christian regards, and the compliments of the season, I subscribe my name,

IRA WHITE.

Spring Water Mills, Jan. 29, 1881.

[We thank our friend for his letter, and wish there were more like him. Who will go and do likewise?—Ed. C. I.]

CONGREGATIONAL PROVIDENT FUND SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Canadian Independent.

DEAR SIR,—Since my last acknowledgment I have received as follows:—St. Catharine's Church \$4, Cowansville Church \$5.15, Brigham Church \$3.85, Kingston First Church \$21.50, Zion, Toronto Church, \$6. (in addition to \$25 received in November). While thankfully acknowledging receipt of the foregoing, I would respectfully, but urgently, beg of those Churches who have not, so far, responded to my appeal, to do so at as early a date as may be convenient. Only the other day I had to decline an application for assistance from the Retiring Minister's Fund branch, simply because the capital of the branch is not as yet large enough to warrant such payments.

If any of our friends are looking round for a worthy cause on which to bestow their liberality, either as an immediate gift, or as a bequest, I would respectfully ask their kindly consideration for "The Retiring Minister's Fund."

Yours very truly

CHAS. R. BLACK.

Sec.-Treas.

Montreal, 28th Jan., 1881.

WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY.

Though troubles perplex you,
Dishearten and vex you,
Retarding your progress in sombre array;
To shirk them with terror
Is surely an error,
For where there's a will there's a way.

The task may be teasing,
The duty unpleasing,
But he who confronts it will soon win the day;
Half the battle is over
When once we discover
That where there's a will there's a way.

Misfortunes uncounted
Are often surmounted,
If only we quit not the field in dismay;
Then one more endeavour,
Remembering ever
That where there's a will there's a way.
—Leisure Hour.